



## Minnesota Crime Prevention Association's Crime Prevention Tips

The MCPA strives to bring current information regarding prevention topics to its members. Please use these prevention tips to promote safety to the citizens of your community. These tips are great for brochures, newsletters, e-mails, etc.

### Topic: **How to Report Suspicious Activity**

The time it takes to respond to a crime in progress is a determining factor in the apprehension of a criminal. A delay in reporting a crime by a couple of minutes greatly reduces law enforcement effectiveness. Commit yourself to calling in all suspicious activity without delay. It is better to call in a few mistakes than to have one person become a victim of a crime.

- ✍ Call **911** for emergency situations
- ✍ State clearly what kind of assistance you need (Police, Fire, or Medical)
- ✍ Stay on the phone and answer all of the questions that the operator asks you
- ✍ **Do not hang up the phone until the operator tells you to**
- ✍ The operators are professionals and will guide you through the entire phone call with questions
- ✍ Know and give EXACT location where the assistance is required
- ✍ Be sure to remain calm and to speak clearly (don't shout or scream into the phone)
- ✍ Emergency calls are prioritized according to the degree that persons or property are being threatened.