



## VERNON COLLEGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### SAFETY TIPS



#### PERSONAL SAFETY STARTS WITH YOU:

- ✓ Trust your instincts.
- ✓ Show confidence in yourself.
- ✓ Stay alert to your surroundings.

#### THEFT PREVENTION:

- ✓ NEVER leave personal items unattended or unsecured.

#### CLEAN OUT YOUR PURSE OR WALLET:

- ✓ Limit credit cards / Try to only carry one credit card if possible.
- ✓ Do not carry your Social Security Card in your wallet or purse.
- ✓ Limit the amount of cash on your person.
- ✓ Make sure your keys are always easily accessible.

#### ALWAYS HAVE THE CELL PHONE HANDY:

- ✓ Make sure it is completely charged before going out.
- ✓ Have emergency numbers and contacts programmed into your phone.

#### MAINTAIN AND CLEAN YOUR VEHICLE:

- ✓ Clean inside and out – this will make your vehicle less vulnerable to criminals.
- ✓ Always place valuables and bought items in your trunk.
- ✓ Always maintain your vehicle (tire pressure, fluids, etc.).
- ✓ Never leave vehicle parked in one area for a long period of time.

#### RESIDENCE HALLS:

- ✓ Never leave posted notes on your door.
- ✓ Never leave your door or window unlocked or propped open.
- ✓ Never invite unknown guests to your room.
- ✓ Always lock up valuables in your room.

#### PARKING YOUR VEHICLE:

- ✓ Park your vehicle so it will be easy for you to find.
- ✓ Park your vehicle in a well-lit area at night.
- ✓ Lock all doors and roll all windows up before exiting.
- ✓ Scan the area while exiting or entering your vehicle.
- ✓ Always walk with a purpose and with confidence; make eye-to-eye contact with anyone in close proximity; Never act lost!
- ✓ Have your keys in your hand ready to open the door when approaching your vehicle.
- ✓ Try to have free hands from book bags, etc.
- ✓ When you enter your car, lock the doors, and quickly and safely exit the parking lot.

#### WALKING ON COLLEGE PROPERTY:

- ✓ Avoid isolated areas.
- ✓ Learn the geography and routes.
- ✓ Dress sensible – avoid flashy and expensive clothing or purses.
- ✓ Learn where the Emergency phones are located.
- ✓ Use the buddy system (walking with others) when walking at night.

#### WALKING IN CROSSWALKS AND INTERSECTIONS:

- ✓ Watch for each car as it approaches to ensure it stops (eye contact).
- ✓ Take earphones and earplugs out of ears.
- ✓ Do not text while crossing a road.
- ✓ Get off the phone!

#### REPORT TO POLICE:

- ✓ Any suspicious person or activities.
- ✓ If you witness a crime.

**Do not be afraid to Call or Text 911!**