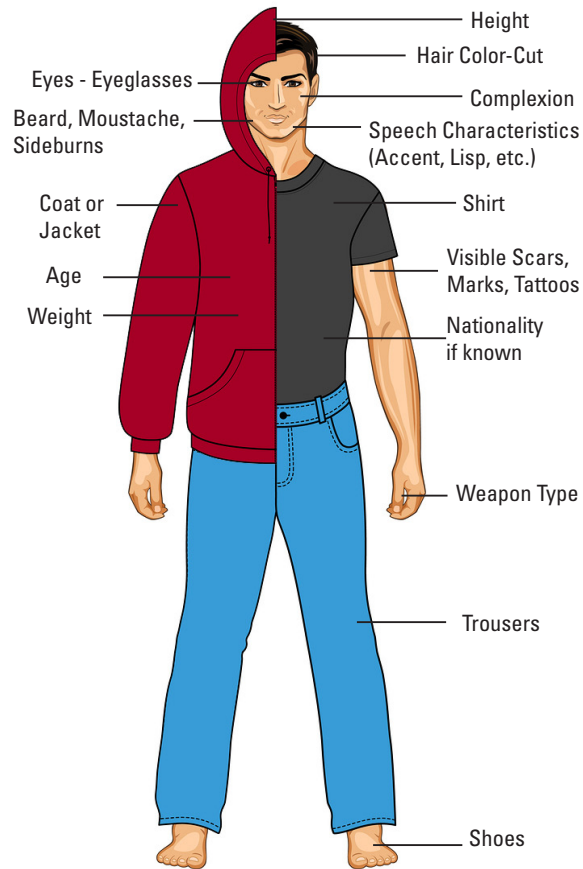


## Suspect Identity Chart

### PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION



Dear Friends:

Since 1909, the deputies of Palm Beach County have always provided a safe environment for the people who live, work and visit Palm Beach County. The Sheriff's Office is committed to improving awareness, and sharing the fundamentals of crime prevention in order to ensure our community is safe and secure.

The goal of crime prevention is to reduce the risk of becoming a victim. In order to accomplish this effectively, it is important to remove opportunities for a criminal to take advantage of you and your property. You are attempting to prevent either victimization or criminalization by presenting an unattractive target to the criminal. This can be as complex as installing a high tech alarm system and lighting to something as simple as locking your doors.

Crime prevention is using instinct, common sense, and taking action to eliminate or greatly reduce the criminal's opportunity. We all have a personal part to play regarding crime prevention. A large share of the responsibility of reducing criminal opportunity lies with you.

Thank you for working with us to make Palm Beach County a safer place for all its citizens.

Sincerely,

Ric Bradshaw, Sheriff  
Palm Beach County



The mission of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit is to help reduce crime in business and residential communities by working together in partnership and through various proactive strategies, techniques, and programs.

### EMERGENCY - DIAL 911

**Non-Emergency Numbers:**  
South County (561) 995-2800  
North County (561) 688-3000  
West County (561) 996-1670

For more information contact the  
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office  
Crime Prevention Unit  
1937 N Military Trail, Suite-Q  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33409  
(561) 688-3970

Email: [CrimePrevention@pbso.org](mailto:CrimePrevention@pbso.org)



## ROBBERY PREVENTION FOR BUSINESSES



There are few crimes that are more frightening and potentially dangerous as robbery. Customers as well as employees can also become victims.

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office  
Ric L. Bradshaw, Sheriff

# Robbery Prevention Starts by Being Proactive

- Height marker strips installed on the door frames.
- Surveillance system installed with cameras inside and outside.
- Alarm system installed with panic buttons at the front register area, office, and cooler.
- Greet and make eye contact with all customers as they enter the business.
- Be aware of the people in the business, watch for suspicious persons and activities.
- The business should be kept clean and uncluttered. Remove posters and signs from the window area where the clerk is located so that they are visible from the outside.
- Review, Enforce and Post store policies to eliminate confusion.



## Prevention Measures for the Exterior

- Lighting is important, it's criminals worst enemy.
- Trim all hedges, trees, and bushes to eliminate concealment and entrapment areas.
- Install viewers in the rear door so that employees can look out before opening the door.
- Keep rear doors locked at all times.
- When the business is closed and employees are inside keep all doors locked.
- If the dumpster area is enclosed it is recommended to be locked.
- Watch for people hanging around the business before or after business hours.
- Check the parking lot for unoccupied vehicles
- Watch for suspicious activity.

## Procedures During a Robbery

- Remain calm
- Cooperate
- Do exactly what the robber asks, no more no less.
- Explain any movements or actions you make to the robber before you make them so as not to cause panic.
- Activate the alarm only if you're able to do so safely.
- Do not stall, resist or attempt to apprehend the robber. The sooner the robber gets what they came for the sooner they leave. "We do not want a hero in exchange for a human life. Money can be replaced - you cannot."

## Procedures After The Robbery

- Notification - As soon as possible, but only if safe to do so call 911. Stay on the phone with the communications officer. For your safety they will probably stay on the phone with you until a deputy arrives.
- Preservation - Close and lock all doors and stop business transactions. Do not touch or allow anyone to touch anything. Ask customers that were present during the robbery to stay. If they are unable to, get their names addresses and phone numbers so that they can be contacted by the deputy and detective assigned to the case. Keep customers and employees away from any physical evidence that the robber may have left behind such as: note, bag, clothing, or areas that the robber may have touched and left fingerprints.
- Observation - You will be provided with a Suspect Identity Chart, for you to make copies to be handed out to employees and customers after the robbery. Have employees write down on the reverse side what they observed during the robbery.
- Important: do not permit witnesses and employees to discuss their observations among themselves, have them write down what they themselves remembered about the robbery.



## Times When You Are Most Vulnerable

- Taking out the garbage. A policy is recommended for employees to follow.
- Making Night Deposits. Vary your route and routine.
- Leaving the business and going home. If two employees are working leave together, after first checking the parking lot.