

If you Become a Victim of a Crime.....

- Call 9-1-1 or your local law enforcement agency immediately to report the crime.
- Alert them to any current medical conditions and let them know if you need immediate medical assistance.
- Call a friend or relative to assist you.
- Try to remember as many details about the assailant as possible, such as clothing, hair color, identifiable marks, etc.
- Be certain not to destroy possible evidence.

Links to resources for people with disabilities:

<http://www.dor.ca.gov/>

<http://www.calsilc.org/>

<http://www.dds.ca.gov/>

<http://www.chhs.ca.gov/>

<http://indio.org/>

<http://indiopd.org/>



**All Emergencies (Police, Fire or Ambulance)
911**

Animal Services

(760) 343-3644

Business Licenses

(760) 391- 4197

City Hall

(760) 391- 4000

Code Enforcement

(760) 391- 4123

Crime Free Multi-Housing Program

(760) 391-4037

Fire Department (Business)

(760) 347- 0756

Indio Golf Course

(760) 391- 4049

Indio Police Dept Main Line (24-hours)

(760) 391- 4057

Indio Police Department Non-Emergency

(760) 391- 4051

Indio Water Authority (Business)

(760) 391- 4038

Graffiti Removal Hot Line

(760) 391- 4143

Neighborhood Watch

(760) 391-4037

Office of the Chief of Police

(760) 391- 4035

Senior Center

(760) 341- 4170

Special Events (Garage Sale and Event Permits)

(760) 391- 4175

Teen Center

(760) 541-4400

Coachella Valley Crime Stoppers (Anonymous Tips)

(760) 341-STOP

Special thanks to the California Attorney General's Office who used to produce this brochure



**Crime Prevention
Tips For People
with Disabilities**



**“Our Community
Our Commitment”**

Indio Police Department

46-800 Jackson St.

Indio, CA 92201

Phone: 760-391-4057

Fax: 760-391-4036

www.indiopd.org

People with disabilities face many challenges. This could make them vulnerable to would-be assailants who assume that people with disabilities are incapable of protecting themselves.

If you have a disability, or know someone who does, the following information may be helpful. Take time to read and remember these tips, and you may be able to prevent yourself or a friend from becoming a victim of a crime.



General Crime Prevention Tips

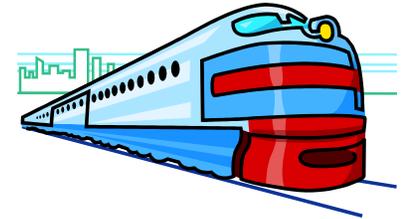
- Know and avoid situations and locations that could invite crime, i.e. dark alleys, unlit parking lots, etc.
- Decide what you plan to do in the event you are confronted, i.e., show confidence; scream, etc.
- Consider your options in these situations and practice your response often so that you can recall them in a real situation.

Home Security Tips

- Consider having a peephole installed in your doors. Make sure you have the proper locks on doors and windows and use them while you are at home as well as when you are out.
- Never open the door to a stranger. Always demand verification of the stranger's identity and the purpose of the visit.
- Never tell a stranger calling by phone that you are alone or that you have a disability.
- Plan an avenue of escape from each room in your residence to use in case of emergency, such as a break-in or a disaster.

Consumer Protection Tips

- Always ask for identification from all solicitors and call their agency for verification.
- Don't commit yourself to purchases or charitable donations over the phone. Ask the caller to mail the information to you so you can make an informed decision. If you are not familiar with the company or organization, consult the State Department of Consumer Affairs or the Better Business Bureau.
- Beware of anyone who is offering products or services as a "once in a lifetime" offer.
- Be sure to read and understand all contracts before you sign them. If you aren't comfortable with the document, have someone you trust read it as well.
- Consider having your checks mailed directly to your bank to avoid mail theft or robbery.



Travel Safety

- Whenever possible, travel with someone you know. There is safety in numbers.
- Leave word of your plans with family or friends - including your ultimate destination and estimated time of return.
- When waiting for a bus, train, etc., wait in a centralized location near other passengers.
- Keep your handbags and packages on your lap instead of on the floor or on the seat next to you.
- Consider using travelers checks instead of carrying cash.
- Be aware of those around you, particularly when exiting a bus or train.

