



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

With the holiday season under way, Clinton County Sheriff David Favro would like to take this opportunity to remind folks of a few safety tips to insure they have a safe and happy holiday season.

#### **Shopping**

If you are out doing your holiday shopping, remember store parking lots are crowded with people. Don't leave purchases in plain view in your vehicle. Place all of your purchases in your vehicles locked trunk or otherwise out-of-sight.

Be observant, especially after dark. Be aware of your surroundings as you come and go from stores and malls during the holiday season. If carrying a purse, hold it close to your body. If walking through parking lots at night and you feel unsafe, ask store security for an escort or walk with other shoppers.

#### **Gift Giving**

If mailing gift cards or other packages to loved ones, take your mail to the post office and walk inside the building to see your gifts off. Placing outgoing mail in your own mailbox or a stand-alone US mail box opens up the possibility of monetary gifts being stolen. Never mail cash.

## **Solicitations for donations**

Solicitations for charitable donations tend to be more prevalent during the holiday season. If you are contacted in person, by phone or by e-mail, do your homework first. Websites like **[www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org)** can show whether the charity exists and how responsibly it spends donations. Never give bank account numbers or social security numbers to a solicitor.

## **Holiday Parties**

If you plan on attending holiday parties, make a plan that prevents you from driving buzzed or drunk. If you plan to drink, have a designated driver or call a cab. A DWI arrest can cost several thousand dollars in fines, attorney's fees and insurance rate hikes. A cab ride will cost you far less. It is not worth risking your life or the lives of others.

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