

# BLACK FRIDAY SAFETY TIPS

From your friends at the  
Williston Police Department



## DRIVING

- Do not bring your pet(s) with you. Although you may plan to only run in and out of the store the lines can be long and you may get distracted by good deals in the store. Please leave your pets at home or with a sitter.
- Remain patient. It is difficult to do in heavy traffic and others may not be following the best procedure when in a traffic jam. The best thing you can do is to be patient.
- Do not speed. We understand you need to beat the lines however, you won't be doing any shopping if you get in a car accident.
- No texting while driving. It will be especially difficult as you will want to coordinate with friends/family however, this is the easiest way to get in an accident. Please refrain from texting until you are not driving.
- When backing out of a parking spot, be aware of waiting cars, others who are backing out at the same time, and motorists who speed through lanes.
- Lock all doors and roll up all windows even when leaving the car.
- When shopping, keep gifts in the trunk or hidden from view in the interior of the car.
- Make a mental note or write down exactly where you park your car to avoid wandering around longer than necessary.
- During the day, park away from buildings to reduce the chance of dings from car doors or shopping carts. At night, avoid secluded areas and park directly under lights whenever possible.
- Have your keys in hand when leaving a store. Also, look underneath your car before you reach it; criminals have been known to lie underneath in wait.
- Bring gifts in the house with you instead of leaving them in the car.

## SHOPPING

- Use a credit card to avoid thefts of large amounts of cash that are irreplaceable.
- Shopping with a single credit card is preferable because it's easier to cancel one, rather than several, if your wallet or purse is stolen.
- Keep purses zipped and close to your body. Never leave a purse unattended in a shopping cart where it is more susceptible to theft.
- Keep a reference list of phone and account numbers for all your credit cards in a safe place at home.
- If possible, carry keys, cash, and credit cards separate from each other.
- Use ATMs in well-populated, well-lit locations. Do not throw ATM receipts away at the ATM location.
- Remember there is increased safety in numbers. Avoid walking alone and leave malls and stores well before closing time to assure a more active parking lot. Ask mall security to walk you to your car if you feel you are not safe.

