



# Royal Bahamas Police Force

*Working together for a safer Bahamas*

Police Emergency  
**919**

## Back to School Shopping Safety Tips

The summer break is about to end, and back-to-school season is in full effect. For this reason, in preparation for the new school year, shopping has increased at the malls, food stores and department stores. Therefore, The Royal Bahamas Police Force has prepared a list of safety tips for back to school shoppers to consider, which will hopefully lessen their chances of becoming victims of crime:

- ❖ When shopping in any area, please be aware of your surroundings.
- ❖ Look for suspicious persons, etc. Remember where you park your vehicle. While this may sound elementary, many shopping areas are spread out over large areas. Being unable to locate a vehicle can cause you undue confusion and stress that may present you as a better target to a criminal.
- ❖ If shopping late in the day or after dark, park in an area that is well lit.
- ❖ At the very least Shop in pairs, there is always safety in numbers
- ❖ As you return to your vehicle, ensure that your keys are in hand.
- ❖ Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay for purchases with checks, credit, charge or debit cards. Carry cash and wallets in a front pocket to reduce your chances of having your pocket picked.
- ❖ Ensure that credit and debit cards are swiped in your presence to avoid them being copied.
- ❖ Keep items such as cell phones, wallets, cash, and jewellery out of sight when in public. For example, place wallets and cellular phones in pockets.
- ❖ Don't leave cell phones, purses, electronics, or any other items of value in your parked vehicle. Additionally, don't leave purchased merchandise in your parked car, where they can be seen.

While these steps don't guarantee that you will not become a victim of crime, they will hopefully reduce your chances of falling prey to a criminal.

Happy Shopping!!



Police Emergency

**911**

**TURN  
BACK  
CRIME**

National Crime Prevention Office

**302-8430 / 1**

[www.royalbahamaspolice.org](http://www.royalbahamaspolice.org)

*"To make The Bahamas a safer place to live, work, visit and play."*

Crime Stoppers

**328-TIPS (8477)**

Family Islands

**(242) 300-8476**

