

## Holiday Safety

Hosting a holiday party is a great way to thank your clients, employees, or friends for their patronage, hard work, or friendship. However, if alcohol is being served, you need to be aware of the liability as a social host.

Whether you are hosting a business party, or a get-together with close friends and family, it is your responsibility as a host, to ensure the safety of your guests.

### Put Safety First at your Holiday Party

- Have non-alcoholic drinks available for guests.
- Serve alcohol only at specified times during the evening, like before dinner or only up to an hour after dinner.
- Serve plenty of food throughout the evening — alcohol consumed with food is absorbed more slowly.
- Don't drink too much yourself. As the host, you need to keep an eye out on your guests.
- Arrange alternative transportation for party guests.
- Discontinue serving alcohol at least an hour before the party ends.



## Mission Statement

***The Kern County Sheriff's Office is committed to work in partnership with our community to enhance the safety, security, and quality of life for the residents and visitors of Kern County through professional public safety services.***



### Helpful Websites!

- National Crime Prevention Council - [www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org)
- [www.co.kern.ca.us/sheriff](http://www.co.kern.ca.us/sheriff)
- [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org)

To contact the Kern County Sheriff's Office:

Emergency: **9-1-1**

Non-Emergency: **(661) 861-3110**

Non-Emergency Outlying Areas: **1-800-861-3110**

Sheriff's Report Desk (Bakersfield only): **(661) 391-7471**

## HOLIDAY SAFETY



### TIPS TO KEEP YOU SAFE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

This brochure is a publication of the  
Kern County Sheriff's Office  
Crime Prevention Unit  
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## Holiday Safety

The holiday season is a special time of the year. For many people, it is a time to celebrate with family and friends.



Unfortunately, statistics show that crime increases during the holiday season. Many people become careless, which increases their chances of becoming a victim. Some people are especially vulnerable to theft and other crimes during this time.

Follow these simple tips to help make your holiday season as safe as possible.

### Don't Shop 'Til You Drop

- Stay alert and be aware of your surroundings.
- Park in well-lit areas, close the windows, and lock your car.
- Don't leave packages and boxes visible through your car windows.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash. Pay with checks or credit cards.
- Don't get overburdened with packages, always keep one hand free.
- Keep your purse close to your body or put your wallet in your front pocket.
- Teach children to go to a store clerk or security officer if they get lost.



## Protect Yourself Against Online Theft

- Only shop with companies you know.
- Look for the secure lock icon in the bottom right corner of the window; a website starting with https:// is also secure, whereas one starting with http:// is not necessarily secure.
- Keep your personal information private.
- Do not respond to emails, pop-ups, or other requests for your password, address, credit card information, etc.
- Do not respond to solicitations online. Only go through with transactions that you initiate.

## Protect Your Home

- Always keep your home locked and secured.
- Leave several lights on when you are gone.
- Do not display presents in a window, or where they can be seen from a window.
- Have a neighbor collect your mail if you are out of town, or stop delivery with the post office—do the same if you receive the daily newspaper.
- Never give out personal information over the phone.
- Do not allow anyone you don't know into your home.
- Take photos and video of valuables.



## Don't Let Your Office Be a Target

- Lock gifts purchased during lunch in a safe place.
- Always keep your keys and wallet with you, or in a locked drawer.
- Don't be embarrassed to challenge unfamiliar faces in the office.
- Don't announce on Facebook that you are leaving town for the holidays or anything else.
- Use the "buddy system" when walking to your car.
- Immediately report suspicious activity or persons in the area.

## Traveling During the Holidays

- Always secure your home when leaving for any period of time.
- Do not accept rides from strangers if your vehicle breaks down.
- Tell a friend or relative what your travel plans are.
- Use timer lights to give the appearance someone is home.
- Stay alert to people and activities around you.
- Don't leave packages, luggage, or valuables where they can be seen.
- Use traveler's checks or credit cards instead of cash.
- Put valuables in the hotel safe.
- Always lock your doors and windows while staying in a hotel.

