



# Business Security Update



June 2020

The Winnetka Police Department takes great pride in the relationship we have with our community. Protecting life, property, and preserving a peaceful community are essential parts of our mission. In light of the civil unrest that has occurred in Chicago-area communities, we have taken the following steps to bolster public safety:

- Increasing patrols in all the business districts
- Strategically increasing the number of uniformed officers on patrol
- Coordinating with regional law enforcement agencies to share information and provide assistance, when necessary
- Communicating regularly with local law enforcement partners to assess potential threats to the area
- Providing the public with updates on the Winnetka Police social media accounts, as needed. Urgent updates will be communicated through the emergency notification system, Facebook, Twitter, and our website. If you haven't done so already, please sign up for Smart 911 to receive time sensitive emergency alerts to your phone via text or phone call. Sign up at [www.Smart911.com](http://www.Smart911.com).

All businesses and residents are encouraged to continue to exercise caution and to be aware of their surroundings. If you see suspicious activity or feel unsafe, please call 911.

## Business Safety Information

Please consider taking precautionary measures to ensure the safety of your employees and businesses. Suggested measures include:

- Review your security plans.
- Remove all cash from your business at the end of the day, leaving cash drawers open and empty.
- Remove or secure items, especially those that can be seen and grabbed by smashing an exterior window.
- If you have a security system, ensure it is operational and accessible. Activate the system every time someone is not present.

- Check to make sure security cameras are working and aimed at the right locations to capture suspicious activity and suspects' faces.

**Tips for businesses with reduced hours or take-out/delivery operations:**

- Review your security and staffing plans to ensure a sufficient number of employees are on-site.
- Review plans to limit opportunities for crime and ensure staff know procedures for robbery and theft incidents.
- Review your policies for cash on hand.
- Control access to your establishment for customers coming in for pickups; maintain safe spacing of at least six feet between people.
- Lock all doors that are not being used for the operation of your business.
- Secure access to non-public areas, including bathrooms and storage rooms.
- Train staff to be observant and report suspicious people within or around your business.
- Check to make sure security cameras are working and aimed at the right locations to capture suspicious activity and suspects' faces.
- If you are using delivery drivers, review safety plans with drivers. Remind them to be vigilant if approached by a stranger on the street. They should never leave keys/fob in their car and never leave the car running while making a delivery.
- If you observe anything or anyone that appears suspicious, please don't hesitate to call 911 to report it.