

PERSONAL SAFETY WHILE DRIVING

Before driving your car:

- Be sure your car is in good running condition by having regular maintenance.
- Have your door and ignition keys ready when you get close to your vehicle.
- Look behind the front seat before getting in to make sure no one is hidden on the floor waiting for you.
- Right after you get in, lock all the doors and roll up the windows.
- Keep a pad and pencil handy, either in the glove compartment or in the visor.
- Keep your valuables out of sight, not on the seat next to you.

Whenever possible, travel on well lighted, busy streets.

Try to always be aware of your exact location.

Remember landmarks and place names around you.

Travel with a cell phone or coins for an emergency phone call.

Keep the car in gear while stopped at traffic lights. If you are threatened, hold down the horn and drive away as soon as possible.

Never pick up hitchhikers.

If your car breaks down in an isolated area:

- Raise the hood.
- Sit inside the car with the doors locked until help arrives.

- Leave the windows up while you talk to whoever comes near. It may be safer to stay in your car than to go with strangers to get help.
- If someone comes up to your car and you do not have a cell phone, ask them to phone the police or a tow truck, etc. and wait in your car.
- Remember that highways are frequently patrolled.

If you think you are being followed by a person in another car:

- Do not go home.
- Drive to the nearest police station or open business. If you have a cell phone call 911.
- Do not allow another car to force you to the side of the road.
- Use your horn to get attention and call for help.
- If possible, get the license number and write it down.

When you arrive at your destination:

- Park in a well-lighted spot as near as possible to your destination.
- Look around for people before leaving your car.
- If you must leave your key in the vehicle when parking in an attended lot, remove it from the key ring and take all other keys with you.
- Keep the registration and insurance information with you.
- Lock your car.