

APPENDIX D

What to Do if the Police Show Up At Your Home

For the purposes of this section, assume the following:

- You are a married man with no children at home.
- Your financial records are kept on a laptop computer in your den.
- You have a large amount of cash on hand because you are planning to buy a late-model Infiniti M45 from a private party.

If you spot the police pulling up to a stop in front of your home, the first thing to do is to make sure that any large amounts of money are hidden well. If there is time to do so, hide your laptop computer and your cell phone as well. Or, if your wife is at home, have her put those items in whatever secret hiding place you've already prepared. She should then keep out of sight.

Should you even answer the door?

If you are not sure that a real policeman is at the door, do not open it. Tell the person from behind your closed door you are going to first call 911 and verify their credentials for your safety. Say to the operator:

“There is a stranger at my door identifying himself as a policeman (or as a federal agent). I am not sure who he really is. I would like an officer to come to my address and verify if this person is a real policeman (or federal agent).”