Downtown Indianapolis and Parking Garage Safety

Presented by Officer Tony Brown, Community Relations Officer Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department

General Downtown Safety Tips

- # If you feel you are being followed, here are some options:
 - Go to a public place with others present.
 - o Keep an eye on the person and memorize details in case you need to give a description.
 - o Call 911 and provide the description.
 - Yell out to bring attention to yourself.
 - Approach a stranger and start speaking to them as if you know them. This will throw potential perpetrator off.
- Don't carry a weapon unless you are well trained to use it. Otherwise it can be used against you.
- Car theft and issues with panhandlers are two of the biggest issues IMPD deals with in the Downtown District. They do undercover work to address both.
- # Panhandlers downtown are not committing a crime until they approach you or talk to you.
- Pick-pocketing is not a big issue in the Downtown District but the number of incidents increase during large Downtown events.
- Make sure you are paying attention to your surroundings.
- Tou are more likely to become a victim if you walk with your head down, not looking around you.
- Look at the people that speak to you so can describe them if you are ever asked to do so.

Parking Garage Safety Tips

- Pay attention to your surroundings.
- Park in well lit areas.
- 4 Avoid parking by pillars as a person could hide there.
- When you are scared or sense danger, listen to your instincts:
 - o Go get someone else
 - o As you are approaching your vehicle, if you don't feel right, walk away
 - o Press the panic button on your vehicle's keyless entry device
- 4 Always have your keys out as your approach your vehicle
- Don't place your purse on the passenger side seat, place on floor
- Don't leave any valuables in sight in your vehicle, including your GPS