

Top Holiday Safety Tips

While Out -

- **Always be alert and aware of your surroundings and others around you.**
- **Avoid taking packages to your vehicle to free hands for more shopping. If you are observed, your vehicle may become a target for crime.**
- **Have packages delivered to a location where someone will be available to accept them instead of being left unattended on your porch.**
- **Carry your purse or shoulder bag on the side closest to the building or cars to avoid “fly by” grabbers. Also, never leave your purse in a shopping cart.**
- **Park in high visibility areas and check for lighting if you will be returning to your car when it’s dark.**
- **Avoid posting status updates to social media sites that advertise you are away from home.**

While Home -

- **Never leave doors or windows open or unlocked while away from home, including second-story entries.**
- **Don’t leave outgoing mail in an unsecured mailbox for the postman. Outgoing mail should be dropped in a secure post office box or at the post office. Remove delivered mail from home mailboxes as soon as possible.**
- **Avoid displaying gifts or leaving valuables at home where they can be seen from doors or windows. Adjust window coverings to provide optimal privacy while allowing good visibility of outside areas.**
- **Place interior lights on timers to avoid coming into a dark home and to provide the appearance that someone is home.**
- **Report ALL suspicious people and activities WHEN you observe them.**

Sheriff’s Department **Emergency 9-1-1 Non-Emergency 949-770-6011**



Mission Viejo Police Services

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