

# Rochester Police Department

**East Division**  
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## Crime Prevention Bulletin

The holiday season is historically the most active time of year for the occurrence of robberies both on the street and at commercial business locations. **ROBBERY** is defined as the forcible stealing of property from another. This often involves violence, or the threat of violence towards the intended victim. The Rochester Police Department would like to offer the following tips to help you avoid becoming that victim.

- 1) Make certain that the inside and outside of your home or business is well lit. Motion sensors and "dusk to dawn" lights are good tools for this task.
- 2) Always keep your doors and windows locked. Criminals will take advantage of an unlocked point at your home, garage, or even while you are driving your car. Keep everything locked up!
- 3) Never keep or carry excess cash or property if you don't need it. Use a drop safe at your business, and leave unneeded valuables at home if you are going out for any reason.

- 4) Always stay alert to your surroundings! Whether you are walking down the street or operating your business, you must be aware of persons and situations around you. Criminals are less likely to commit a crime when they believe someone can identify them.
- 5) Report suspicious activity to the police immediately. If you observe something that seems like criminal activity, call 911. If you are mistaken in your assessment of the situation, no harm is done by the police looking into it. On the other hand if you are right....you just might prevent a crime or even help to apprehend a criminal!
- 6) ***TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS!*** Whether you are at work, at home or engaged in your favorite pastime, you will usually know what people and actions seem out of place for the situation. If it feels "wrong" to you , it probably is! Get away from any potential danger immediately and call 911.
- 7) If you do become the victim of a robbery, comply with the criminal's requests for money or property. Your belongings are not worth the risk of being injured. Don't make any sudden moves or do anything to agitate the robber. Try to get a good description of the criminals clothing and physical features. A good witness is our best hope for making an arrest.

**CONTACT YOUR CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER FOR FURTHER INFORMATION  
AND A FREE SECURITY SURVEY FOR YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS**