



Campus Cops Corner

-Public Safety Tips for the PPCC Community-

Important Numbers & websites:

- 24-7 Emergency Number: 502-2911
- Emergency Alert Sign Up: www.ppcc.edu/alert

Public Safety Bi-Weekly Newsletter

Our cell phones are such powerful tools these days. While I rue the unintended consequences of people driving carelessly while they're texting and talking, cell phones have generally been a godsend to personal safety. Witnesses to accidents and crimes in-progress usually call from a cell phone. Many of us have added an "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) entry into our cell phone address books.

Earlier this year, I learned of a very unique way to use your camera phone.

Ken Hilte, MSM, Chief of Police
Department of Public Safety
Pikes Peak Community College
5675 South Academy Blvd., A-100
Colorado Springs, CO 80906



My Mobile Witness

In the language of detectives, we frequently refer to "victimology," i.e., what is it about the victim's personal life that made them more or less susceptible to being a victim of crime? Do they live alone? Is that common knowledge? Are they in a business where they meet lots of strangers in secluded settings, such as realtors, taxi drivers or massage therapists? Does their personal life place them in similar situations, i.e., single people going to nightclubs, etc? Do they keep bad company? Do they simply have poor personal safety habits?

While it's best to simply avoid those kind of situations in the first place, there are times where it happens anyway. In those cases, there is a tactic and product which can help insure your safety.

"My Mobile Witness, Inc.," (www.mymobilewitness.com) was the brainchild of two realtors and a retired FBI agent. The realtors noted their female employees often found themselves in the uncomfortable situation of being alone and "showing" a vacant home to a stranger. To help alleviate the apprehension, they would ask the customer to stand in front of his "new house," take his picture, and then send it back to the office. They would also take a picture of his car and license plate. Most importantly, they would congratulate the customer and tell them that their picture had been forwarded to the office. In short, it put him on friendly notice that if something unpleasant happened, their interaction with the realtor would not be anonymous.

By registering for My Mobile Witness' (MMW) free service, you can send those pictures to a secure server where it is stored for six months. If nothing happens, the picture is deleted. If anything bad is suspected, you simply tell law enforcement, and they can retrieve the photos from the confidential MMW server. If the bandit takes the victim's phone, it's too late since the picture is already stored on a remote server.

Young people routinely take photographs of one another these days. Your friend meets a stranger and they intend to leave together; you see a car running outside of a bank (potential robbery getaway car?); a strange car parked near your vacationing neighbor's home; take a picture and mail it! Check it out. It's free! Stay Safe!

