

Public Transportation Safety

Persons riding on public transportation need to be alert and exercise good sense precautions. The following are safety tips for patrons of public transportation.

- Plan your trip.
- “Call backs” are a good idea. Advise a family member, friend, or co-worker of your travel route and time. Call them when you arrive safely.
- Have your exact fare ready before you leave home, the office, or a store. This way you won’t have to fumble for your money at the fare box, or display extra cash.
- Use the busiest, best-lit stop possible both to get on and get off a bus. If you must wait, stay near the attendant’s stand or in the best-lit area available.
- Find a seat on the aisle if possible. This allows you to observe everything around you, and to avoid getting “boxed in” against the window.
- Sit near the driver or operator, if possible, but avoid sitting right next to the door. Thieves may try to snatch jewelry or personal belongings from people near the door and then exit quickly.
- Don’t let yourself doze off on a bus, or become too engrossed in a book. It can make you an easy target.
- Keep your purse, shopping bag, backpack, packages, or other belongings in you lap, on your arm, or between your feet. Do not leave them on an empty seat.
- Avoid displaying expensive looking watches, rings, necklaces, or other jewelry. Don’t invite trouble.
- Be wary of noisy passengers arguing or causing a commotion. This could be staged to distract you while others are trying to steal your valuables.
- Observe the behavior of those around you. If you feel uneasy or threatened, change your seat or alert the driver.
- Minimize the chances of losing your property by avoiding crowded buses.