



Hillsborough
County

Crime prevention and safety tips



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Board of County Commissioners | Criminal Justice Liaison

VACATION SAFETY

Enjoy your vacation, leave troubles behind, and make wonderful family memories without becoming a victim to criminals by following these simple vacation safety tips:

Before Leaving Home

- Inform a trusted neighbor how long you are expect to be away.
- Create a lived-in appearance by using timers to turn lights on and off, and have a friend pick up your mail.
- Tell someone your destination and intended route, as well as when you expect to arrive.

On The Road

- Never carry large amounts of cash, and do not openly display the cash you do carry.
- Make a photocopy of the front and back of all your credit cards before you leave home so you have a record of the card numbers, and telephone numbers to call in case they are lost or stolen.
- Be aware of your surroundings and never advertise your travel plans to strangers.

Car Rental And Security

- Always lock your car when entering or leaving it.
- Park in well-lighted, busy areas. Check

the vehicle's interior and surrounding area before entering.

- Always lock valuables out of sight, and carry wallets, checkbooks and purses with you.
- Do not advertise that you are a tourist. Place maps and travel brochures in the glove compartment.
- If you do become lost, drive to a public place to check the map. Don't stop along a street or the highway.

Hotel And Motel Security

- When occupying or leaving your room, use all auxiliary locking devices on doors and windows.
- Don't prop the door open while you run to the ice or vending machines.
- Identify anyone requesting entry to your room. Open the door only if you are certain that the person has a legitimate reason to enter your room. If in doubt, call the hotel/motel office.
- When you leave your room, lock your suitcase so it cannot be used to carry your property out of your room.
- Never leave money, checks, credit cards or car keys in the room. Take them with you, or place them in the hotel/motel safe.
- Report any suspicious movements in the corridors or rooms to the hotel/motel management.

Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioner goals are to reduce property crime, violent crime and overall crime by 2015. These tips are intended to increase your awareness and help avoid crime. If you have a proven prevention or awareness tip that can be shared, contact the Criminal Justice Liaison at (813) 276-2548.