

Personal Safety

Make life harder for criminals

The information provided is full of tips which can help you deny, detect, deter and delay becoming a victim of a crime when you are out and about, or at work.

By taking a few simple precautions, you can reduce the risk to yourself, and also discourage those who commit crime.

Be Prepared:

- Always be alert and aware of the people around you.
- Educate yourself concerning prevention tactics.
- Be aware of locations and situations which would make you vulnerable to crime, such as alleys and dark parking lots.

Street Precautions

- Be alert to your surroundings and the people around you, especially if you are alone or it is dark.
- Whenever possible, travel with a friend.
- Stay in well-lighted areas as much as possible.
- Walk close to the curb. Avoid doorways, bushes and alleys where someone could hide.
- Walk confidently, and at a steady pace.
- Make eye contact with people while walking.
- Do not respond to conversation from strangers on the street, continue walking.
- If you carry a purse, hold it securely between your arm and body.

Car Safety

- Always lock car doors after entering or leaving your car.
- Park in well-lighted areas.
- Have your keys in your hand so you don't have to linger before entering your car.
- Check the back seat before entering your car.
- If you think you are being followed, drive to a public place (or the Police Department). Do not go home.
- If your car breaks down, and you are in the roadway, call the Police non-emergency number at 817-426-9903 and ask for assistance. If you are out of the roadway, call for a tow service. If you feel unsafe in the area, or during a specific time of day, you may call the Police non-emergency number.
- Don't stop to aid motorists stopped on the side of the road. Call the Police non-emergency and request help for them.

Office Security

- Never leave your purse, billfold or cell phone in plain view, or in the pocket of a jacket hanging on a door or chair.
- Personal property should be marked with an OAN (Owner Applied Number). This would be something unique to you, letters or numbers, that is not something used to identify you or your family. This number is as good as a serial number.
- Don't leave cash or valuables at the office.
- If you work alone or before/after normal business hours, keep the office door locked.
- If you work late, try to find another co-worker or a security guard to walk out with you.
- If you are in the elevator with another person, stand near the control panel. If you are attacked, press the alarm and as many of the control buttons as possible.
- Be alert for pickpockets on crowded elevators.
- Report all suspicious people and activities to the proper authorities: Office manager, building security and/or Law Enforcement.
- Be aware of escape routes for emergencies, and post the phone number of the Police non-emergency number. (The Burleson Communications Division communicates with the Police and Fire Department, the number is 817-426-9903).
- Call 911 if the situation is an emergency or life-threatening.

If a crime occurs—Report it!

Everyone should consider it his/her responsibility to report crime. Many criminals target favorite areas and have predictable methods of operation. When you report all of the facts about a crime, it helps the Police assign Officers in the places where crimes are occurring or where they are most likely to occur. On average, approximately 57% of crimes go unreported to the Police in the United States. This is either because people do not think Law Enforcement can do anything about it, or because people do not want to get involved. If you don't report crime, the criminal can continue to operate without interference.

In many cases, it is the information provided by victims and witnesses that leads to the arrest of a criminal. So tell Law Enforcement as much as you can; no fact is too trivial. They need the eyes and ears of all citizens.



Burleson Police Department
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