# Robbery & Theft Prevention

Thieves are targeting jewelry, wallets, smart phones, and other portable electronics.

Take an active role in reducing your chances of becoming a victim or robbery or theft.

### **Be Aware**

- Keep your head up and scan your surroundings. Make eye contact with people so they are aware that <u>you</u> are aware. This sends a message that you know they are there, and that you can also identify them if necessary.
- Walk confidently. Project an assertive, business-like image.
- Avoid listening to music through earphones when out on the street. It prevents you from paying full attention, and distracts you from what and who is around you.
- If you are being followed, or you see a person or group that makes you feel uncomfortable, give yourself permission to act; cross the street, walk in another direction, go in to a business, or ask other people walking if you may walk a short distance with them.

# **Protect Your Property**

- Carry your valuables safely. Don't display items (e.g., iPods, iPhones, cash), when walking to and from your destination.
- When using public transportation, keep your purse, shopping bag, backpack, packages, etc., in your lap, on your arm, or between your feet -- not by themselves on an empty seat.
- Put your phone away; only use it if you really need to.
   After you're done, put it away again.
- Password protect your cell phone.
- Enable GPS locator features on your Cell Phone.
- Write down the make model & serial # of the phone and keep that info in a safe place.
- If you wear necklaces, wear them underneath your clothing rather than prominently displayed.

## If You Are Confronted

- If someone demands your property and displays or implies in any way that they have a weapon, don't resist. Your physical property isn't worth getting injured or killed over.
- Do not pursue the thief. Put distance between you and the thief. Call 911 and report the crime as soon as possible. Language Lines for interpretation are available.

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