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NASSAU COUNTY
SPiN
A Crime Prevention Partnership
SECURITY / POLICE INFORMATION NETWORK



LAWRENCE W. MULVEY
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PERSONAL SAFETY



Do the holidays have you jumping through hoops?

Don't let CRIME complicate matters!

Try our

HOLIDAY PERSONAL SAFETY & SECURITY TIPS

AT HOME

- Install quality deadbolt locks on all exterior doors and use them.
- Remember a small chain between the door and doorjamb is not always safe. It can be easily broken and pulled out.
- Install quality locks on all windows and use them.
- When a window is left open for ventilation, keep the opening small enough to prevent entry.
- Install a wide-angle viewer in the doors at all entrances to see who is outside without opening the door.
- Remove or trim shrubbery that hides doors and windows for your safety, with these changes neighbors or passersby can see someone trying to break into your home,
- Light the outside of your home to discourage prowling or loitering. Use outside floodlights for all entryways, pathways, stairwells and laundry, trash and parking areas. Connect outside lights to a timing device, motion detector or a light sensitive switch so lights switch on automatically during hours of darkness.
- Make a decision about installing an alarm system only after considering such factors as the cost, the reputation of the company and the likelihood of false alarms.
- A watchdog offers additional protection.

AT WORK

- Become actively involved in working with your employer to improve security in and around your work place.
- If possible, get into the habit of traveling to and from work and parking areas with other people.
- Park in areas that are patrolled and well lighted after dark.
- Avoid using isolated, deserted stairways in office buildings.
- If a suspicious looking person follows you into an elevator, step out of the elevator immediately.
- If you see a suspicious looking person inside an elevator you are about to enter, do not get in.
- If you are in an elevator and another person makes you feel uncomfortable, get off as soon as possible.
- When using elevators, stand near the control panel by the door so you can easily press the alarm button in an emergency.
- If possible lock valuables such as a purse, wallet and keys in desk drawers or other secured areas.
- Do not advertise your vacation plans, times you will be away from home or the amount of cash you are carrying.
- Observe security measures when using restrooms in office buildings. If the facilities are locked, never leave the door unlocked or give the key to an unauthorized person. Do not enter the restroom if the lock appears broken or the door is ajar. If the facilities are not kept locked, enter cautiously and check the area thoroughly before closing the door behind you.
- Avoid working late or odd hours if possible. If you must work late or an odd hour alert a family member, friend or security officer. If possible have a security officer check on you from time to time. Ask a security officer, co-worker or an employee to escort you to your car or to public transportation. Do not walk to your car alone if you can avoid it.
- Report all suspicious persons and activities to security personnel.

OUT DOOR ACTIVITIES

- When biking, jogging, roller-skating or participating in other outdoor activities remember the following.
- Choose a route in advance that is safe and populated.
- Always carry proper identification.
- Advise a loved one or a friend the route you will be taking so they will know where to look for you in an emergency.

- Vary your route and activity schedule so that your behavior is not predictable.
- Avoid pursuing outdoor activities after dark.
- Know businesses that are open in your area of activity.
- Keep your exercise gear in good repair and carry the necessary tools in case of an emergency.
- Consider carrying a personal alarm.

Source: Los Angeles Police Department.