



Los Gatos -Monte Sereno Police Department

Personal Safety Tips

By taking a few simple precautions, you can reduce the risk to yourself and discourage those who commit crimes.

- Always be alert and aware of the people around you.
- Educate yourself concerning prevention tactics.
- Whenever possible, travel with a friend.
- Stay in well-lighted areas as much as possible.
- Walk close to the curb. Avoid doorways, bushes, and alleys where someone could hide.
- Make eye contact with people when walking but do not respond to conversation from strangers on the street—continue walking.
- If you carry a purse, carry it securely between your arm and your body. Although a purse-snatcher's intent is to steal the purse, your personal safety may depend on not clinging to it.
- Do not use or wear anything that will impede your vision or hearing (i.e. iPods).
- If you work alone or after business hours, keep the door locked.
- If you work late, try to find another worker or a security guard to walk you out.
- Report all suspicious persons and activities to the proper authorities (office manager, building security, law enforcement).
- Be aware of escape routes for emergencies and post the police and fire department numbers near telephones.
- Lock your car and remove belongings from view.

Finally, if a crime does occur...REPORT IT! Everyone should consider it his or her responsibility to report crime. Many criminals develop favorite areas for committing crime, as well as predictable methods of operation. When you report all the facts about a crime, it helps the police assign officers in the places where crimes are occurring or where they are most likely to occur, and your report may help prevent a crime from reoccurring.

At least half of the crimes in the United States go unreported, either because people don't think the police can do anything about it, or because people don't want to get involved. If you don't report a crime, this allows the criminal to continue to operate without interference.

In many cases, it is the information provided by victims and witnesses that leads to the arrest of a criminal. So, tell the police as much as you can. The police need the eyes and ears of all citizens.

**Report Crimes to The Los Gatos-Monte Sereno Police Department at
408-354-8600 or by dialing 911**