

**What Senior
Citizens Should
Know About
Crime Prevention**



BE ALERT
at home and away.

BE AWARE
of your surroundings at all
times.
of the Munster Police
Department's crime
prevention
Programs.

BE INVOLVED
by helping prevent crime
in your community and
reporting all crimes and
suspicious actions to the
Munster Police
Department.



Munster Police Department
1001 Ridge Road
Munster, Indiana

Phone: 219-836-6600
FAX: 219-836-8134



**Munster
Police
Department**

**Crime
Prevention for
Senior Citizens**



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How to Protect Yourself

At Home

- Be Alert, Cautious, and Self Confident.
- Keep Doors and Windows Locked.
- Use a Peephole.
- Keep Valuables in a safe place.
- Organize a buddy system.
- Consider a pet.
- Call the Munster Police Department about specific problems.

When you leave the house

- Leave the outside lights ON.
- Lock Doors and Windows.
- Go with a Friend.
- Plan your Route.
- Carry your wallet in a safe place.
- Don't use a purse with a shoulder strap.



When you are in your car

- Keep doors locked.
- Hide Purse or Valuables out of sight.
- Park close to your destination in a well lit area.

When you leave on a trip

- Use caution at Airports.
- Keep luggage locked, and carefully watched.
- Be Alert at the Hotel/Motel.

Consumer Crimes

Fraud

- Don't be fooled by:
 - deals that are "too good to be true".
 - "miracle cures".
 - "free inspections" for home repairs.
- read the "small print".
- don't sign anything that you do not understand.

Sales Gimmicks

- Urging you to buy or sign before you can think about it.
- Luring you into the store for a bargain, then talking you into something more expensive.
- Promising "discounts" on items if you get friends to buy also.



For more information contact:

Officer James Ghrist

(219) 836-6639

What To Do...

If your home is burglarized-

- Call the police right away.
- Don't touch anything.
- Don't go inside if you suspect someone is still inside.

If you held up or your purse is taken-

- Don't keep personal information on you.
- Don't resist, to avoid risk of injury.
- Hand over wallet, purse quickly.
- Notify police immediately.



If you've been swindled-

-Report Incident to the Munster Police Department, Consumer Protection Agency & the Better Business Bureau.

If you are attacked-

- Remain calm.
- Be realistic about your ability to protect yourself.

Report to the police-

- any crime or attempted crime.
- any suspicious activity.
- a good description is very important!
 - special physical features (scars, limp, etc.), clothing description, license number (if applicable), witnesses, etc.

Press Charges!

- The police need everyone's help to stop crime.