TIPS TO REMEMBER

PERSONAL SAFETY:

- Walk with confidence and alertness! Remain aware of your surroundings at all times!
- Never walk or jog early in the morning when the streets are deserted!
- When walking or jogging never carry cash or valuables!
- Be careful wearing headphones they may make you unaware of a threat!
- When out at night, try to have a friend you trust 100% walk with you!
- Carry only the money you will need that particular day or a credit card!
- Keep personal belonging in view while eating, meeting, or shopping!
- Know where Emergency phones are located! You just hit the button and the dispatcher will ask what your emergency is!
- If running from a threat hit the Emergency Phone buttons as you run it will provide us with a direction of travel and get to a safe place!
- When on campus or off and you see or hear someone that might be a threat to you, get to safety and call Police!
- Do Not display your cash or any other inviting targets such as cell phones, expensive jewelry or clothing, or other property of value!
- When walking keep your head up and your posture erect. Maintain a brisk, confident pace!
- Should a stranger approach you, look at them for three to five seconds as you walk by.
- If approached by someone asking for directions, give them from a distance, if at all!
- If someone is following you, look at them (so you can identify them) then change directions. Walk toward a populated area or open business, or toward a Police Dispatch or Fire Station. Do Not be afraid to yell for help!
- If someone tries to rob you give up your property!
- If you are robbed report the crime to police when it is safe to do so! Try to describe the suspect accurately. Your actions can prevent someone else from becoming a victim!
- Vary the route you take when walking around the campus!
- Never prop open doors to building!
- Avoid shortcuts after dark and isolated areas!
- Be aware of places attackers may hide under stairs, in doorways, in alleys, etc.!
- Try to avoid entering elevators with strangers during less populated times! If you are standing at the elevator with a stranger try to stand to the side so you cannot be pushed inside! If you feel uneasy in an elevator with someone get off at the next floor! If attacked hit the alarm button! If robbed give them the money etc. and let them get away from you then when you are safe call police!
- Do Not use the laundry room alone!
- If you notice a broken window in a place you are about to enter Do Not enter and call Police immediately!
- Do Not give information about yourself over the phone or online to strangers! Also, NEVER reveal that you are home alone!
- Call the Police Communications Center at (937)775-2111 if anything is suspicious! If off campus call the jurisdiction you are in!
- Have Police numbers auto programmed into your phone! Where you live, where you attend school, etc.!
Tell a friend where you are going!
Keep your keys separate from your purse or bag!
Travel in groups you trust 100%
**Do Not** overload yourself with bags or packages!
**Stay Alert at all times!**
Use Emergency Phones or call the Police Communications Center if you are in an unsafe situation or feel threatened!
**Take advantage of the Safety Escort Service by calling (937)775-2111!**
Reduce risks by not using and not being under the influence of alcohol or drugs!

**PERSONAL VEHICLE SAFETY:**

- Park in well-lighted areas with good visibility and close to walkways, stores and people
- Avoid parking beside high-profile vehicles such as trucks, trucks with campers and vans.
- When approaching your vehicle, have your keys ready! If someone threatens you and demands your keys, throw them away and flee in the opposite direction!
- As you approach your vehicle from a distance, glance underneath it and the adjacent vehicles!
- Check the backseat of your vehicle before you enter!
- As you approach your vehicle glance inside before entering or opening the door!
- If your vehicle’s window has been broken or there are any other suspicious signs that the vehicle has been tampered with do not approach it and call the Police!
- **Do Not** leave your mail or other personally identifying information visible from outside the Vehicle!
- **Always** lock your vehicle even if it is in your own driveway! **Never** leave the motor running! Or young kids in the vehicle.
- Do everything you can to keep a stranger from getting into your vehicle or to keep them from forcing you into theirs!
- If someone is following you, look at them (so you can identify them) then change directions. Walk toward a populated area or open business, or toward a Police Dispatch or Fire Station. Do Not be afraid to yell for help!
- **Vary the route you take when driving! But know the areas well!**
- Keep windows up and doors locked when driving and valuables out of sight!
- It is recommended that women purchase an inexpensive “masculine” item to leave visible in their vehicle! Any apparent feminine identifiers indicate a woman is likely to return.
- If you think you are being followed, **Never** drive to your home or place of residence!
- If you break down and are by yourself call Police! We will make sure you are safe until your vehicle is running!
SAFETY AT HOME:

- Lock your doors whether you are home or not! Even when you intend on returning home shortly or even if you are just going down the hall! It takes a suspect seconds to enter an open room and they could be there when you get back!
- Lock and secure doors when you are alone, sleeping, or just not paying attention to what is going on!
- **Keep emergency numbers auto programmed in your phone!**
- **Do Not** leave messages on your door or elsewhere stating you are away and will return home! You are telling the suspect no one is there!
- **Do Not** let strangers in at all!
- **Do Not** open doors for solicitors!
- **Do Not** prop open outer doors!
- **Do Not** put your address on your key ring!
- **Do Not** leave keys in hiding places, thieves can find them!
- **Call the Police Communications Center for suspicious people or things!**
- Open a checking or saving account instead of keeping money in your room!
- Keep ATM cards, credit cards, Social Security Cards, and Identification in a safe place where some one cannot get it without you knowing!
- Instead of carrying cash use credit cards some credit cards have insurance that protects you against theft!
- **If you find yourself in immediate danger call the Police Communications Center whose jurisdiction you are in; try to stay calm and get away or to a safe place at the first opportunity!**

IF YOU ARE ROBBED!

- **Cooperate** with the robber and **Do Not** jeopardize personal safety!
- **Do Not** argue with the robber!
- **Do Not** fight with the robber!
- **Do Not** use weapons against the robber!
- **Do Not** chase or follow the robber!
- **The longer the robber takes the more nervous they may become so keep it short! Give them the property!**
- **Obey the robbers orders!** Robbers seldom hurt people who cooperate with them!
- Tell the robber of any possible surprises! Maybe someone coming to meet you etc.!
- Identifying a robber can help in catching them, so try to remain calm and make a mental note of:
  - **Physical characteristics**- height, race, age, build, hair, clothing, and other descriptors!
  - **Method of operation**- weapon used or mentioned, escape routes, and other people helping!
- Because of the stress involved, it will help to immediately write down the details of the event as soon as it is safe to do so!
- **Notify the Police as soon as it is safe to do so!**
- **Do Not** discuss the events with anyone until the Police arrive and have spoken with you so the information is not confused!
Protect the scene of the crime, lock the door and do not let anyone exit or enter until Police arrive! If it is outside protect the area as much as possible! Useful things may be foot prints etc.!

*If someone tries to remove you from the area or take you to another location Do Not allow this to happen! They are doing this because they are more comfortable there to do what they are going to do!

*If someone with a weapon demands sex or states sexual related demands (such as taking clothes off) it is up to the victim to decide which is the safest for them based on the situation! Always remember that fighting back, yelling- help, stop, etc. is a possibility! Yelling direct commands like stop and help clue others in to the fact that you are in trouble!

*For any safety programs or safety information in your housing area or on campus contact:
Sergeant Patrick Ammon- Crime Prevention Manager
Wright State University Police Department
Email- patrick.ammon@wright.edu