

City of Lancaster Public Safety Office recommends the following Holiday Safety Do's and Don'ts

Shopping

- Don't shop alone, bring a friend. There is safety in numbers.
- Don't carry large sums of money.
- Do bring only the credit cards you will be using.
- Do park your vehicle in a well lit area.
- Don't leave packages in plain sight, lock them in your vehicle trunk.
- Don't rush; take time to secure all of your belongings before leaving the checkout stand.
- Do retain all your purchase receipts; don't throw them in the trash.
- Do report suspicious activity that you observe while shopping.

Home Security

- Do lock all your doors and windows before leaving the house.
- Do unplug or turn off lights and decorations when not at home.
- Don't display your tree and gifts in plain sight from the street.
- Don't place boxes from new expensive electronics at the street for pickup.
- Do ensure all smoke alarms are in working order with fresh batteries.
- Do check the house after entertaining for burning candles or smoldering cigarette butts.
- Don't allow children and pets around open flames or hot kitchen appliances.
- Don't let your tree dry out due to lack of water, remove once needles begin dropping.

Business

- Don't carry large deposits to the bank, if necessary make several trips.
- Don't place high value items close to entrances and exits.
- Do leave empty cash drawers open and in plain sight after hours.
- Do secure all locks on doors and windows.
- Don't allow your employees to be overburdened with the increase of shoppers.
- Don't cover windows with holiday decorations; allow clear visibility in and out.
- Do watch for and report suspicious activity of shoppers in your establishment.
- Do greet shoppers as they enter your business, making them aware you are watching.