
Opportunities for Seniors to Become Involved in their Community

- Join your Civic League
- Join your Neighborhood Watch Program
- Join the local Triad Program (Triad's goal is to reduce crime against the elderly and to reduce the fear of crime that seniors often experience. The program promotes partnership between AARP, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the National Sheriff's Association.)



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Keep Our Senior Citizens Safe



A guide for Senior Citizens to feel safer in today's society.





We as a society do not always recognize that senior citizens are being targeted as victims of crime. Statistics report that an estimated 37 million Americans are 65 years old or older. That's almost one in ten Americans, which constitutes 12 percent of the U.S. population (www.census.gov). Therefore, to stay safe as senior citizens, you can reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim by following a few crime prevention practices.



While At Home

- Keep all doors and windows secured and locked.
- When answering a knock at the door, always ask “who is it?”, or look out the peep hole before opening it.
- When answering the phone, never tell the person on the other end you live alone.

While Away From Home

- In public always try not to be alone; go out with one or more persons.
- Always be aware of your surroundings (criminals are watching you, when you're not watching them).
- If you are inside a vehicle, keep all doors locked.
- If utilizing public transportation, sit near the front.
- Don't give your social security number to anyone who may approach you.

Beware Of Con Artists

- Don't be bullied into paying for repair work before it is done.
- Don't write a signed blank check to anyone who is promising to do work for you or get you a quick cash return.
- Beware of door-to-door salespersons. If they are with a legitimate company, they shouldn't have a problem coming back after you have verified them.
- Don't give your personal or financial information to anyone over the phone or to door-to-door salespersons.

Security For Your Money

- Try to have someone with you when using an ATM machine and choose one in a well lit area.
- Carry your money in a hand-held wallet or in your pocket.
- Try not to carry a large amount of cash.
- Place your purse in the trunk of the car before leaving home. Don't wait till you arrive at your destination (i.e. grocery store, mall, church, bank, etc.) to do so.
- When using your bank card, never give your pin code to anyone assisting you with the purchase.
- Carry your purse close to you. Never leave it in the front of a shopping cart and walk away.
- Don't place your purse strap over your neck; this could result in injury if a criminal tried to take it.



Always remember: Report anything that appears suspicious. Follow your instincts. If it doesn't seem right, it's usually not right.