

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### How Can we Make Strata Communities Safer Places?

Strata residents in Sydney have been warned by police to ensure their buildings, car parking and storage spaces are secure following an escalation in thefts and break-ins.

To ensure residents have the information they need to better manage the risks of criminal activities, Owners Corporation Network is hosting a free, on-line webinar open to anyone living in strata, anywhere in Australia.

The **Be Safe in Strata** webinar on **30 June from 1-2pm** features a line-up of experts including NSW Police Crime Prevention Officer, David Kearney; President of Master Locksmiths, Peter Lloyd; and building security expert Raymond Vardanega from Bells Access Control Services.

The Q&A segment to give attendees a chance to raise any specific queries or concerns.

“One of the things many people hope living in strata will give them is a greater level of safety and security,” said OCN Chairman Fred Tuckwell. “Where there is a strong sense of community that can be true. However, physical elements to security can often be neglected, and that is what this webinar will explore.”

For example, thieves look at whether mail has built up in letterboxes to ascertain whether an apartment is empty. Issues with the building CCTV may have not been discovered because there is no regular testing of the system.

“These are so many aspects of security that can be improved at low cost,” Tuckwell said. “Just doing a basic security audit is a valuable step, and the webinar will explain what that entails.”

“We are very grateful to City of Sydney and our other supporters, including Bells Access, for making it possible for us to deliver essential strata owner education events.

For further information on this and other OCN events go to <https://ocn.org.au/events/>

For interviews about the event or OCN’s ongoing advocacy, peer-to-peer support and strata owner education initiatives, contact [eo@ocn.org.au](mailto:eo@ocn.org.au).

#### Media Comment:

Karen Stiles, OCN Executive Officer M: 0418 232 476

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#### About OCN

The Owners Corporation Network of Australia Limited (OCN) is the peak consumer body representing residential strata and community title owners and residents. Strata is the fastest growing form of residential property ownership in Australia, and the growth of this sector raises increasingly important questions over property ownership and governance.

#### Media Enquiries

Karen Stiles  
M: 0418 232 476  
E: [media@ocn.org.au](mailto:media@ocn.org.au)