

## Real Estate Agent Safety Tips

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[www.BeSafeandProtected.com](http://www.BeSafeandProtected.com)

### AGENT SAFETY

Always have potential clients meet you at your office.

Explain to them that it is "company policy" to get a copy of their driver's license.

Note the make and license number of their car.

Introduce them to a co-worker.

Consider NOT wearing 4" heels to your appointments, in case you need to move quickly.

Avoid provocative photos in your marketing materials.

Consider holding your keys in your hand while showing homes. Using the "Sock-it-to-Me" on your keychain gives you a much greater chance of being able to fight back successfully

Most car keys have a panic button on them; if you feel uncomfortable, press the red button or consider one of our "personal alarm keychains".

Before you get out of the car at any showing, check to make sure you have cell signal and that the phone is charged.

Show homes during daylight hours or don't go alone.

### SELLER SAFETY

When you go on a listing appointment, do you do a safety survey with your clients? If you take the time to discuss with them how to make their home a haven of safety while it is listed, you are probably having a discussion with them that your competitors have not bothered to have. You have now set yourself apart from the crowd

Prescription drugs – lock them up or properly dispose of them. Consider using the "Sassy Skincare" to keep them accessible but hidden.

Secure all valuables – remind clients that you can't be responsible for thefts. Jewelry, artwork, cellphones, gaming systems, and even more frightening, firearms. Think about mail on the countertop. In today's world of identity theft, a bank statement left out in plain view can be a potential serious problem.

Ask the seller to make the home safe for the buyer and the agent. Turn on all the lights before leaving for a showing, check for loose flooring and carpet, check the staircases, is there a security system? Is it monitored? Do different people have different codes?

Explain to your clients the danger involved in letting unexpected visitors enter their home. If anyone shows up unannounced, they should have the listing agent's card and instruct them to contact the agent to set up a showing.

Family photos – suggest to your seller that they should consider removing them. You never know who is viewing your house; photos of your grandchildren, daughters, etc might not be something you want strangers seeing.

### BUYER SAFETY

Know your communities and know the escape routes just in case you need to leave quickly.

When arriving at an unoccupied home, back your car in the drive way or simply have a quick exit route.

Consider leaving the driver side window down. This way you won't have to fumble with your keys later and as an added bonus, you can't lock yourself out of the car!

When entering any home, open the front door and let the client enter first. Never enter a home or any room first. If the home has a deadbolt, consider opening the deadbolt so the door is propped open and can't be quickly slammed and locked behind you.

### OPEN HOUSES

Let neighbors know you will be holding an open house. They may know of potential buyers too.

Upon arrival, check all exits and make sure you can get out quickly.

Turn on all lights and open all curtains.

Position yourself so you can see all arrivals and make a note of take a picture of their vehicle.

Require all visitors to sign in.

Notify a friend that you will check in on a pre-arranged schedule by text or phone.

It's not over until it's over; make sure everyone has left the home before you lock up and leave