



HOOVER POLICE HOLIDAY SAFETY INFORMATION

Emergencies: 911 (205) 822-5300

The Hoover Police Department wants you to have a safe Holiday Season. We offer this information to assist you with your personal, and financial, safety.

Website: www.hooverpd.com

Shopping

- Always lock your car, and close your windows. Place your merchandise in the trunk of your car, out of sight. If you are leaving one shopping center for another, place everything in the trunk before you depart.
- When you can, shop with someone.
- Stay alert to your surroundings. Look inside your car and around it as you approach.
- Be careful with wallets and purses; carry purses under an arm, and carry wallets in an inside pocket.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash.
- Shop at "non-peak" times. This reduces the size of shopping crowds; it also makes it easier to get through traffic. Most shopping centers have more than one entrance; there is no need to "bunch up".

Credit and Identity Theft

- If you write checks, list only the necessary information. Never give your social security number.
- Keep your receipts, and reconcile your bank statements. Report any discrepancies to your banking institution as soon as possible.

- When you make a purchase, give yourself time to gather all your belongings: your license, your credit card, your check book, and your receipt.
- Make a list of all of your credit cards, and keep it in a safe place at home.
- Do not leave purses in shopping carts, even for a moment.
- If your credit cards are stolen, notify the issuing party as soon as possible.
- Be wary of scams; these can come in many forms (electronic, by mail, telephone). Before you complete any financial transactions, contact your financial institution to verify the legitimacy of the offer. Contact the Police to make a report if you are the victim of a financial scam.

Your Home, and Your Neighborhood

If you see suspicious activity, please call the Hoover Police Department as soon as possible.

- Make sure your neighbors know if you will be out of town.
- Become active with Neighborhood Watch (Contact Officer Brian Foreman, 444-7700, for more information).
- Do not leave large amounts of cash in your house.
- Always lock your house, and your car. Don't leave items visible through windows; remove things like GPS devices, cameras, laptops, etc and lock them in your trunk or take them inside.
- If you can't receive a delivery, arrange with a neighbor to pick it up.
- Be very careful who has access to your home; workers, contractors, etc. Check references prior to paying for work done at your home; also check organizations such as the Better Business Bureau.
- If you will be out of town, feel free to contact the Hoover Police Department to arrange an extra patrol of your neighborhood.

Hoover Police Department
 100 Municipal Drive
 Hoover, Alabama 35216
 Administrative Offices (Business Hours) (205) 444-7700