

# SECURITY TIPS

## **1. Residence**

- Keep service door, between house and garage, locked when not in use
- Activate security system (if available) at night. This should include all doors and windows
- Keep all blinds and curtains closed at night
- Install “peephole” or intercom at front door to challenge those requesting entry
- Install deadbolt locks on all exterior doors
- Plan an escape route from the residence if an intruder enters. Share this with the entire family
- Keep your valuables in a heavy-duty safe that is anchored to the floor
- Residence employees (babysitter, housekeeper, groundskeeper, etc.) should not allow anyone unexpected or suspicious to enter the residence, without your permission
- Change all locks, if they have not been changed since purchasing the residence, or if someone in your family loses a key
- Install floodlights to illuminate parking area, walkways and backyard
- Place exterior lights on a motion and light sensor
- Have someone pick up your mail and newspapers if you will be gone for an extended period of time

## **2. Vehicles**

- Always keep car doors locked while in the car. Always lock car doors and keep windows up when not with the vehicle, even while at home or work
- Have your keys in your hand and ready to unlock the car door. Don't give anyone time to approach you while you are trying to find your car key
- Store valuable items in the trunk, to include laptop computers and cell phones.
- Keep windows rolled up when stopped at a light or sign. Don't provide anyone a way to enter your car while you are in it
- Drive to a police station or well populated area if you feel you are being followed
- Keep a phone in your car in case you need to call for assistance
- Keep a can of pepper spray or chemical spray (mace) in your car and within reach
- Park in well-lit areas and close to building entrances
- Keep your glove box locked and lock the trunk button if applicable
- Install a locking gas cap

## **3. Your Person**

- Carry only small amounts of money on your person
- Carry your wallet in a front pocket
- Walk close to buildings and keep a purse on your side closest to the building
- Keep purses zipped and pockets buttoned
- Walk in well-lit areas & don't talk with strangers
- Always be aware of your surroundings – occasionally look over your shoulder
- Take different routes to and from work, stores, banks, school, etc.