



# BUSINESS ROBBERY PREVENTION

*Chesterfield County Police Department, Crime Prevention Unit (804) 318 -8699*

Robbery involves the loss of money, merchandise, or other assets. More importantly, robbery puts employees, as well as customers at risk of physical harm, and worst-case scenarios can result in injury or even death. In protecting your business from robbery, it is important to remember to take preventive, readily visible measures to deter potential offenders. The Chesterfield County Police Department is committed to collaborating with the business community to proactively address and successfully implement measures that reduce crime as well as opportunities for crime.

- Stay alert, and pay attention to customers, store, and site activities. Trust your instincts: promptly report suspicious persons, activities, or vehicles.
- Greet every customer to reduce anonymity and put persons on notice that their presence has been detected.
- Have more than one clerk on duty at all times.
- Provide ample visibility into, out of and within the business to facilitate detection of suspicious persons and activities. Keep displays, advertising and landscaping from blocking natural sightlines.
- Provide ample interior and exterior nighttime illumination as a crime deterrent as well as a marketing tool. Repair / replace broken lights promptly.
- Prominently post signage indicating that cameras, alarms, and / or time-lock safes are in use.
- Place cash register in a high visibility, preferable raised location. If cashier cannot see the entire store, enhance visibility with the use of convex mirrors and digital video surveillance.
- Keep register cash to a minimum and never count down drawers in view of the public.
- Use a time-delay drop safe to keep monies more secure during a robbery.
- Develop safe bank deposit procedures such as varying the times and routes.
- Keep especially valuable merchandise in secure locations.
- Install wide-angle peepholes in solid panel service doors so employees can preview the outside before exiting.



- Keep rear / service doors locked at all times.
- Regularly test and maintain security equipment.
- Keep the property neat and clean. A well-maintained property is more inviting to customers and less so for offenders.
- Install a digital video surveillance system for security and evidentiary purposes.
- Consider a door chime to alert staff to entry and to put persons on notice that their presence has been detected.



- Participate in prevention training offered by the Crime Prevention Unit of the Chesterfield County Police Department.