

SeniorALERT



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

HAVE A SAFE AND JOYFUL HOLIDAY!

THE HOLIDAYS are always a special time of year. It is also a time when we become busy and more vulnerable to holiday crime.

Be aware that criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts. Be careful about answering your door to strangers, and use a peephole or latch your screen or storm door if possible.

It is also not uncommon for criminals to take advantage of people's generosity during the holiday season by soliciting donations over the telephone or door-to-door for bogus charitable causes. Ask for identification, and find out how the donated funds will be used. You might want to make your donation to a recognized charitable organization. Remember that many organizations have names that are very similar to well known charities.

WHEN SHOPPING:

- Stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you.
- Shop with a friend, there is safety in numbers.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check, credit card or debit card when possible.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages.
- If you return to your car to unload purchases, place them in the trunk of your car.
- Have your car keys in hand before leaving the store.
- Ask mall or store security for an escort if your shopping location does not seem safe.

WHILE DRIVING:

- Avoid driving alone, especially at night.
- If you shop at night, park in a well-lighted area.
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.
- Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running.
- Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area.
- Keep doors locked and windows rolled up in traffic, especially at stoplights.
- Always lock your car.

I send you my best wishes for a wonderful holiday season.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Greg Abbott
Attorney General of Texas

WRITE TO: Greg Abbott, Office of the Attorney General
PO Box 12548, Austin, TX 78711-2548
800-252-8011 • www.oag.state.tx.us