

## Holiday Safety 101

As we enter the Holiday Season, don't let the thieves and predators be a Scrooge to you and your family during this festive time. Please consider these safety tips and keep them in mind as you go shopping this year.

1. If possible, back into parking spaces so that you can leave quickly with an unobstructed view.
2. Turn off your car and lock it regardless of how short the stop.
3. Place items of value in the trunk of your car or out of sight. Thieves would gladly break out your \$300.00 car window for the \$2.00 sitting on your seat.
4. Avoid multitasking on the phone when walking through isolated parking areas, pay attention to your surroundings and look to see who is looking at you.
5. If shopping alone and leaving at night, particularly if you're loaded with gifts, request an escort from mall security.
6. When returning to your car, have your keys ready and in your hand.
7. As you approach your car check beneath and around it from a distance. Is anyone around it or is there any damage to it?
8. Again, be aware of your surroundings and look to see who is looking at you.
9. Before you enter your car, place your packages in the trunk if possible, check the backseat.
10. Avoid talking on your cell phone while driving through the parking lot and avoid potential crashes.

Be safe and have a Happy Holiday from all of us at the HCC Police Department.