

Recommendations for Owners of ABC Establishments

- » Bouncers, servers and sellers must be vigilant and check all IDs. If a patron does not look 40, check his or her ID.
- » Be responsible servers—do not serve alcohol to a intoxicated person.
- » Promote responsible consumption.
- » Discourage loitering in front of establishments.
- » Ensure your staff is aware of the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) regulations for DC.

Visit <http://abra.dc.gov> for more information on ABRA regulations.

Get More Safety Tips

For tips on other ways to stay safe from crime in your daily life, see the other brochures in this series, available from our Website at www.mpd.dc.gov/safety. Or visit your local police district. To find the one nearest you, visit www.mpd.dc.gov/districts.

Get Involved!

No one individual or agency working alone can prevent crime. It takes police and citizens working in partnership. The District of Columbia's community policing strategy provides many ways for police and communities to work together to prevent crime and build safer neighborhoods. These include regular Police Service Area meetings in your community, citizen patrols and more. To learn more about community policing activities in your neighborhood, call your local police district:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 1st District | Main:.....(202) 698-0555..... TTY: 727-8506 |
| | Substation:.....(202) 698-0068..... TTY: 543-2352 |
| 2nd District | Main:.....(202) 715-7300..... TTY: 364-3961 |
| 3rd District | Main:.....(202) 673-6815..... TTY: 518-0008 |
| | Substation:.....(202) 576-8222..... TTY: 576-9640 |
| 4th District | Main:.....(202) 715-7400..... TTY: 722-1791 |
| 5th District | Main:.....(202) 698-0150..... TTY: 727-5437 |
| 6th District | Main:.....(202) 698-0880..... TTY: 398-5397 |
| | Substation:.....(202) 698-2088..... TTY: 281-3945 |
| 7th District | Main:.....(202) 698-1500..... TTY: 889-3574 |

Know Something About a Crime? Don't Keep It a Secret

If you have important information to share with the police, the Anonymous Crime Tip Line and Text Tip Line enables you to give MPD vital information anonymously. Just dial (888) 919-2746 (CRIME) or text to 50411 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Your name will not be used, only the information you provide. Your information could lead to a cash reward. For more details, see www.mpd.dc.gov/tipline.

GIVE 5-0

THE 4-1-1

Have information for police?

CALL (888) 919-CRIME

TEXT TO 50-411



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Metropolitan Police Department
300 Indiana Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

January 2011

FOR YOUR SAFETY



Night Life Safety Tips

*Tips for protecting yourself and your property
when enjoying a night out on the town*



Everyone enjoys an evening out on the town.

Whether it's just the two of you having dinner and drinks, or a night out clubbing with friends, alcohol is often involved.

You may not ever be faced with the prospect of a mugger, but it's important to know how to act if you ever encounter such a situation. The best way to protect yourself from a street robbery, or mugging, is to reduce your exposure to potentially being victimized — stay in groups, walk in well-lit areas, and pay attention to your surroundings. Thieves will look for “easy prey” before they try to attack someone who is prepared.

Don't Be a Target

- » **Avoid excessive drinking**, or if you have been drinking, recognize its impact on your judgment. Alcohol is a contributing factor in many assaults.
- » **Keep valuables close.** Women should not hang purses on the back of a chair. Men should put wallets in their pockets.
- » If possible, **don't walk alone** during late-night hours. Walk in groups whenever you can — there is always safety in numbers.
- » **Stay in well-lit areas** as much as possible. Avoid alleys, vacant lots, wooded areas, and other short-cuts or secluded areas. These are usually not well-lit or heavily traveled.
- » Walk on the sidewalk whenever possible. Walk close to the curb to **avoid doorways, bushes, and other potential hiding places.**
- » **Walk confidently**, directly, and at a steady pace. Don't stop to talk to strangers.
- » Always **be aware of your surroundings.**

- » If you are wearing headphones, **don't turn up the volume so high** that you cannot hear outside noises.
- » **Report any suspicious activity** or person immediately to the Metropolitan Police Department at 3-1-1. Or, if it is an emergency, dial 9-1-1.
- » **Avoid carrying large sums of cash**, or displaying expensive jewelry, etc. in public.
- » If you must carry large sums, divide the cash into smaller quantities and carry in multiple places on your person (wallet, purse, side pocket, etc.).

Preventing Assaults

While some assaults are unavoidable, here are some tips on making sure simple arguments do not turn violent or deadly:

- » If you are involved in a heated argument that appears to be turning violent, **walk away.** Staying to fight — “to prove something” — only demonstrates poor judgment in almost every instance.
- » Never carry a firearm, knife or other illegal weapon. A weapon will definitely escalate the situation, and it could ultimately be used to harm innocent people or yourself.
- » **Avoid excessive drinking**, or if you have been drinking, recognize its impact on your judgment. Alcohol is a contributing factor in many assaults.

If you see an assault in progress — **dial 9-1-1 immediately** to alert the police. **DO NOT** jump into the fray — unless it is a last resort to prevent more serious injury.

If Someone Tries to Rob You

- » **Don't resist.** Give up your property — don't give up your life.
- » **Report the crime to the police.** Try to describe the attacker accurately. Your actions can help prevent others from becoming victims.

Protecting yourself at ATMs

In recent years, Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) and their users have become a target for thieves. Here are some tips you should know to prevent yourself from becoming a victim at an ATM:

- » If possible, **use ATMs that are located inside buildings.** If you must use an outdoor ATM, avoid using it at night. If you must use one at night, select one with a lot of people around, that is well-lit, and is not in a secluded, low-visibility area.
- » Try to **have a friend accompany you** when using an ATM.
- » **Be aware of your surroundings** and the people around you.
- » **Complete your transaction as quickly as possible**, and do not flaunt your cash.
- » Secure your cash and your ATM card in your wallet or purse before leaving the machine.

