## **Crime Prevention Safety**

### SAFE HOME CHECKLIST

- Firearms kept for security reasons are fully controlled at all times.
- Firearms are securely stored in a location inaccessible to children and other unauthorized persons.
- Firearms are unloaded before they are brought into the home and never loaded while in the home.
- Firearms are immediately cleaned and placed in secure storage when they are returned from hunting or target shooting.
- When firearms are removed from storage, they are always carefully checked to confirm that they are unloaded.
- Ammunition is stored under lock and key, separately from firearms.
- The owner's manual that came with the firearm must be read and understood.

### KIDS SAFETY CONTRACT

There is one important step you can take right now to prove you are responsible about firearms. Sign this Firearms Responsibility Contract and give it to your mother or father.

### **Firearms Responsibility Contract**

To Mom and Dad:

I \_\_\_\_\_\_ Hereby Promise: I will not handle firearms without permission. I will never play with a firearm. If I find a firearm, or see my friends handling a firearm I will not touch it; I will tell an adult immediately. I will obey the rules and hold my friends accountable.

Signed:\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

Lauderhill Police Department committed to keeping our communities safe. For more information Contact the Lauderhill Police Department. 954-497-4700

# FIREARMS & YOUR RESPONSIBILITY



As a firearms owner, you are responsible for knowing how to properly handle your firearm(s) and how to secure your firearm(s) in a safe manner in your home. This brochure underscores the responsibilities each and every one of us must accept when we bring firearms into our homes.

If for any reason you feel uncomfortable with or are unable to accept these responsibilities, we strongly urge you not to own a firearm.

Safety First

### FIREARMS KEPT FOR HOME SECURITY

The decision to maintain a firearm in the home for self-protection is a serious, personal matter. Any added safety benefit gained from owning a firearm depends in large measure on the owner's having appropriate training and clear understanding of safe handling and storage rules.

Factors such as individual temperament, reaction to emergency situations, specific family circumstances and support for your having a firearm in the home from other adults in the household must be considered. If you feel the need for quick access to a loaded firearm in your home, you must take special safety measures. Keeping a firearm to defend your family makes no sense if that same firearm puts family members or visitors to your home at risk.

In keeping a firearm for home security, your objective should be to have the firearm readily available to you, yet not accessible to others.

Special lockable cases that can be quickly opened by authorized individuals are options.

### YOUR HOME WILL BE AS SAFE AS YOU CHOOSE TO MAKE IT

You must exercise full control and supervision over a loaded firearm at all times. This means the firearm must be placed in secure storage whenever you leave your home. Secure ammunition separately. Fatal home firearms accidents can occur when children discover firearms that adults thought were safely hidden or out of reach.

IMPORTANT: A firearm locking device is intended only to deter access to a firearm by unauthorized persons particularly children.

A firearm locking device cannot withstand forced entry by someone determined to defeat the lock.

Your most important responsibility is ensuring that children cannot encounter loaded firearms. The precautions you take must be effective. Anything less invites a tragedy, and is a serious violation of your responsibility as a firearm owner!

### A MESSAGE ABOUT FIREARMS TO KIDS

Not long ago, in another town, some kids found a firearm. Maybe they were looking for it because of something they saw on television. Maybe one of them dared the other to find it. Maybe they just found a firearm that was left out by mistake. It doesn't matter why they found it. What matters is the firearm was loaded, and they played with it. Now they are very sorry they did. Don't let this happen to you.

#### Always follow these safety rules:

1. Don't go looking for firearms, in your house or a friend's house. Don't let other kids look for firearms in your house.

2. If you find a firearm in your house or anywhere else leave it alone. Don't touch it! Don't let anyone else touch it! Tell an adult.

3. Even if a firearm looks like a toy don't touch it! Some real firearms look like toys. Don't take a chance. Tell an adult.

Remember... if you find a firearm, don't pick it up. Just leave it alone. And tell an adult right away!

