

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS ... DON'T BE AN EASY TARGET !



The holiday season is approaching and the Long Beach Police Department would like everyone to take extra precautions while out shopping, and also around your home or business during this festive time of year.

Suspicious activity should always be reported immediately, whether you are at home or away. Call LBPD Dispatch at 9-1-1 or (562) 435-6711. Below you will find a few simple tips to follow that may prevent you from becoming a victim.

While shopping:

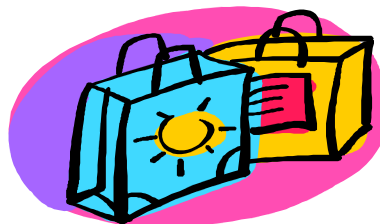
- ◆ Place all gifts and packages in your trunk or out of sight
- ◆ Always be aware of your surroundings and walk with confidence
- ◆ Park in well-lighted areas
- ◆ Avoid shopping alone; there is safety in numbers
- ◆ Try to use credit or debit cards for purchases to avoid carrying large amounts of cash
- ◆ Keep your car doors locked and windows closed
- ◆ If you carry a purse or bag, carry it up close to your body
- ◆ Have your car key in your hand prior to getting to your vehicle

Suggestions in and around your home:

- ◆ Keep gifts away from windows
- ◆ Install motion sensor lighting in a location that it cannot be easily tampered with
- ◆ Keep bushes and shrubbery trimmed down to eliminate places for thieves to hide
- ◆ If traveling, postpone mail/newspaper deliveries so your home doesn't look deserted
- ◆ Do not store gifts in vehicle or unsecured areas

If you operate a business, some of these tips may be helpful:

- ◆ Lock unused doors as long as you are not in violation of the Fire Code
- ◆ Keep only necessary cash in the register and vary the schedule/route of your bank deposits
- ◆ Make sure your cash register is clearly visible to passers-by
- ◆ Keep windows free of signs/banners so there is always a clear view into your business
- ◆ At night keep your business well lit
- ◆ Advertise your security alarm system with signs in visible locations
- ◆ Develop a mutual aid system among stores on your block or close to you



Seasons
Greetings

