



## PREVENTION

### At Home

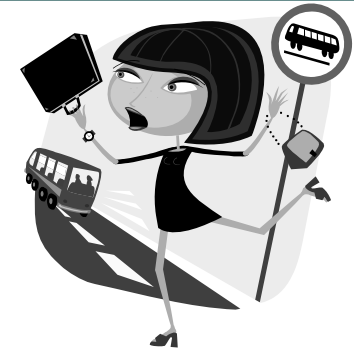
- Use initials in place of first name in phone book or on mail box
- Install adequate locks on all exterior doors and change locks each time you move
- Add wide angle viewer to doors where necessary
- Don't let strangers in for any reason
- Complete outside chores before dark
- Install and utilize exterior lighting
- Trim shrubbery and trees to allow a window of visibility
- Secure ladders, trash cans and other items to discourage "peeping Toms" or prowlers
- Close blinds, shades and drapes at night
- Keep emergency numbers handy

- Practice good key control and always lock your doors
- Report suspicious persons and activities to law enforcement
- Establish a "Buddy System" with a trusted neighbor and watch each other's property

## PREVENTION

### In The Car

- Keep car doors locked at all times
- Place all valuables in the trunk
- Put purse on the floor, not on the seat next to you
- Remove identification tags from car key ring
- Leave only ignition key in auto at service stations, valet parking
- In case of car trouble, set emergency flashers, lock car doors and call for assistance. Wait in locked car for authorities to arrive.
- If followed, drive into nearest gas station, open business or other well lighted, crowded area and blow horn. Get a description of the vehicle. **DO NOT GO HOME!**



## PREVENTION

### On The Streets

- Leave work and meetings with others, watch each other to car
- Invite a friend to walk with you
- A dog on a leash is a good deterrent to the criminal
- Be extra cautious of elevators and stairways of office and apartment buildings
- Remain alert to the possibility of crime
- Don't leave your purse unattended on store counters, shopping carts or in fitting rooms
- Refrain from displaying large sums of money when shopping
- Light and noise are the best deterrents to the criminal - plan accordingly



## IF ATTACKED

- **CALL LAW ENFORCEMENT!!**
- Try to remember a description of your attacker including accent, speech patterns and odors
- Check his height compared to your own
- Notice his approximate age, hair style, unusual marks or scars, mannerisms, language, phraseology and conduct
- If he is in a car note the color and make of auto and direction of approach and escape
- The officer will need everything you can tell him/her in order to apprehend the criminal.

## OTHER PROGRAMS

- Neighborhood Watch
- Operation I.D.
- Business Watch
- Residential Security Surveys
- Business Security Surveys
- Ag Watch
- Golf Watch
- Bank Watch
- Fleet Watch
- C.A.T. Program
- Triad / S.A.L.T.
- Safe Return Alzheimer's Program
- R.U.O.K. Assurance Program
- Crime Prevention for Seniors
- Boating Safety
- Golfer Safety
- Personal Safety
- Identity Theft Prevention
- Community Service Speakers

Highlands  
County  
Sheriff's  
Office



• INTEGRITY • QUALITY SERVICES  
• PROFESSIONALISM

## PERSONAL SAFETY



McGruff the Crime Dog®

Sheriff's Office

863

402-7200

434 Fernleaf Ave.  
Sebring, Florida  
33870

### Our Mission

The Highlands County Sheriff's Office is committed to protecting life, property, and individual rights while maintaining peace and order.

Sheriff Susan Benton