

Season of Safety

Crimes Such as robberies, burglaries and thefts typically increase during the holiday season. With holiday travel, shopping and preparations more people are out and about and they tend to be carrying more money and valuables than during other times of the year. It's important to be mindful of safety during these busy times and to take the steps we can to make ourselves less vulnerable to crime.

Precautions can be taken to increase personal safety such as;

- Walking with others whenever possible- there is safety in numbers
- Stay alert and be aware of everything around you. Take a minute to observe who may be watching you.
- Traveling in well-lit and populated areas
- Refraining from texting or talking on the phone while walking
- As you shop, be alert in crowded places. Among pickpockets' favorites are jammed aisles, elevators, and public transportation stops, especially at rush hour
- If you must take a wallet or purse, carry it close to your body with the clasp nearest you and be alert.
- Keeping cash and valuables hidden while on the street
- Refraining from using ear buds or headphones and trust your instincts
- Never leave valuables on the seat of your vehicle in plain view
- Always lock your vehicle and keep the windows closed
- Park in a highly visible well-lit space
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows where people can hide
- Keep a secure hold on your purse, handbag and parcels.
- Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area
- If you must use an ATM, choose one that is located inside a bank, mall, or well-lighted location. Withdraw only the amount of cash you need
- When possible shop with friends or relatives - there is safety in numbers
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings
- Stay alert and be aware of everything around you. Take a minute to observe who may be watching you
- When returning to your vehicle, carry your keys in your hand and be ready to unlock the door and enter as quickly as possible
- Fuel your vehicle during daylight hours when possible and maintain at least ½ tank of gas
- Contact people at your destination and let them know when you are leaving and when you expect to arrive
- If your car breaks down, stay with the car and accept no rides. If someone stops to help, ask him or her to call the police. Use your own cell phone if signal range allows

We want everyone to have a Season of Safety on and off Campus.

To every one of our HPU Family we at HPU Security wish each of you and your family a

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.