



# **Personal Safety**

**Personal safety starts with you!** Traditionally, crime increases towards the end of the year. 24/7 Security Services is experiencing an increase in crime levels, well above the norm for this time of the year. As we approach Black Friday and the Festive Season, we are expecting a surge in the number of incidents. We urge everybody to focus on their personal safety and take the necessary precautions.

Please be aware of your surroundings at all times, and:

- >> Ensure that, before you leave on holiday or anywhere else, your home is always securely locked.
- >> Know where your children are at all times and do not leave children unattended or without adult supervision.

- >> Avoid wearing expensive-looking jewellery when out and about, and please stay off your cell phone when in a public space it makes you an easy target for criminals.
- >> Be aware of your surroundings and suspicious people when visiting an ATM or conducting cash transactions.
- >> When shopping or visiting a restaurant, keep your handbag close to you and your cell phone out of sight.
- >> If you suspect that you are being followed, proceed to your nearest police station.

**Holiday Preparation:** The holiday season is around the corner and early preparation will ensure that you are ready for a safe Festive Season. Scroll down for tips and recommendations.

**Gun Amnesty:** There has been extensive media coverage regarding the legality of a person to surrender a firearm and apply for a new licence for that firearm, irrespective of whether the firearm was previously licenced to them or not.

<u>Click here</u> to access the recent High Court Ruling on Gun Amnesty. *Information provided by Martin Hood of MJ Hood & Associates Attorneys* 

**Hijackings:** Follow-home robberies and hijackings are on the increase. Do not become complacent - these incidents occur at all hours and locations. Please follow The 5-Minute Rule when travelling this Festive Season.



# **#SafetyFirst**

### The 5-Minute Rule

Always keep the following top of mind when approaching your destination.

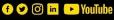
#### Five minutes from your destination:

- · Transform into an alert state and become aware of your surroundings
- · Get off your cell phone
- · Turn down car radio/music
- · Open the front drivers and passenger window to about 3cm from the top
- Start listening to all external sounds and be alert to any abnormal noises
- Use all three mirrors left-hand side mirror, right-hand side mirror and rear-view mirror
- Become alert to what vehicles or people are around your vehicle
- · Ask any kids to quieten and calm down
- · Request any adult passengers to assist with observation
- Slow down
- Keep the vehicle in the direction of the road, parallel to the point of entry

#### Be alert to the following: Indicators not to enter your place of entry:

- Suspicious people
- Suspicious vehicles
- Suspicious activity
- Suspicious objects
- Unknown people loitering around
- Unknown vehicle/s parked in the road · Security officer does not give the all clear signal
- · Unusual activity emergency vehicles, responders etc.











Black Friday and Cyber Monday are just a few days away. If you shop online, ensure you shop securely with these safety tips:

>> Look for the lock: Only transact on secure websites. Look for the lock image on the toolbar, valid certificates such as VeriSign and secure payment systems such as PayU. When you get to the page where you enter your credit card or other personal information, look for an 's' after 'http://' in the web address of that page - it should read: 'https://'.

>> Do your online shopping in safe places: Don't do your shopping in coffee shops and malls. With public Wi-Fi, there's a bigger chance for fraudsters to intercept your connection and get hold of your usernames and

passwords.

- >> Watch out for strange emails and links: Fraudsters are quite good at mimicking known websites, which enables them to easily create emails with fraudulent links in them that look legitimate.
- >> Use strong passwords: Don't create a password that is easy to guess or hack. Use an 8-digit password combination of upper-case letters, symbols and numbers.
- >> Use two-factor authentication methods: In the world of online shopping and banking, the OTP (one-time PIN) is a must-have.

If you own a business, please click here for Black Friday Safety Tips.

Your Emergency Personal Ops Device

Peace of mind in the palm of your hand



The 24/7 ePOD emergency panic system is an affordable tailor-made solution that provides you access to help when you need it most. No cell phone required!

A panic system is only effective if it provides for easy activation and fast response. In today's world, it is essential to have access to a panic system 24/7 - whether you are at home, at work, or out there cycling, running or walking.

Ideally, every room in a home should have a panic button, as well as outdoor entertainment areas. The 24/7 ePOD is a mobile panic button that moves around with you. So whether you are watching TV with the family, gardening or relaxing at the pool, 24/7 ePOD will help keep you safe this Festive Season.

Contact us for more information and a quote:

epod@24-7security.co.za or send a

WhatsApp to 081 462 4811

## **Holiday Preparation**



The holiday season is around the corner and early preparation will ensure that you are ready for the festive season.

- >> Test all your electronic systems before you go on holiday alarm, electric fence, beams, batteries and panic buttons. Should a faulty system be detected, please log a service call with <a href="mailto:alexandrad@24-7security.co.za">alexandrad@24-7security.co.za</a>
- >> Ensure that you manage your Digi-pad code the code should be changed at least once a month, whenever somebody has used the code to gain access to your property, or when an employee leaves.
- >> Alert the 24/7 Command Centre that you will be away and ensure that all your contact details are correct. If you are going to be out of contact, appoint a trusted key holder who will be local for the duration of your holiday.
- >> Walk the perimeter of your property and inspect all fences, gates and walls. Ensure that there are no weak spots where criminals can gain entry.
- >> Ensure that all doors and windows are securely closed and locked before you leave the property this includes outbuildings and garages. Ensure that burglar bars are secure and that safety gates are locked.
- >> Criminals are wary of well-lit properties. Ensure that you have good outdoor lighting that switches on at night. Motion sensor lights are always a good investment.
- >> Ask neighbours to keep an eye on your property and to report any suspicious activity. Neighbours can also assist with collecting mail, newspapers and removing empty bins and recycling bags. Stop all newspaper deliveries.
- >> Should you require casual guarding personnel over the festive period, please contact Charlotte at <a href="mailto:charlottek@24-7security.co.za">charlottek@24-7security.co.za</a>



The 24/7 Intervention Team has been deployed for November and December in response to the increase in crime and as part of our proactive 'visible policing' strategy.

This Elite Team is made up of highly trained and experienced Tactical Officers who support and provide backup to our existing Special Operations, Armed Reaction and Tactical Reaction Teams. The deployment of a rapid response vehicle enables the Team to fulfil the role of first responders and allows for fast escalation and early intervention of incidents.

The 24/7 Intervention Team will be deployed for additional patrols and strategic monitoring in our areas of operations.













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