

SAFER SENIORS

Be Alert to Your Surroundings

- Go with friends, not alone.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash.
- Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- Use direct deposit for Social Security and other pension checks.
- Drive with the doors locked. Be particularly alert in parking lots and underground garages.
- Sit close to the driver or exit while riding the bus or subway.



Be Alert to Home Security

- Install good locks on doors and windows. Use them!
- Ask for identification from service or delivery people before letting them in. If you're the least bit concerned, call the company to verify.
- Get involved in your community's Neighborhood Watch program or start one.

Watch Out for Con Artists

- Don't be taken in by investment schemes, funeral scams, home improvement scams, fake cures for cancer and arthritis, sweepstakes, free vacation offers, and other promotions that sound "too good to be true." Be wary of phone solicitors asking for personal information — credit card or checking account numbers — even if they claim you won something. Ask them to mail you the information.
- Don't let anyone rush you into signing anything — a contract, sales agreement, insurance policy. Read it carefully and have someone you trust check it over.

Get Involved

- Report any crime to law enforcement. Ask about victim services.
- Work to improve your community's well-being. Volunteer as a tutor for young children, Neighborhood Watch organizer, mentor for teens, citizen patroller, victim advocate, block grandparent, office aide in the police or fire department, newsletter writer, escort for people with disabilities.



TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME