





## Crime prevention tips to reduce your risk of becoming a robbery victim

- Use all of your senses to be aware of your surroundings at all times. Pay close attention to suspicious activities and persons. Carry yourself with confidence and alertness.
- Avoid using headphones, cell phones, and i-Pods which limits your ability to be aware of what's going on around you. Also, thieves target these items to steal.
- Try to travel with someone, or travel when there are other people around.
- Walk in well lit areas and avoid dark alleys, shortcuts and deserted areas.
- Remain alert before entering and exiting your vehicle and home.
- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area with plenty of walking traffic.
- Using Public Transportation:
  - o Try to wait at bus stops or BART stations that are well lit and populated;
  - o Find out ahead of time when the next bus arrives so your wait time is limited;
  - o Do not use headphones, cell phones or i-Pods while waiting;
  - Pay attention to those who exit the bus/train with you; also pay attention to those waiting at the stop as you exit.
- Limit your valuables that you carry such as cash, identification, and credit cards; keep them in separate areas in your purse or clothing. In the event you are a victim, your identification will remain with you if your purse or wallet is taken.
- A handbag or purse with a strap should not be worn across the body. It should be carried under the arm and released if grabbed. This will prevent you from being pulled to the ground.
- Remember to trust your instincts; if you feel uncomfortable or threatened, seek help immediately.
   Use a noise device such as a whistle to call attention to yourself.
- If you suspect suspicious persons or activities, do any of the following: change your walking direction; do not get off the bus/train; go into a public place; seek help; call 9-1-1.
- Try to remember the suspect's description. Look to see if a vehicle is involved and concentrate on obtaining the license plate of the vehicle.

## Remember:

- If you are robbed, try to stay calm and cooperate. Call 9-1-1 afterwards on land line or on your cell phone.
- 9-1-1 for Emergencies; (415) 553-0123 for Non-Emergencies.
- If English is not your first language, inform the operator what language to speak.
- For more information on how you and your community can be safe, contact San Francisco SAFE, Inc. at (415) 673-SAFE or www.sfsafe.org

These crime prevention tips are being provided to you courtesy of the San Francisco Housing Authority.

ALWAYS BE SAFE!