

LATE NIGHT ALARMS & BURGLARIES

Leo Anglo, St Louis Jewelry Crime Alert Network

You should have a video system, and signs posted indicating you have 24-hour video surveillance inside and outside of your store. Make sure you have these signs on any window and doors outside that might be more secluded. I also post signs indicating all valuable items kept in vaults when closed.

Just as a friendly yet stern warning/reminder

And please don't assume, verify with your alarm company

1. Glass Breakage should be on ZERO delay, that is once your alarm is set, if glass breakage is triggered, alarm should be instant. Many systems have glass breakage on delay like when you enter the door
 - a. Burglar resistant film on your windows can add a piece of mind, and buy you time for police to arrive. Make you have a reputable company and product installed. One of the key things here is the proper anchoring system, without it you will end up helping burglar.
2. Find out what happens if Power is cut and/or "Alarm" wires are cut. You should be notified if alarm loses signal, simply your alarm system should be monitored, so you are notified if any loss of signal
3. You need to respond to any loss of power or signal, and alarm event . . . and have police respond with you for safety and inform another store employee you are responding to an alarm event and type of alarm event.
 - a. NOTE: if you get called by alarm company, always call them back to verify that they called you
4. For after hour alarms, your alarm company should not call premises first. If your alarm is set, why would you be in the store to answer the phone. I will tell you when I watch a video of an attempted break, I often hear the phone ringing, with alarm company leaving a message. This is a waste of valuable time. Every minute bad guys are in your store, the more damage that can be done. Our alarm company used to do this.
 - a. I even prefer in burglar events, police to be called first. (again saving valuable time). Now in any communication or supervisory event, I am called first. If you have police called first, I would recommend that you talk to them about this. Most prefer this, giving them best chance to get bad guys, but you have to make sure you have a stable system, that is not a lot of false alarms. Some municipalities don't allow for police to be called first, so check with them as well

NOTE: In cases of after hour civil unrest or looting, If you have remote video, check on status in your store and around your store.

Call police before responding, I would not respond without police being able to escort you. They may recommend to stay put and not respond.

I would also think very carefully about staying and guarding your store during civil unrest type situation. This could turn out very badly