

Robbery and ATM Safety

Most muggers are young-between the ages of 14 and 29. These young criminals can instantly turn violent during the commission of their crime. Robberies often occur in isolated places or places not readily visible to the public. They also occur at, or near parking lots, alleys, parks, and retail establishments. Here are some tips that might keep you from being a victim.

- When entering any bank, market, or store, take a split second to see what is going on inside. Don't go in if something seems suspicious.
- Avoid exposing your money in public. If possible pay by credit card. If you do pay with cash, avoid flashing large bills or counting the money in front of others.
- Avoid wearing expensive looking jewelry. It often draws attention to you as a profitable mark for a robber.
- Be aware of trouble locations and always be alert to your surroundings. If your intuition says, "something is wrong," something probably is.
- Avoid carrying packages that advertise expensive contents. Have the purchase placed in plain or natural packages or bags.
- As you approach the ATM, take a good look for any suspicious persons or circumstances.
- Have your ATM access card ready and in your hand when you approach the ATM. Secretly punch in your personal identification number (PIN) by using your body to block the view of others.
- Always keep a safe distance between you and others.