

December, 2013

**LAKESHORE CRIME PREVENTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Dear Neighbors,

As we approach the holiday season, the NOPD Crime Prevention Unit has reminded us that November and December traditionally have increased crime and more potential for crime. Again, guards are proactive but can't be everywhere; all of us working together can help keep our neighborhood safe.

1. Solicitations increase at this time of year. Solicitors should not be in the neighborhood without a permit from the City of New Orleans. Please inform Metro at 835-5421 if you encounter solicitors. Never open your door to strangers.
2. Regarding your vehicles, we are reminded to bring gifts inside; do not leave valuables in the car. Keep vehicles locked and assure that driveways are lit. Keep car doors locked when coming to a stop near a corner or at a traffic light.
3. Be careful of being followed always; and especially at this time, be aware when leaving shopping center parking lots. If you think you are being followed, do not go home. Go to the nearest police station, fire station or a well-lit place.
4. When returning to your house, have your keys out in order to enter as quickly as possible. Be sure the exterior of your house is well-lit when returning at night. Stay alert and attuned to your surroundings. Never leave your car if you see a suspicious person in the area.
5. Many people travel at this time of year. As a reminder, Metro will check your house while you are away and make property checks if you inform them of your needs. Please take advantage of their services. When out of town, be certain doors and windows are locked and alarms set. Cancel mail and newspaper deliveries or have a neighbor receive them. Leave on interior or automatic lights.

In September and October, Metro responded to 9 alarms, checked 20 houses for out of town residents, conducted 974 escorts and checked 30 suspicious persons or vehicles. Residents have helped by reporting suspicious activity which is most beneficial.

Thank you for parking in your driveways as much as possible and for continuing to utilize Neighborhood Watch principles: know your neighbors; communicate with one another; look out for one another; know your neighborhood patterns; always be aware of your surroundings.

For your information, the Office of Inspector General for the City of New Orleans conducted a review of all security taxing districts in the city. The Lakeshore Crime Prevention District was fully compliant in all areas: open meetings, budgeting, and annual financial filings. The findings for the LCPD were excellent.

In a comparison of districts, Metro patrolled 25.8 miles per hour in Lakeshore while the average was 18.3 miles in an hour. Metro also patrolled 252 hours per week which was 60 percent higher than the average. Metro also charged below the average for services. Basically, all collected funds from our security taxing district go towards patrolling and safety which maximizes the effectiveness of our patrol. All board work is voluntary. These statistics are extremely gratifying.

Also for your information, there are reports of shop-lifting and car break-ins in the Robert E. Lee shopping center. This is not within the Lakeshore Crime Prevention District's area, but is one we use. Please be cautious.

Metro continues to use GuardTrax, the GPS logging/reporting system for the patrol as well as the tracking systems based upon radio frequency tags placed throughout East and West Lakeshore. These systems have been invaluable to Metro and to the residents in providing assurances of continued patrolling.

Thanks to Metro and their guards for their fine work as we work together to promote safety for our neighborhood.

WE ARE ALSO PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE LAKESHORE CRIME PREVENTION DISTRICT WILL HAVE A WEBSITE UP BY THE END OF THE YEAR: www.lakeshorecrimepreventiondistrict.org

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 8 at 6:30 at Mt. Carmel. Signs will be posted as a reminder. Metro will be present to review neighborhood activity of November and December and all are invited.

May your holidays be safe; and may they be filled with peace and joy.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Chetta	288-5000
Susan Simon	283-7592
Dieter Hugel	283-9714
Byron Casey	218-7953
James Grevemberg	282-6037
Ken Najder	288-7761
Bonnie Nelson	283-5988
Beverly Rizzo	283-0364

The NOPD Crime Prevention Unit recently released the following "Black Friday" Safety Tips that apply to all holiday shopping at this time of year. Please review.



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS
MAYOR MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU

New Orleans Police Department
News & Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
11/19/2013

November 19, 2013

Crime Prevention Tips While Shopping

- Be aware of your surroundings and the people around you.
 - Shop with a friend; there is safety in numbers.
 - Don't buy more than you can safely carry. Plan ahead by taking a friend or ask a store employee to help you carry your purchases to your vehicle.
 - Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
 - Pay for purchases with check, credit or debit card.
 - Carry your purse close to your body. Carry it under your arm and not swinging to the back of your body.
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- Do not carry a wallet in a back pocket. It should be in the front pocket of your pants to avoid pickpocketing.
 - Thieves or robbers often look for "high value" shopping bags with your purchases. When possible, slip bags/purchases in a plain nondescript bag.
 - Watch purchases when eating at mall food courts; bags can be easily switched or taken.
 - Have your car keys in hand before leaving a store.
 - If you do return to your vehicle to unload packages, place them in the trunk. Do not leave anything visible.
 - If you are with children, pick a meeting spot in case you get separated.

Crime Prevention Tips in Parking Lots

- If possible, avoid shopping during hours of evening or early morning darkness.
- Park in a high visibility area with good lighting and ample pedestrian traffic.
- Stay in your car with the doors locked until the store opens.
 - Avoid parking next to vehicles with dark tinted windows, vans and large SUV's.
 - Try to walk with others, not alone.
 - Walk briskly, confidently and directly through the parking lot. Be cautious of people handing out fliers or asking questions in the parking area.
 - Watch for people who may be following you. If you sense someone is following you or you feel uncomfortable, return immediately to the store.
 - You may want to consider having a whistle in your possession.
 - Don't allow yourself to become distracted by a cell phone call or text while walking to and from your vehicle.