

Protect Your Property

Minimize Your Loss:

- Only carry the amount of cash you think you will need for the day.
- Carry as few credit cards as possible.
- Carry I.D.'s separate from your cash and credit cards.
- Make a list of the credit cards you do carry, including the credit card company contact numbers.
 - Keep a copy of this list in a safe place at your home. Carry another copy with you and keep it with your I.D.'s.
 - Do not write down your credit card numbers.

Victims Of Theft:

- Call 911 immediately.
- Try to recall where you were and when you last remember having the item that was stolen.
- Begin making a list of all the property that has been stolen.
- Try and recall any suspicious person or interaction that may have occurred around the time of the theft.
- Report everything you remember to the police.

Preventive Programs

For further information on crime prevention please contact the Preventive Programs Unit at 312-745-5838. Through the Preventive Programs Unit you can arrange for a Chicago Police Officer to present a crime prevention program to your group on topics ranging from: Theft prevention, Robbery prevention, Gangs and Drugs, Burglary prevention, and many more. The Preventive Programs Unit will also come to your home or business and conduct a Security Survey to assess the security of your facility.

Don't Make it Easy For Thieves

By using these crime prevention tips you can help protect yourself and your valuables from crime.

PREVENT THEFT:

Purses, Wallets, & Packages



Preventive Programs
Chicago Police Dept.
3510 S. Michigan
Chicago, IL 60653
(312) 745-5838

Prevent Theft

Pickpockets and other theft can occur anywhere!

- Stay alert to what is happening around you and who is around you.
- Thieves target busy, distracted, and unsuspecting citizens.

When inside a place of business:

**** Do not place items on the back of your chair or the chair next to you. ****

- If the item is behind you and out of your immediate sight, a thief can easily steal valuables from the bag, or the thief may steal the item itself.
- Do not leave valuables unprotected at any time (packages, backpacks, cameras, purse, etc.).

- Place purses, bags and valuables on the floor next to your legs making sure the item is on the inside of the table or booth where a thief cannot reach the item without reaching over you.
- Never set wallets and credit cards down on a table or counter.
- Take your wallet, cash and credit cards out only when you are ready to use them. Keep them in your hand until you are ready to give them to the waiter or clerk.
- Put your wallet, cash, and credit cards away as soon as the transaction is completed.
- Keep your receipt.

Be particularly ALERT at tourist sites, train & subway stations, any crowded site, shopping areas, restaurants, stores, museums, stadiums, etc.

WALLETS

- Keep wallets in your front pants pocket.
- If you must carry your wallet in a back pocket, place a large rubber band around it.
 - This will increase friction and make it difficult to slip the wallet out undetected.

PURSES

- Keep a firm grip on a purse.
- The best purse style has a flap that covers the purse openings.
- Carry the purse in front of you, with one hand over the purse flap or opening.

PACKS

- Be careful when carrying backpacks and fanny packs. Items can be easily removed from them.
- Be aware when placing valuables in these packs.