

Are 3M Safety and Security Laminates Hurricane- Proof?

In the event of a windstorm or an earthquake, the laminates offer a significant safety and security value. They can reduce the risk of injury from flying shards of broken glass and possibly help prevent debris and water penetration through the window depending on the severity of the storm or earthquake, the type of glass, framing system, size and velocity of the objects. Bullets: laminates or window films are not designed to stop bullets regardless of media propaganda. No laminate or window film is bullet/burglar/bomb/hurricane proof. They are designed to make the window glass more shatter-resistant. If bullet resistance is required, use properly manufactured ballistic rated products that consist of a hybrid construction using polycarbonates and glass (i.e. Prel-Secur Glazing by Prelco Montreal).

3M invented window film in 1966. Stronger versions of window films or laminates were developed in the 1970s to address international concerns and needs for improved safety and security against terrorist acts of bombings. The laminates can significantly reduce the risk of serious injury from flying shards of glass due to blasts, however much depends upon the severity of the blast and the proximity of the window glass to the blast, the type of glass, framing system and more. In the battle against Burglaries or "Smash and Grab" crime, the laminates have been proven to be very effective. The tough, shatter-resistant qualities of the laminate can hold the window glass together, even if a brick or similar object were actually to pass through the glass. The thief must now make a choice: continue to attack the window, try another window or move on.