

Holiday Greetings from Chief Solomon:

With the holidays upon us people often get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season making themselves vulnerable to theft. So next time you are out shopping for the perfect gift please keep in mind these simple safety tips, they could keep the Grinch from stealing your Christmas.

*HAVE A SAFE AND
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!*



Chief Joseph E. Solomon



Emergency: 911
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HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS



METHUEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Joseph E. Solomon

PREVENTING PURSE SNATCHING

- Carry only what you need to shop in your front pockets
- Consider using a small bag that snaps around your waist, and wear it under your coat
- Be aware of your surroundings



- Walk only in well lit areas
- Try to shop with a friend
- Try to stay clear of cars which are traveling in the aisles of the parking areas
- When entering or exiting your vehicle, visually check for suspicious people
- If you become a victim, in order to prevent bodily injury, do not struggle with the attacker
- Try to obtain a description of the attacker, as well as a description of any vehicle that is involved, including the license plate number, and direction of travel.

Notify the Police immediately

PROTECTING YOUR VEHICLE & YOURSELF

NEVER leave your vehicle running, or keys in the ignition when you're away from it.

Place your purchases and other valuables in your trunk, out of plain view.

Buy a radio, tape or CD player that has a removable faceplate to deter theft.

Buy a car alarm, and utilize products that are visual deterrents to theft such as a steering wheel locking tool.

Always park in busy, well lit parking areas and locate your keys *BEFORE* you get to your car

Carry your registration and insurance papers with you.

Do not leave packages or valuables on the seat of your car.

Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.

Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area.

SAFEGUARDING YOUR HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS



- Place indoor and outdoor lights on an automatic timer.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- When setting up a Christmas tree or other holiday display, make sure doors and passageways are clear inside your home.