



24/7 MONITORING | VIDEO SURVEILLANCE | INSTALLATION | PATROL

# Boyd Bugle

BOYD & ASSOCIATES  
800.381.BOYD [www.boydsecurity.com](http://www.boydsecurity.com)

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## Quarterly Dispatch

### Protecting Your Pets: Smart Home Security Options For Anxious Owners

In recent years, it has become more common for homeowners to consider their furry friends as core members of their families—who, like their human counterparts, need to be factored into home security planning. 68% of American households have a pet of some variety, with dogs and cats accounting for the bulk of that volume.

Nowadays, smart home automation technology has made it easy to not only ensure the safety of your pets, but also to check in on them throughout the day, providing pet-lovers with peace of mind—and their much-adored pets the security solution they deserve. Boyd & Associates uses service platforms that allows customers to access their home system to arm or disarm remotely or even control specific devices from a phone app. The phone app is an excellent facet of any home security solution, but it's also extremely helpful when it comes to looking after your pets while you're away.

### Cameras

Boyd & Associate apps are compatible with certain internet-connected cameras, meaning you can check to see how your pet is doing or if they are behaving themselves—all from an easy-to-use app on your phone.

### Z-Wave devices

Boyd & Associates apps supports Z-Wave devices. Simply put, Z-Wave devices use wireless radio signals to communicate with each other so you can, for example, lock or unlock a Z-Wave door lock from your app. Z-Wave is compatible with a wide variety of devices including garage door openers, thermostats, and lights, so if you left your garage door wide open or you feel like your pet needs a bit more lighting on a dark day, Z-Wave can bring your pet comfort—and their owner some peace of mind.

### Door alerts

Do you want to make sure your pets are not accessing a part of the house that they shouldn't? Door alerts can be integrated with compatible sensors to alert you when a door has been opened through the application on your smartphone.

Of course, keeping your pet safe involves more than just checking in on them. For more tips on pet safety, be sure to follow our blog at [www.boydsecurity.com](http://www.boydsecurity.com)



## BEFORE YOU CHANGE YOUR TELEPHONE OR INTERNET PROVIDER...



Everything is about speed... faster connection, faster loading times, faster wait times, ect. So, it is normal to want to switch to a new, ect. phone or cable company who offers you just that. However, if you are going to switch phone or cable companies, you need to be aware that your alarm system and camera system is connected to this technology.

Before you change your phone or internet provider, it is imperative that you contact Boyd & Associates to advise us of the impending change and request a service call. A technician will need to reprogram your alarm system or camera system to ensure that it is working and communicating to the central station properly.

Whether you are switching phone companies, cable companies, or just haven't checked in a while, it is always a smart idea to test your alarm system to make sure it is working properly.

You may want to consider switching to a cellular connection to enable your alarm system to signal our central station in the event of an alarm activation. If you would like more information about enhances services, give us a call at 1-800-381-BOYD.

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# WHAT DO YOU DO AFTER A HOME BREAK-IN?

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HOME BREAK-INS CAN LEAVE YOU FEELING VIOLATED, EXPOSED AND DISORIENTED. TAKE THESE STEPS IN THE HOURS AND DAYS AFTER THE INCIDENT TO HELP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY RECOVER MORE QUICKLY.

## Immediately After

- If you weren't home but can tell from the outside that it's been burglarized don't go in – the thief may still be there. Go to a neighbor's house or lock yourself in your car and call 911.
- If you're inside when you discover the burglary, call 911, and make sure no one is physically hurt. Let police know if any firearms or knives were kept on the property. It could mean that the suspect may be armed.
- Try not to touch anything before the police arrive. There may be fingerprints or other evidence that can be used to catch and prosecute the burglar.

## First 24 Hours

- An insurance adjuster will usually contact you within 24 hours after you've filed a claim. Be prepared to provide any proof of items stolen, life receipts or titles.
- Clean up signs that you've had a home break-in. Seal any broken windows or doors until you can replace them. Don't throw away damaged items though; they will be noted in your insurance claim.
- Notify your neighbors. They may have noticed suspicious activity and can provide more details. There's also a chance the burglar may try to break into your home again or move on to a neighbor.

## First 48 Hours

- Replace glass or doors that were damaged during the break-in. Keep copies of all receipts to submit to your insurance company.
- If any credit or debit cards were in the home, call your bank to report them stolen. The bank will cancel cards and issue new cards so the old ones can't be used.
- Report any missing identification (social security card) to the police and place a freeze on your credit. A burglar could use it to start new credit accounts in your name.
- Follow up with police to check on the status of your case. Have your case number ready. If your goods are recovered the police will notify you.
- The psychological effects of home invasion can be lasting. Don't be afraid to look to friends, family, clergy members, or a therapist for emotional support.

## The Month After

- Safeguard your home against future incidents. Consider changing the locks on your doors and windows and purchasing a home safe.
- Consider adding security cameras to the outside of your home, over 1/3 of burglars said they avoid houses with cameras.
- If your insurance doesn't cover the damages, there may be a state or local crime victim's fund that can assist. Contact your local police department for possible resources.
- Put away valuables when you have workers or guests you don't know well in your home. Nearly 2/3 of people who are burglarized know the home invader.
- Be cautious about posting your whereabouts on social media. 10% of burglars said they use social media to track people's movements.
- Always remember to set your alarm system.



**GET ONE MONTH OF FREE MONITORING  
WHEN YOU LEAVE A GOOGLE REVIEW**

Leave us a review on Google and receive 1 month of monitoring on us.

For details, please visit our website at [www.boydsecurity.com](http://www.boydsecurity.com) and click the "Leave Us a Review" tab.

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