

Holiday Shopping Safety Advice from the Hall County Sheriff's Office

November 26, 2013

Many stores will open their doors to a deluge of bustling consumers, this weekend. The Criminal Investigative Division of the Hall County Sheriff's Office would like to offer you a few tips to help ensure that your shopping trip won't make YOU a "thrift shop for the lurking thief":

- Take along a friend, or family member, when you visit stores this Holiday Season.
- Shop during daylight hours, whenever possible.
- Park in a well-lighted area with surveillance cameras placed throughout, whenever possible.
- LOCK YOUR VEHICLE DOORS!
- Time is of the utmost importance when you are shopping! In the amount of time it takes for you to locate your car, a thief could have his eyes set on making you the next target. So, do yourself a favor and make a mental note of where you parked your car!
- Store valuables that you leave left behind inside your trunk, and out of plain sight! Trucks and SUV's are easier targets because they lack the security of a locking trunk.
- Dress casually and comfortably, and avoid wearing expensive jewelry (or anything that would make you a prime target for thieves inside a crowded shopping environment).
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings. Don't get distracted by your cell phone or other shoppers!
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year,