



## Personal Security and Safety

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES: 314-362-4357**

**BJH PUBLIC SAFETY: 314-362-0750**

### While Inside

- If you must work late, try to do so when others are present.
- If you must work late while alone, advise security or family/friends of the time you will leave.
- Keep your office or suite door locked, especially if you are working alone. Never prop open doors, even if you are stepping out for only a few minutes.

### While Outside

- Take advantage of escort opportunities such as [Protective Services' Security Escort Rides](#) or our [Afterhours Neighborhood Shuttle Program](#).
- Use the new [WashU Safe](#) app. Download it for free from the App Store or Google Play.
- Walk in pairs or groups whenever possible. Keep to well-lit areas.
- Walk confidently, quickly, and with a purpose.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Do not text or email while walking, and avoid using headphones or earbuds while walking.
- Have your keys or badge ready so you can enter your vehicle, residence, or worksite without delay.
- If you are confronted by a robber, try to stay calm. Relinquish your possessions. Never fight for property.
- If an armed offender confronts you, make slow and deliberate movements. Describe your actions. Do nothing that might be misconstrued as an aggressive response. Never turn your back on a weapon unless ordered to do so.
- If you must fight to prevent your abduction or serious injury, there are no rules. **Scream, scratch, strike, kick, and attack "soft targets,"** such as the eyes or groin.

### While Driving

- Keep to familiar areas and routes to avoid getting lost.
- When stopped, leave adequate room between your vehicle and the one ahead so you can maneuver to make a hasty exit.
- Keep vehicle doors locked and windows rolled up.
- Keep your vehicle well-maintained to avoid break-downs.
- If your vehicle does break down, remain in it with the doors locked until help arrives.
- After parking, turn off the engine, exit your vehicle, and immediately proceed to your destination. Do not loiter in a parked vehicle. Remaining in a parked or idling vehicle makes you an attractive target to carjackers.

For more personal security information, visit the "Notes" section of Protective Services' [Facebook](#) page or the [Security](#) website located in the Operations & Facilities Management Department site.