STAYING SAFE

AT HOME
• Always lock your doors and windows, and only open your door to people you know.
• Always ask for proper identification from delivery persons or strangers.
• Vary your daily routine.
• Leave lights on when going out at night, and use a timer to turn lights on and off when you are away.
• Notify neighbors and the police when going out of town.

WHILE OUT SHOPPING
• Carry as little cash as possible.
• Carry your purse close to your body, and NEVER leave it unattended in a shopping cart.

WHILE OUT WALKING
• Plan your route in advance. Stay alert to your surroundings, and walk with a companion.

WHILE DRIVING
• Always keep your car doors locked.
• Keep your gas tank full.
• NEVER leave your valuables on the passenger seat – especially while pumping gas.
• Secure bags or other items out of view or in the trunk prior to reaching your destination.

Identity theft is a crime that can have long-lasting consequences. Reduce the chances of falling victim to this deceitful crime by following these important tips.

• Always safeguard your social security number.
• Keep your PINs secret. Do not use the same PIN for everything, and NEVER keep them written down in your wallet or purse.
• NEVER give out personal information to a stranger.
• When online, never click on links sent in unsolicited emails.
• Use firewalls, anti-spyware and anti-virus software to protect your computer.
• Shred financial documents and paperwork.
• Do not use easy-to-guess passwords.
• Impact your financial statements and bills regularly for suspicious activity.
Criminals are constantly finding new ways to target seniors, and they are getting more and more creative. Avoid becoming a victim by following these important tips.

• Do not make online purchases from an unfamiliar company.
• Be wary of companies that want to send a representative to your home to pick up money, claiming it is part of their service to you.
• Do not pay in advance for services; pay only after they are delivered.

Protect Yourself From Scams

The Broward Sheriff’s Office offers various programs focused on reducing senior crime and victimization. Help us help you, and learn more about how you can get involved.

BSO CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS

• OPERATION MEDICINE CABINET Help prevent prescription drug abuse and misuse by empting your medicine cabinet of unwanted or expired medications and disposing of them at BSO "take back" events. Check sheriff.org for a list of upcoming event dates and locations, or call 954-831-8902.
• SHRED-A-THON BSO offers residents the opportunity to shred information-sensitive documents free of charge. Check sheriff.org for a list of upcoming event dates and locations, or call 954-831-8902.

IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF A CRIME, call 911 or dial BSO’s non-emergency number: 954-764-HELP (4357). To report scammers or any other suspicious activity anonymously, please call Broward Crime Stoppers at 954-493-8477. For more information, please visit sheriff.org.