

## ABSTRACT

CREATIVE PROJECT: Security and Surveillance in Apartment Communities: Providing Peace of Mind for Management and Occupants

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Loitering, trespassing, vandalism, assault, and theft are common crimes that occur in most apartment communities. It is important that apartment owners take the time and steps necessary to ensure crimes do not occur in or around their community. This can sometimes be difficult without the proper security and surveillance. Recent research in burglary and intrusion deterrence indicates that apartment environments with visible and functional security systems scare away potential burglars (Mody et al., 2018). Proper security in place not only protects the residents but it protects the owner as well.

Apartment communities require security and surveillance systems to keep residents safe and help decrease crime levels. The presence of visible security systems, including intruder alarms and closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras, plays a psychological deterrence role and minimizes the chances of loss of property to criminal elements (Piza et al., 2019). If a crime does occur, property owners should have adequate security and surveillance systems in place that can provide evidence necessary for a thorough investigation.

The purpose of this creative project is to study the current and best practices for security and surveillance in apartment communities. The researcher will examine security and surveillance methods that are commonly used in apartment communities and their importance for apartment owners and residents. The researcher will also investigate the current security and

surveillance practices at an apartment community on the Northeast side of Indianapolis, IN and provide a list of recommendations on what the apartment owners could do to implement security measures for their community.