

Campus Safety Bulletin

November/December 2015

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“SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR
THE HOLIDAY SEASON”



Season of
SAFETY



**CAMPUS
EMERGENCIES
CALL “2911”
(336) 750-2911**

The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people can become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. The Police and Public Safety Department wants to remind you of some basic safety precautions.

During this holiday season & beyond, be your own safety advocate by taking the following safety strategies and precautions seriously like:

- **You don't have to be nice.** If a stranger approaches you and asks for help or wants directions, you can just say “no” and keep on walking. Don't worry about seeming rude if you don't feel comfortable.
- **Keep your mind on your surroundings.** Who's in front of you? Who's behind you? Don't become distracted.
- **Let someone know where you're going** before you go out.
- **Walk confidently.** Walk briskly, keeping your head up and staying aware of your surroundings. Communicate the message that you know where you are going.
- **Don't walk alone, especially after dark.** Call Public Safety for escorts on campus or walk with friends.
- **Take the long way if it's safest.** Choose well lit, busy streets. Avoid vacant lots, alleys, construction sites, deserted streets and wooded areas.
- **Mind your purse or wallet.** If you carry a purse, carry it close to your body and keep a firm grip on it. Hanging it across your body is better than over a shoulder. Wallets should be carried in an inside coat pocket or inside a front pant pocket. Avoid back pockets which have a tendency to attract pick-pockets.
- **Walk facing traffic** so you can see approaching vehicles.
- **If you're being followed by someone on foot:** Cross the street and head for the nearest well lit, populated area. Walk quickly or run to a house or store to call the police.
- **If you are being followed by someone in a vehicle:** Change direction immediately and make a point of remembering the license plate number of the vehicle.
- **Carry a whistle** to draw attention to yourself if you feel threatened.

SAFETY WHILE DRIVING / PARKING LOT

- **Watch where you park.** Park in well-lit areas near sidewalks or walkways. Avoid parking near dumpsters, alleys or large vans/trucks. Not only do these things obstruct your car from the view of other drivers, but they also provide places for carjackers or thieves to hide and wait for unsuspecting victims.
- **Carry your keys in your hand.** When you walk from a building to your vehicle, don't wait until you get to your car to search for keys.
- **Look into the vehicle before entering.**
- **Keep your vehicle doors locked while driving.** Lock them immediately when you get in the car.
- **After parking, look around before unlocking your car and getting out.** If you see someone or anything that looks suspicious, find another parking space in a well-lit and traveled area

**Police & Public Safety wishes you a safe, happy
& peaceful holiday season**