



Hampton Police Division Media Release

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Hampton, VA 23669
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For Immediate Release

November 26, 2013

Holiday Safety Tips

The Hampton Police Division wants your holiday shopping experience to be a safe one. Increased patrols will be in effect all day on Friday, November 29, 2013, as well as, throughout the holiday season. In addition, the Hampton Police Division asks that everyone follow these simple safety rules to help minimize your risk of becoming a victim.

- ◆ Do not go out after dark but if you do, shop with a friend if possible.
- ◆ Bring only the cash and credit cards you will need while shopping.
- ◆ Always try to park in a well-lit area.
- ◆ Keep the doors and windows locked, while driving or when parked.
- ◆ Avoid overloading yourself with packages. Remember you can always ask a store employee to help you carry them to your car, if needed.
- ◆ Make sure your visibility is clear and you have freedom of motion to help discourage purse-snatchers.
- ◆ Keep packages locked in the car trunk, even if this means making several trips to the car. Leave nothing of value visible.
- ◆ **BE ALERT!** Your purse or wallet may be a target for crime in crowded shopping areas, bus stops, and on buses.
- ◆ If you notice anyone that seems suspicious, call police.
- ◆ If someone demands your purse or wallet surrender it immediately-it is not worth your life.
- ◆ Have your keys in hand when walking to your car or home.
- ◆ Be aware of your surroundings and anyone approaching your vehicle.
- ◆ Never resist if a robber or carjacker threatens you.
- ◆ If your wallet or purse is stolen, report it to police by either calling the Hampton Police Division at **727-6111** or **Emergency 911**.
- ◆ Keep a record of your credit card numbers so you will have your numbers available when reporting the crime.
- ◆ In today's society many purchases are made online. Only use well known and secure sites to make purchases. Only use a credit card and not a debit card for these purchases because you are afforded greater protections against fraud.
- ◆ Check receipts to see whether your full credit card number appears. If a receipt has your full number on it, take a pen and thoroughly scratch it out.
- ◆ Double check that you have your credit cards and check book after you pay for your items.
- ◆ If you are making a deposit for a business, it is best to vary the times that you make that deposit.

Sergeant Jason Price will receive questions about this release at 757-727-6638.

END