

LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

ROBBERY / BURGLARY CRIME PREVENTION TIPS



Crime happens every day and the best prevention is awareness and preparedness. The following information might help you avoid a crime risk and remain safe.

TO AVOID BECOMING A STREET ROBBERY VICTIM:

- Vehicles offer more protection than walking. So drive when you can.
- Pedestrians should pay attention to their surroundings and not walk distracted or impaired.
- Bicyclists should remain aware of both area pedestrians and vehicles.
- Do not display valuable items in public – including personal electronic devices. They attract criminals.
- Keep your attention on your surroundings and stay off the phone and not playing games.
- Be confident, walk with a purpose and look at people around you.
- Do not stop to talk to or assist strangers for any reason. If someone needs help, place a call for them to the police but do not allow them to use your phone or detain you.
- Be a good witness and be able to describe people and vehicles.

WHAT THIEVES ARE LIKELY TO DO...

- Ask you for the time.
- Ask you for a light or a cigarette.
- Ask you for a ride.
- Offer you a ride.
- Trick you into talking with them or being in their presence with the intent of robbing you.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO...

- Avoid conversations with people you do not know.
- Keep walking and change course if necessary.
- Don't let them get near you.
- Don't let them into your car.
- Don't get into their car.

TO AVOID BECOMING THE VICTIM OF A RESIDENTIAL ROBBERY OR BURGLARY:

- Don't leave your window coverings open allowing people to see what is inside.
- Break down any boxes before setting them out for trash. Don't advertise your new items.
- Keep your garage door closed and make sure your doors and windows are locked.
- When arriving home, scan your property for anyone who may be there. Pull into your parking area and remain aware of your surroundings. If garage parking, close garage door before exiting the car.

WHAT THIEVES DO...

- Follow you home from a location such as a store, a casino, the airport, etc.
- Approach you while you are busy removing items from your car. Your hands may be full and your attention diverted to the task at hand.
- Try to see if you are home by ringing your doorbell and/or knocking on the door. They may have a ruse to get you to open the door or they make create the name of someone they are looking for.
- Pretend to be a utility company or other legitimate representative.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO TO AVOID BEING INVOLVED IN A VIOLENT CRIME:

- Do not go to homes or other places with people you do not know well or have just met.
- Do not associate with people who have risky lifestyles or habits - especially drugs.
- Do not associate with people who have criminal tendencies such as gangs or who commit any kind of crime.
- Avoid / leave areas where people are engaged in at-risk behavior such as large gatherings, arguing, fighting, creating disturbances, etc.
- Do not get create or get involved in "road rage" incidents. Do not follow drivers to prove a point and report people who may be following you. Go to a safe area and do not leave your vehicle.
- Don't get involved in someone else's argument or situation. Be a good witness and call the Police for assistance. Dial 3-1-1 for a non-emergency or 9-1-1 for an emergency. Don't become part of the problem.
- Do not open your door at home to someone who do not know or cannot verify.
- Verbally acknowledge any visitor outside your door and keep an eye on them from the safety of your locked door. Report suspicious people in your neighborhood – even if they have left your front door area. They are still in the area.

ALWAYS HAVE FAMILY DISCUSSIONS ABOUT HOME AND OUT AND ABOUT SAFETY. EVERYONE IN YOUR FAMILY SHOULD BE AWARE OF RISKS AND AVOIDENCE. BE PROTECTIVE AND THINK BEFORE YOU DO SOMETHING. YOUNG ADULTS ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO BAD DECISIONS.

The provided information is suggested to be used as a guideline when considering your safety options. Seek more information on risks that concern you and ask your Crime Prevention Specialist for help with specific concerns. Situations can vary and general information can be expanded upon based on your need.