With holiday shopping underway, the Long Beach Police Department would like to remind our community to practice the following safety tips, which may prevent you from becoming a victim:

While Shopping:
- Place all gifts and packages in the trunk or out of sight
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times and walk with confidence
- Park in well-lighted areas
- Avoid shopping alone; there is safety in numbers
- Use credit or debit cards for purchases to avoid carrying large amounts of cash
- Keep car doors locked and windows closed
- Carry purses or bags close to your body
- Have your car keys in hand prior to arriving at your vehicle
- Immediately lock your car doors upon entry
- Report suspicious persons or packages to on-site security or police

Suggestions for your home:
- Have packages delivered to a store, facility, or trusted neighbor
- Keep gifts in areas that cannot be seen from doorways or windows
- Install exterior motion sensor lighting and home security cameras
- Keep bushes and shrubbery trimmed to eliminate places for thieves to hide
- Postpone mail and newspaper deliveries while traveling
- Do not store gifts in vehicles or unsecured areas
- Schedule package deliveries for when someone is home to prevent porch piracy
- Immediately retrieve your packages upon notification from the seller, if applicable

Suggestions for business operators:
- Lock unused doors (in compliance with fire codes)
- Empty the cash register before closing and leave the drawer open.
- Keep only necessary cash in the register
- Vary the schedule and route of your bank deposits each day
- Make sure the register is in plain view
- Ensure large items and generally obstructions away from windows to increase visibility
- Advertise your security alarm system with signs in visible locations
- Invest in video surveillance cameras and ensure they are operational at all times
- Develop a mutual aid system among stores near you and keep an eye on one another

We remind everyone that “If You See Something, Say Something.” Report suspicious activity by calling (562) 435-6711 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.