



Birmingham-Southern College Campus Police Department Holiday Shopping Safety Suggestions

Dear Campus Community Member:

As the hectic holiday shopping season begins, you become more vulnerable to theft and burglary. While busy making your last minute holiday purchases, it is important you take precautions to avoid becoming a victim of crime. Please review the following holiday shopping safety tips. These pointers will help ensure you and your family's safety at malls and other shopping areas this time of year. From the Birmingham Southern College family to yours, we wish you a safe holiday season.

While Shopping

- Never display or carry large amounts of cash. Use checks or credit cards when possible.
- For women, carry purses under the arm and close to your body with the flap facing toward you.
- For men, keep wallets in an inside pocket. Placing a rubber band around your wallet makes it more difficult to be removed.
- Always shop with friends or family.
- Be sure to keep your packages and pocketbook within sight and reach when looking at merchandise or trying on clothes.
- Teach your children to ask a store clerk for help if they get separated from you.
- If you think you are being followed, alert a manager or security guard at the nearest store.
- Avoid discussing purchases with strangers or with companions in the presence of strangers.

When Leaving a Shopping Area

- Check between surrounding cars to make sure no one is watching you.
- Have your car door key ready before walking through a parking lot.
- Always look inside your car before getting in. Once inside, lock all doors.
- Try to place your packages out of site when driving away.
- Report any suspicious activity to the Police Department by dialing 9-1-1.

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