

Protect yourself and your belongings!

WHEN WALKING AROUND

- Be alert to your surroundings and the people around you, especially if you are alone or it is dark out.
- Whenever possible, travel in pairs.
- Stay in well lit, public areas as much as possible.
- Do not respond to conversation from strangers on the street.
- If you carry a purse, hold it securely between your arm and body, or across your person. Keep it zipped.
- Limit cell phone use when walking. It is a distraction to you and your surroundings. You may injure yourself due to inattention, or encourage the theft of it by displaying it outwardly.



WHEN LEAVING YOUR VEHICLE

- Do not leave valuables in plain view (not on seats or floorboards).
- Always roll up all windows and lock all doors after entering or leaving your car.
- Park in well lit areas.
- Have your car keys in your hand prior to arrival at your car to prevent lingering.

WHEN LEAVING YOUR HOME

- Leave a light on inside the residence so it appears occupied.
- Secure and lock all windows and doors.
- Use curtains, blinds, or shades to block outsiders from looking into your house.
- If possible, install motion activated light sensors on the outside of your home.
- If going to be gone for an extended period of time, ie., vacation, put a hold on your mail at the post office so it doesn't pile up.

WHEN LEAVING WORK

- If you are securing a business or dealing with large amounts of money, make an attempt to conceal the money in an inconspicuous fashion.
- Check your surroundings prior to leaving.
- Have keys readily available for your car.

WHEN AT THE GYM

- Avoid bringing valuables with you.
- Always use a lock to secure your property in a locker.

WHEN WAITING FOR A BUS

- Avoid isolated and poorly lit bus stops.
- Don't open your purse or wallet while boarding the bus. Have your pass or money ready.
- Know who is around you. Don't display property that could invite theft like cash, electronics, or jewelry.
- During off hours, sit as close to the bus driver as possible.
- If someone bothers you, change seats.
- Keep your purse in front of you and zipped.
- In the case of crowding, keep items close and in sight. Continually check to make sure they are still there.
- Notify the driver if you see suspicious activity.

YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ITS MEMBERS ARE HERE TO SERVE EVERYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY. IT IS OUR GOAL TO MAKE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFER.

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Be aware of escape routes for emergencies and know the phone number for your local police or 911.
- When walking think of the ways you can protect yourself and what could you use should you need to fight off an attacker (keys, shoes, purse, belt...).
- Change your walking/driving pattern sporadically.
- Pay attention to where you parked and always know where you are.

WHEN A CRIME OCCURS

- Everyone should consider it his/her responsibility to report a crime.
- When you report a crime, you should attempt to provide as much detail as you can (what crime was committed, the location, descriptions of any victim's/suspect's). Be a good witness!
- When you report all of the facts about the crime, it helps the San Mateo Police Department and increases the likelihood a suspect can be identified and/or apprehended.



DO YOUR PART TO MAKE OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFER

We count on our community members to be our "eyes and ears." Report ANY suspicious activity to SMPD right away via 911, or (650)522-7700. You may also contact us anonymously by voicemail at (650)522-7676 or text message to (650)262-3473.

JOIN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

If a Neighborhood Watch does not exist on your block, you can start one with help from SMPD. For additional information about the City of San Mateo Neighborhood Watch Program, call us at (650)522-7791 or email us at neighborhoodwatch@cityofsanmateo.org.

CITY OF SAN MATEO

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www.cityofsanmateo.org

CITY OF SAN MATEO

SAN MATEO POLICE
DEPARTMENT



**Personal
Safety:**

**Tips to keep you
safe while out
and about.**

(650)522-7700
www.sanmateopolice.org