



TSHWANE METRO POLICE SOCIAL CRIME PREVENTION SAFETY TIPS



These important crime prevention safety tips are provided by Social Crime Prevention, as your area is a priority area for armed robbery.

As Metro Police officers we have seen numerous unsuccessful armed robberies due to community members following these guidelines

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM ARMED ROBBERY

- Travel through well-lit streets. Avoid dark corners, alleys and entrances to buildings. Always try to walk on the side of the street nearest to oncoming traffic.
- If you have to travel regularly at night, don't carry more than you can afford to lose. One suggestion is to carry a second wallet containing small money and old credit cards, which are normally destroyed or discarded. If confronted at knife or gunpoint, give the suspect the second wallet and concentrate on a good physical description to give to the police.
- **There's safety in numbers!** If possible, walk with a companion - either male or female. An armed robber is less likely to confront two or more, than one individual.
- When waiting for a bus or taxi, try to select a well lit area. Utilize a busy bus stop.
- Don't hitchhike or accept rides from strangers.
- Avoid taking shortcuts through deserted areas such as parks, playgrounds, vacant lots, etc.
- Be cautious when entering your car- someone may be hiding inside. or, when leaving your car. Park your car in well lit areas.
- Never carry weapons that can be used against you.
- If someone asks you for directions, keep a safe distance from the person.
- If you are alone and think you are being followed, go to the nearest Police Station, occupied building such as a bar, restaurant, filling station, fire station etc. If none is available, cross the street in the middle of the block. If there is vehicular traffic, try to stop a car for help.

Don't be a hero! Each person will react differently to any given situation and; many have their minds made up as to what they will do or think they will do, (pre-planning is a good suggestion) but aggressive resistance and heroism could have tragic results.

Survival (yours) is the primary concern. Your actions whether compliant, passive, resistant, etc. can play a direct role in how an incident evolves and/or concludes.

Phone the Metro Police at 358-7095/6 if you suspect Armed Robbery in your Neighborhood