

# Crime Prevention For Businesses



**Greenville**

NORTH CAROLINA

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

# Robbery Prevention Begins With Reducing Opportunities

## **Be Proactive Before Becoming a Victim:**

- Install a height indicator strip on the doorframe of the entry/exit door.
- Place a workable camera at eye level inside the business, aimed at the entrance and exit.
- Minimize your vulnerabilities when taking out the trash, making night deposits, when alone in the store, or locking up and going home.

## **Keys to Robbery Prevention**

### **A strong store policy:**

- Have specific rules for your employees to follow.
- Know the policy.
- Enforce the policy.
- Educate employees about the policy.

### **Awareness:**

- Reduction of opportunity equals a reduction of vulnerability.
- Vary your day-to-day routine.
- Remember there is always safety in numbers.



# Interior Opportunities

## **Greet all customers as they enter**

- Make eye contact.
- Ask open-ended questions.
- Make transactions personal.

## **Be aware of who is inside the business at all times**

- Watch for suspicious persons or activities.

## **Keep the business clean from clutter**

- Interior and exterior should be well-lit.
- Do not block view throughout the store or outside into the parking lot with display items, posters, or signs.

## **Enforce store policies**

- Clearly post rules and eliminate confusion.



# Exterior Opportunities

## Increase visibility

- Increase lighting.
- Trim landscaping.
- Keep windows clear of posters or signs.
- Control access/keep rear doors locked.
- Keep doors locked when business is closed.
- Keep dumpster areas locked.

## Recognize suspicious activity

- Watch for people loitering before or after business hours.
- Look for unoccupied vehicles.
- Watch for people wearing clothing out of season or clothing not fit for the weather.
- Watch for "odd" behavior.
- Trust your instincts.

## **During a Robbery**

- Cooperate with suspect(s).
- Try to remain calm.
- DO NOT resist.
- DO NOT talk or ask questions.
- DO NOT stare.
- Expect to be threatened.
- Keep hands in plain sight.
- Activate alarm only if able to do so safely.

## **If you are Robbed...**

- DO NOT give chase or follow suspect(s).
- Activate silent alarm when possible.
- Call 9-1-1 and say "I've just been robbed."
- Stay on the line to answer all questions.
- Lock the front door and put up "closed" sign.
- Ask customers/witnesses not to leave until the police arrive.
- DO NOT touch anything. Try to preserve the crime scene.
- DO NOT discuss observations with anyone.
- Distribute "suspect description forms" to be completed individually.
- Give the forms to police upon their arrival.

**Report Suspicious Activity  
by calling (252) 329-4300**



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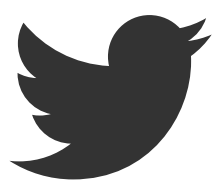
500 South Greene Street  
Greenville, NC 27834

**Emergency 911**

Non Emergency (252) 329-4300  
Information Desk (252) 329-4339



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