Public Advisory

0511

Personal Safety

Your Nassau County Police Department wants you to be aware of important ways to increase your personal safety both at home and away. Being aware of your surroundings and practicing good crime prevention techniques can help you from becoming a victim of crime.

POLICE
COUNTY OF NASSAU, N.Y.

BE AWARE

- Prepare your daily schedule with your safety in mind.
- Always be aware of your surroundings especially where you feel comfortable.
- Trust your instincts – If something doesn't seem right, trust your feeling.

AT HOME

- Have your keys ready and observe the area around your house as you approach it.
- If you find signs of a burglary, do not go in. Call 911 from your cell phone or neighbor's phone.
- Keep shrubs and trees trimmed to eliminate hiding areas.
- Entry doors should be constructed of 1 ¾ inch thick solid wood or metal clad no thinner than 18 guage for maximum strength.
- Glass or thin wood panels in or near the door should be secured with 3/16 inch polycarbonate glazing to protect the glass and ¾ inch plywood for the wood panels.
- All exterior doors should be equipped with a 190-degree peep-hole.
- Door hinges should not be exposed.
- All exterior doors should be secured with a deadbolt lock.
- Additional locks should be installed 12-18 inches above or below the doorknob.
- House numbers should be clearly displayed and should be 3-5 inches in size.
- Entrance area should be wel lit.
- If you have an alarm system use it when away and at home.
- If a stranger asks to use your phone, do not let them in. Keep your door locked and place the call for them. If it is an emergency, dial 911.
- Utility service people should be asked to hold up company identification without opening the door.

PURSE AND WALLET SAFETY

- Only take what you need for the day.
- Keep ID, keys and credit cards on your person and not in your handbag.
- Carry purses and handbags under your arm like a football, not dangling from the straps or draped over shoulders or around the neck.
- Be aware of your purse and wallet in crowded areas. Wallets should be carried in the front trouser pocket or inside jacket pocket.
- When dining out, keep your purse or handbag on your lap.
- If someone attempts to rob you, do not resist especially if a weapon is involved. Resisting might result in injury or worse.

ON THE STREET

- Try to shop and travel with a friend.
- Use populated and well lit streets when walking.
- If you suspect you are being followed, cross the street and go to the nearest occupied area, building, etc.

- If you are leaving a store after dark, walk out with other customers.
- If you drive, park in well lit areas at night and under a streetlight in the daytime in case you leave at night.

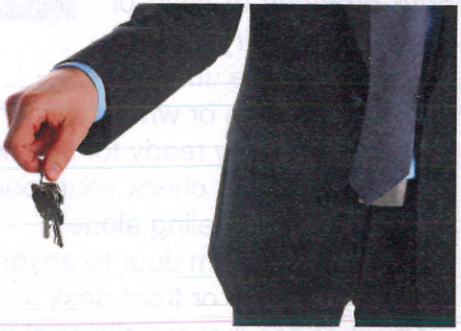
AT ATMS

- If you are using an open ATM, don't use one close to the curb.
- Be suspicious of someone earby with a video camera since they can zoom in on your transaction and get your PIN.

AT ATMS *(continued)*

- Use well lit and well populated ATMs and be aware of your surroundings. Make sure the door closes behind you.
- Block bystanders' view. Use mirrors at ATMs to see behind you.
- Put money, recept and card in pocket before exiting the ATM.
- If you find yourself alone at and ATM and someone approaches who seems suspicious or makes you feel uncomfortable, let them go ahead of you. Say you forgot your card and go to a different ATM.

WHILE DRIVING



- Plan your route before you leave.
- Have your keys ready as you approach the car.

Observe the area around your car.

- Check for flat tires.

  Check the back seat as you approach.
- Get in and lock doors. Check your surrounding before you leave the car.
- Keep your car in good operating condition.
- When traveling, carry a cell phone.
- Keep windows rolled up except for a small opening for ventilation.
- Keep valuables locked in the trunk.
- Put your pocketbook on the floor of the car and not on the seat.

ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

- Have money ready when you get on public transportation.
- Cover any jewelry. Turn rings with large stones toward your palm.
- Sit close to the driver when possible. Otherwise, sit near the exit.

ON VACATION

- Always be sure to use the main entrance.
- Be observant and look around when entering the parking lot.
- Do not draw attention to yourself by displaying large amounts of cash or expensive jewelry.
- Keep luggage in view when checking in or when talking to someone.
- Have tip money ready for tipping.
- Have the porter check your room to insure that it is empty especially when traveling alone.
- Never open room door to anyone. Call the front desk first.
- Use room safe or front desk safe for valuables.
- Check to see that any sliding glass doors, windows and any connecting room doors are locked each time you enter your room.
- Close the door securely whenever you are in your room and use all locking devices.

Nassau County Police Department

Emergencies **911**

LOCAL PRECINCTS:

FIRST PRECINCT *900 Merrick Road, Baldwin, N.Y. 11510*	**516-573-6100**
SECOND PRECINCT *7700 Jericho Turnpike, Woodbury, N.Y. 11797*	**516-573-6200**
THIRD PRECINCT *214 Hillside Avenue, Williston Park, N.Y. 11596*	**516-573-6300**
FOURTH PRECINCT *1699 Broadway, Hewlett, N.Y. 11557*	**516-573-6400**
FIFTH PRECINCT *1655 Dutch Broadway, Elmont, N.Y. 11003*	**516-573-6500**
COMMUNITY POLICING CENTER *100 Community Drive, Manhasset, N.Y. 11030*	**516-573-6600**
SEVENTH PRECINCT *3636 Merrick Road, Seaford, N.Y. 11783*	**516-573-6700**
COMMUNITY POLICING CENTER *286 Wantagh Avenue, Levittown, N.Y. 11756*	**516-573-6800**

This Public Advisory is a publication of the Nassau County Police Department.

For further information, call the
Nassau County Police Department
Community Affairs
at 516-573-7360.

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