



Holiday Crime Prevention Suggestions

Courtesy of the Florida State University Police Department

The holidays are upon us! Unfortunately, that is when many criminals go to work, breaking into cars and homes and stealing whatever valuables they can find. Florida State University Police are offering a few suggestions to help FSU staff, faculty and students take precautions now, which may prevent criminal activities in their absence.

On Campus

- Lock your office door when you leave.
- Take personal valuables with you, and secure office equipment in locked cabinets or drawers.
- Consider contacting the FSUPD for “extra protection” checks if you feel your work area is vulnerable.
- Ensure that the FSUPD has updated information for the alarmed locations and a call-out person. Also confirm alarms are working properly. If you notice any locks in disrepair, or security discrepancies in your building, report them immediately to FSU maintenance 644-2424.
- If you must return to your office during the break, consider calling FSUPD to inform the patrol staff. Officers will be vigilant and will be walking through buildings on a regular basis.
- If you must access an alarmed area over the break, make sure you have the proper authorization and alarm codes to be in the area.
- As always, **do not prop doors**. Officers will request your University ID if they see you in a building.
- If you use an “Out of Office Reply” on your computer, do not give specific dates if you will be away. Do not post similar messages on your door or voicemail, this gives thieves information they do not need!

Travel and Shopping

- * Make sure your vehicle is roadworthy before leaving town. Learn how to change a flat tire.
 - * Carry a fully charged cell phone in case of emergencies. All cell phones allow 911 calls even if you don't have an active account.
 - * Notify a trusted person about your route, destination, and departure times.
 - * Lock your car, and don't leave purses, luggage, gifts, packages, or other valuables in plain sight.
 - * In public, don't flash large amounts of cash.
 - * Keep track of credit card slips and duplicates until you can shred them.
- Beware of people asking unusual questions about your accounts.



If something feels wrong, it probably is! Practice personal safety measures,
HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON!

PRIDE ■ ENTHUSIASM ■ PROFESSIONALISM ■ INTEGRITY

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