

Campus Safety Bulletin

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IN THIS ISSUE: HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS



Stay safe for the holidays



**CAMPUS
EMERGENCIES
CALL "2911"
(336) 750-2911**

During the holiday season, people are busy and sometimes don't pay attention to everything going on around them. However, it's a time when people should be extra careful because it's the peak season for burglars, pick-pockets, purse snatchers, shoplifters and con artists. Like police officers, you should read your environment by being observant when you are out and about. Here are some things you can do that may help make your holiday season a safe and happy time.

Shopping Tips

- Always walk and park in well-lit areas. Park close to the store or mall entrance, if possible.
- Avoid talking on the cell phone when walking through parking lots and streets. Your phone conversation is a distraction that makes you vulnerable, and the cell phone is a tempting target for thieves. Keep your full attention on your surroundings.
- If you are ready to leave the mall or store and feel uneasy about entering the parking lot or garage alone, stay in the store or mall and ask for a security escort.
- Don't overwhelm yourself with packages and or bags so it won't be difficult to get your keys. This also minimizes your chances of being an easy prey to purse snatchers or other possible assailants.

Vehicle Safety

- Always lock your car even if you are away for only a few minutes.
- Do not leave valuables in plain view (gifts, cell phones, purses or clothing).
 - Thieves have their own way of window shopping; they look in parked cars for gifts and other merchandise, and will break through car windows to get such valuables.
- Remember to activate your vehicle's keyless entry when you are close to your vehicle, making sure that there are no bystanders or lone individuals standing in the parking lot near you or your vehicle.

Flee if necessary

- Flight is safer than fight
- Drop your valuables if necessary and run
- Keep your car in gear and doors locked when traveling
- Head toward other people and/or occupied areas and attract attention (sound vehicle horn or car alarm, or just scream)

Home and or Residence Hall Tips

- Secure your door and packages when returning home.
- Avoid using social networks to discuss the details of items you've purchased or bargains you may have obtained.
- Keep your home or room well lit upon your arrival (Burglars hate to be seen).
- When entertaining guests, know your guests and limit their access to your personal areas.

Final Tip

Although the holiday season has become more commercialized, let us take the time to reflect on its intended significance and look out for one another to make this season a safe and joyous one.

As always, safety begins with you.