

## Safety Tips While Riding Public Transportation

Prepared by Members of the Colma Police Department

Plan your trip.

"Call backs" are a good idea. Advise a family member, friend or co-worker of your travel route and time and all them when you arrive safely.

Have your exact fare ready before you leave your home, office or a store. This way you won't have to fumble for your money at the fare box or display extra cash.

Use a busy and well-lit bus stop to get on and off a bus.

While waiting for public transportation, stay near the attendant's stand or in a well-lighted area.

Find a seat on the aisle if possible. This allows you to observe everything around you and to avoid getting "boxed in" against the window.

Sit near the driver or operator, but avoid sitting right next to the door. Thieves may try to snatch jewelry or personal belongings from people near the door and exit quickly.

Don't doze off or become too engrossed in a book. It can make you an easy target.

Keep your purse, shopping bag, backpack, packages or other belongings in your lap, on your arm or between your feet. Do not leave them on an empty seat.

Avoid displaying expensive looking watches, rings, necklaces or other jewelry. Don't invite trouble.

Be wary of noisy passengers arguing or causing a commotion. This could be staged to distract you while others are trying to steal your valuables.

Observe the behavior of those around you. If you feel uneasy or threatened, change your seat or alert the driver.

Minimize the chances of losing your property by avoiding crowded buses.