



UC Irvine

Police Department

410 E. Peltason Avenue, Irvine, CA 92697

Protect Yourself from Bank Jugging

Bank jugging is a predatory crime where thieves (known as “juggers”) observe customers withdrawing large sums of cash from banks or ATMs. Once a target is identified, the criminals follow the victim to their next destination. In Irvine and the surrounding areas, these incidents have occurred in retail parking lots. While a victim is preoccupied running errands, “juggers” break into the vehicle to steal cash envelopes left in the center console or glove compartment. To protect your personal safety and your assets, use the following safety strategies:

1. Maintain Situational Awareness

Stay alert in bank parking lots and lobbies. Watch for individuals who are “hanging around” and not conducting business.

2. Keep it Low-Key

Don't count your cash in the open or walk out of the bank holding a bank envelope. Conceal it before you leave the teller desk or ATM.

3. Power in Numbers

If you must withdraw a significant amount of currency, bring a trusted adult with you. Juggers are less likely to target a group than an individual.

4. Be Mindful of Your Route

If you have planned to withdraw a large sum of money, make the bank your last stop. Do not leave cash unattended in a vehicle while you enter another business. If you suspect you are being followed after leaving the bank, do not go home. Drive to the nearest police station or a busy, well-lit public area and dial 911.

5. Secure Your Vehicle

Always lock your vehicle and roll up your windows, even if you are only stepping away for a minute. Park in a well-lit, high-traffic area. Do not leave your valuables – such as purses or laptops - in your car, which acts as a magnet for vehicle burglars.

6. See Something, Say Something

If you notice suspicious activity in a bank parking lot, notify bank management or local law enforcement immediately. Your tip could prevent a crime before it happens.

In an emergency, dial 911. Report crime and suspicious behavior to the UC Irvine Police Department at **949-824-5223**.

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