

While you're out

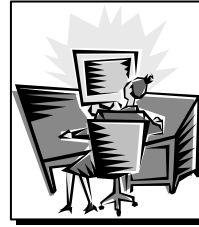
- Whenever possible travel with a friend.
- If you must walk alone, walk with confidence.
- Always be alert and aware of your surroundings.
- Walk in well-lighted areas down the middle of the sidewalk and away from doorways, bushes and alleys where someone could hide.
- If a car stops you for directions or information, always reply from a safe distance. Never get too close to the car.
- Wear clothing and shoes that allow you to move freely.
- Do not overburden yourself with bags or packages that might make running difficult.
- Avoid shortcuts and isolated areas such as parks and parking lots where there might be danger.
- Do not respond to conversation from strangers on the street, continue walking.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash with you.
- If you carry a purse, hold it securely between your arm and your body.
- If you carry a wallet, place it inside your coat or in a front pocket.
- If someone in a car persists in bothering you, cross the street and walk or run in the opposite direction.
- If you feel you are in danger, don't be afraid to scream and run. Look for a well-lighted house or place of business and call the police.



While you're at work

- Never leave your purse or wallet in plain view. Always secure your valuables in a locked closet or drawer.

- Don't leave your cash or valuables at work.
- If you work alone or if you work before or after normal business hours, keep the office doors locked.
- If you work late, find a co-worker or security guard to walk with you out to your car.
- When you know that you will be at the office after dark, park your car in a well-lighted area of the parking lot.
- Report all suspicious people and activities to the proper authorities, office manager, building security or the police.
- Familiarize yourself with escape routes in case of an emergency.
- Call home or a friend after working late to let them know you are on your way home.
- Keep a list of emergency numbers posted next to all telephones. If there is a life-threatening situation call 9-1-1 immediately.



While on the telephone

- Do not give information about yourself to strangers over the phone or admit that you are alone.
- Hang up immediately on obscene callers.
- Keep a list of emergency numbers and your address near the telephone.
- In the telephone directory list only your last name and first initial along with your phone number.

In your car

- To avoid breakdowns, keep your engine properly maintained, your gas tank full and check your tires regularly.
- When you walk to your car have your keys out. Always check the backseat before getting in.

- Never pick up hitchhikers or stop to aid a stranded motorist. If you think a motorist needs help, go to a phone and request help for them.
- Always park in well-lighted areas.
- If you think you are being followed, drive to a police or sheriff's department, stay in your car and honk your horn.
- If your car breaks down, keep your doors locked and your windows rolled up. Place a "Call Police" sign in your rear window. If someone stops to help you, stay in your locked car and don't roll your window down. Ask them to call the police or a tow truck for you.

Using public transportation

- Avoid isolated bus stops.
- Wait near others and stand away from the curb until the bus arrives.
- Don't open your purse while boarding the bus. Have your pass or money ready and in your hand before boarding.
- If possible sit in an aisle seat or near the bus driver.
- Always be alert to other passengers around you.
- Keep your handbag in front of you and hold it close to your body with both hands.
- If you carry your wallet in your pocket, place a comb horizontally in the fold of the wallet and keep it in your front pocket. The comb will alert you if a pickpocket tries to remove your wallet.
- Check your purse or wallet if someone is jostling, crowding or pushing you.
- If someone bothers you change seats and/or tell the bus driver.



Always remember

Trust your instincts. If you suspect something is wrong, or if a situation seems dangerous, you might be right. Don't dismiss suspicious people, cars or situations, report them.

At least one out of two crimes in the United States go unreported, either because people don't think the police can do anything about it, or because people don't want to get involved. When you don't report a crime or suspicious activity, criminals are allowed to continue to operate without interference. By reporting crimes you can provide the police with valuable information that might lead to the arrest of a suspect and prevent someone from becoming a victim.



For further information on crime prevention please call the Newport Beach Crime Prevention Unit at (949) 644-3699.

Newport Beach POLICE DEPARTMENT

Business Line
644-3717

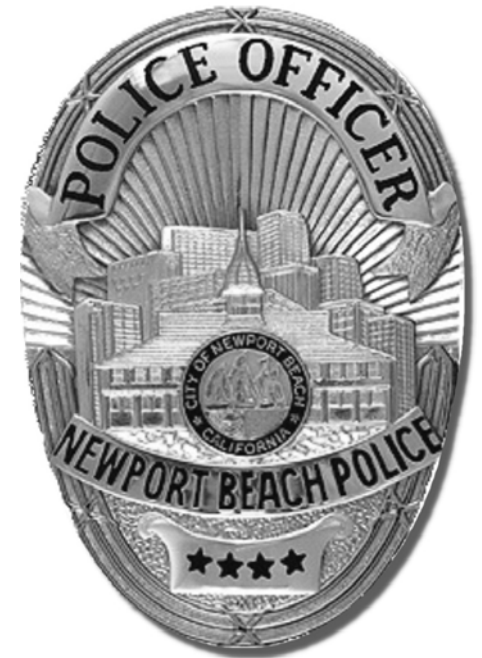
Emergency
911



PERSONAL SAFETY

Visit us on the Web at
www.nbpd.org

NEWPORT BEACH Police Department



Personal Safety