



BLOOMINGDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FRANK A. GIAMMARESE
CHIEF OF POLICE

PERSONAL SAFETY

WHILE WALKING...

- Be alert and aware of your surroundings.
- Stand tall, walk purposefully, and make quick eye contact with people around you. Don't stare down to the ground.
- Carry some form of identification (Driver's License, State Identification Card, etc.) and small amount of money or change. Also, a cellular phone, if possible.
- Try to maintain a reasonable distance when answering questions or giving directions. Trust your instincts. If uncomfortable in a place or situation, then leave.
- If possible, use the buddy system when walking, shopping, or traveling.
- Stay in well-lighted areas and walk in the middle of the sidewalk.
- Avoid alleys, entryways, bushes, and dark, deserted routes, even if they're the shortest.
- Have your car or house key in hand as you approach your vehicle or home.
- If you have an encounter, stay calm, size up the situation, and use your good judgement.
- Remember that you must judge your situation for safety. Money and property can be replaced, you can't.



WHILE SHOPPING...



- Keep your purse/wallet and packages with you at all time.
- Hold your purse close to your body and keep it in front of you at all times.
- Place your wallet, money, etc. in your front pants pocket.
- Don't display large amounts of cash in stores or other public places.
- Take only the appropriate amount of money, credit cards, or checkbook needed.
- Do not leave items unattended in a shopping cart, on a counter, or on the floor.
- Try not to burden yourself with too many packages that may obstruct your view and make it hard to react.
- Keep the receipts with you.
- If possible, do not shop alone. If you are alone, do not hesitate to have an attendant or security officer escort you to your vehicle if you do not feel safe.

ELEVATOR SAFETY...

- Stand near the control panel.
- If someone gets on the elevator and they make you uncomfortable, leave the elevator A.S.A.P.
- Don't stare at the ground. Be alert and aware at all times.
- If any problems occur, push floor buttons – not the red, emergency button (may cause the elevator to stop).



ATM SAFETY...



- Never approach an ATM if the lights at the site are not working.
- At a drive-up ATM, keep all windows closed, except the one you are using, and all vehicle doors locked.
- When standing in line to use the ATM, wait well behind the person(s) ahead of you, and do not approach the ATM until they complete their transaction.
- Before you approach the ATM, have the card, code and any paperwork ready.
- When your ATM transaction is completed, immediately take your property – card, money, receipt, Etc.- put them in your pocket, wallet, or purse and leave.
- When using the ATM, stand directly in front of the keyboard to block the view.
- Select and Protect your Personal Identification Number (PIN). Select a number different than one that could be easily identified with you and don't write the number on the card or carry it in writing.
- Never accept offers of assistance with the ATM from strangers. If you are having problems, contact your financial institution.
- Never tell your access code or PIN to anyone.
- Never lend your ATM card to others; treat it like cash or a credit card.
- If you lose, misplace or have your ATM card stolen, notify the card issuer **immediately**.

VEHICLE SAFETY...

- Wear your seat belt.
- Keep doors locked and windows rolled up while driving.
- If you think you're being followed, reroute your direction of travel temporarily toward a safe haven, a nearby house, business, police or fire station.
- If you have car trouble, be wary of strangers who offer help, stay in your car and ask them to call a service truck or the police.
- Don't stop to assist cars or persons in distress; drive ahead and call the police to assist.
- Park in well-lighted, busy areas. Consider the time of day or evening and the amount of time the car will be parked.
- Check your vehicle before entering. Check around, under, and inside your vehicle before opening your vehicle to avoid any potential problems (safety or mechanical issues). If your car appears to be tampered with or something appears suspicious, then contact security or the police department immediately.
- Do not leave anything valuable in the vehicle; place all valuables and packages in the trunk. Anything in plain view may be taken.
- Needed items kept in the vehicle: First Aid Kit, Car Jack, Tire Tool, Spare Tire, Flashlight with fresh batteries, Jumper Cables, Blanket Cardboard Emergency Windshield Sign (Need Help).

