

Crime Prevention Tips /By Officer Jim Olszanski , Chicago Police Department

****Know your surroundings * Look behind you *Use common sense * Follow intuition
*Keep a hand free * Have a plan for travel and let others know your plan * Walk with others
* Walk in middle of a dark street at night/ Don't walk in alleys****

Purse/Wallets / Briefcase

- *Don't carry on weak shoulder or bandolier style as it can be used to strangle you
- *Keep one hand on purse with flaps facing inside
- *Don't place purse in shopping cart or basket
- *Men rubber band your wallet and keep your wallet in front pocket

Pickpockets:

- *Work in teams and are proficient, watch individuals close to you
- *Don't give change, money or time they are looking at your money or jewelry

Credit Cards:

- *Mark the card account numbers and numbers to call if stolen *carry limited funds on your person *Limit to driver's license and one or two credit cards

ATM's:

- *Have card ready, use well lit ATM and stay close to machine so others can't see your pin
- *Use when friends or others are around you
- *Hide money at bottom of purse after withdrawal
- *Guys don't place wallet on machine while making a withdrawal

Elevator's:

- *don't get on elevator if suspicious person on elevator
- *stand at front of elevator by control panel
- *hit floor button for every floor if you are being attacked *yell when doors open at each floor

Revolving Doors:

- *Place bags or purse on left side to avoid theft

Hotels

- *Hang do not disturb sign when not in room
- *Keep tv or radio on when not in room
- *Use personal alarm on door. Purchase a personal alarm which can cost about \$10.00 from a electronic store which emits a loud sound. Use a safety whistle to attract help.

Public Transportation:

- *Stay alert, don't sleep
- *Sit close to the driver or sit on a aisle
- *Keep jewelry hidden

Burglaries

- * Keep a porch light to help brighten your street
- * Keep shrubs at street level
- * Keep doors and windows locked. Install peep holes on door
- * Use motion lights around your buildings
- * Lock fences. Keep tools and bikes locked up in your garages
- * Place beware of dog sign and place large dogs bowls even if you do not have a dog

Auto Thefts:

- *Don't leave items in car

If You Are A Victim...Know How To Give A Description

Look for hair color, eye color, weight, size, frame of person, complexion, features, clothing, jewelry, left or right handed, age, voice, teeth, glasses, race and color or style of clothing. If a car involved get a description of the car-interior and exterior or any unusual features.