We recommend the following tips to help you enjoy the holiday season:

- Secure bags and valuables before exiting or entering parked vehicles and public transit facilities.
- Avoid leaving valuables in your car. Whenever possible, place items out of sight prior to arriving at your destination (GPS, electronics, packages).
- Carry only the cash and credit cards you will be using on your shopping trip. Divide the cash between your purse, pockets and wallet. Keep a record of account numbers for each card in a secure location.
- While dining or shopping, do not leave your handbag over the back of a chair, on a stroller or in a shopping cart.
- Carry your purse close to your body. Never wrap the strap around your body.
- A wallet should be carried in your front pants pocket or jacket breast pocket.
- If someone bumps into you while shopping or walking in a crowd, be aware that this action might be related to a pickpocket.
- Use well-lit, well-populated ATMs.
This holiday season don’t leave your packages out in the cold.

- When scheduling a delivery, select the option that requires the receiver to sign for the package and show I.D.
- Give a shipping address of a person that will be home for the delivery.
- Place insurance on high-value packages.
- Provide specific instructions for where you want your deliveries: back door, neighbor, etc.
- Did you know that the United States Postal Service and other package delivery providers offer alternatives that prevent your packages from being left unattended? Lockboxes and secure alternate retail locations are just a couple of options. Visit your courier’s website for more details.

Ensure that your online transactions are completed in a manner that is safe for both the buyer and seller. If you anticipate using the internet to exchange goods, we recommend you pick a neutral and convenient meet-up location to complete an exchange. Consider areas in the vicinity of NYPD facilities, such as Police Precincts, Transit Districts and Police Service Areas. For a complete list of these locations, visit:  

nyc.gov/nypd

NYPD Crime Prevention Division

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