Spring Break Safety

Property Security

• Ensure the safety of your valuable belongings by either not bringing them or having them locked in a hotel safe. If the place you are staying doesn’t have a safe, stow valuables in the trunk of your car or a secured place in your room.

• Never allow someone access to your personal identification or credit cards. These items should always be kept in your purse or wallet and never left unattended to help prevent you from becoming a victim of Identity Theft.

• Always keep your hotel room door locked. Use the peephole before answering the door. Never open the door for someone you do not know.

• It is not uncommon for thieves to frequent hotel/motel lobbies and watch your luggage as you check in. Don’t let reservation clerks announce your room number out loud.

• Keep a list of phone numbers to call in case your credit cards or traveler’s checks are lost or stolen, as well as the numbers on your traveler’s checks.

Personal Safety

• Upon arriving at your destination prepare a list of emergency numbers such as the local police departments, hospitals, and other such emergency contacts.

• Make sure your parents, friends and relatives know where you will be vacationing, when you will depart, and when you expect to return. Call friends or family members to let them know that you have arrived and returned safely.

• Remember! There’s safety in numbers. Try your best to stay around your friends. Never go anywhere alone. Don’t ever let a friend go off with strangers by themselves or take them back to your room.

• Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Don’t “flash” your money around and don’t inform people about the amount of money you brought with you.

• Always be aware of your surroundings. Know where you’re at and how to get back to your hotel.

• Be cautious when divulging your personal information or where you are staying.

• Never leave your room key or access card unattended. If it is labeled with your room number or hotel name, avoid displaying it. That allows others to know where you are staying.

• If you choose to drink alcohol, drink in moderation and make responsible decisions. Make sure you have sober friends you can trust to take care of you. Never drink and drive. Use a designated driver or call a cab service.

• It is important to keep your drink in sight at all times. Never leave it unattended.

• Due to a recent rise in violence along the U.S.-Mexico border, students should take extra precautions if traveling to Mexico this Spring Break. The U.S. Department of State has issued travel alerts for Mexico. Travel alerts are issued by the federal government to warn U.S. citizens during times of heightened crime and unrest in other countries. If you are considering traveling abroad, visit the Bureau of Consular Affairs website, http://travel.state.gov for International Travel Information.

• Finally, trust your instincts. If a situation or your surroundings give you a sense of unease, you're probably correct. Be watchful and alert.

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