Vandalism prevention
Most vandalism, including graffiti, occurs in the evenings and on weekends — so set up prevention techniques accordingly.

• Schedule custodial crews at night.
• Provide incentives for reporting vandalism and any information to catch suspects.
• Immediately report acts of vandalism to your local law enforcement agency.
• Repair damage promptly — the sooner you repair vandalism, the less chance there will be more vandalism.

For further information on this program and other crime prevention material, write to:

Crime and Violence Prevention Center
California Attorney General's Office
P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550
www.safestate.org

This publication can be downloaded from www.safestate.org

Encourage community participation
Use newspapers, radio and television to mobilize and encourage the community to report acts of vandalism and arson.
Arson and vandalism could have devastating financial and emotional affects on a business. Owners and employees need to be on alert. But why is it difficult to deter these crimes? Quite simply, most vandalism, including graffiti and arson attacks, occur at night and on weekends when businesses are vacant.

What can you do?
Many of the same precautions taken to discourage burglars may also discourage arsonists and vandals. By taking a few preventative steps, you can help curb these crimes against your business.

Improve general security
- Train employees to secure all doors, windows, skylights — especially entrances on alleys.
- Install and use an alarm system and make sure all employees know how to activate the system.
- Don’t allow landscaping to provide camouflage or hiding places.
- Keep your windows visible from the parking lot and street.
- Keep your property well-lighted at night.

Add fire prevention
- Train employees to be watchful of strangers and immediately report suspicious actions.
- Ask your neighbor to keep watch over your business while you are away.
- Maintain an efficient emergency plan.
- Educate employees about arson prevention.

Remember ...
Cooperation between citizens, business owners and government agencies is a key weapon against arson.

- Encourage your employees to report any information that would help in the investigation of arson-suspected fires.
- Support efforts to investigate, apprehend and prosecute arsonists.
- Protect property you own or occupy from would-be arsonists.

If you have information which may help apprehend an arsonist, call your local law enforcement agency immediately.