



# City of Cambridge Police Department

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Robert C. Haas  
Police Commissioner

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## COMMUNITY INFO: Cambridge Police Share Street Robbery Prevention Tips

**May 4, 2011** – The Cambridge Police Department would like to remind residents that, as warmer weather approaches, street robberies and other crimes typically increase across the city as more people venture outside to walk and participate in outdoor activities. Expensive electronic devices (cell phones, mp3 players, laptops, etc.) are often targeted by would-be thieves and people are encouraged to keep these items out of plain sight.

In order to help protect residents from becoming a victim of such crimes, Cambridge Police would like to remind students and citizens to take the following precautions when walking at night:

- Be aware of your surroundings at all times and trust your instincts.
- Always walk with a friend or in a group when possible.
- Walk with confidence on the street and at a good, steady pace. Keep your head up and observe your surroundings. Don't look down at the ground.
- Do not wear earbuds, headphones, or listen to music while walking alone.
- If you feel you are being followed, show you are suspicious – Turn to look at the person. This sends a clear message that you will not be taken by surprise.
- Change directions. If someone is following you on foot, cross the street and vary your pace. If the person following you is in a car, turn and walk in the opposite direction.
- If approached, **DO NOT RESIST**, especially if you know or believe the robber to be armed. The best course of action is to hand over money and whatever other belongings are demanded as quickly as possible and try to disengage from this confrontational and potentially dangerous situation as soon as possible. Remember, things can always be replaced.
- Try to remember descriptive information about the robber (height, age, race, etc.) to relay to police when reporting the incident.

More safety tips are available via the Cambridge Police Department website at [http://www.cambridgema.gov/CityOfCambridge\\_Content/documents/street%20saftety.pdf](http://www.cambridgema.gov/CityOfCambridge_Content/documents/street%20saftety.pdf)

If you spot a crime or suspicious activity, anonymous tips may be sent to Cambridge Police via text message by sending a text to Tip411 (847411). Begin your message with Tip650 and then type your message. You will receive a response from the Cambridge Police with the option to continue communicating. *Please remember, if you witness a crime **in progress**, please call 9-1-1 immediately.*

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PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
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