

**From:** Monegan, Walt C (DOC)  
**Sent:** Friday, January 08, 2016 7:27 PM  
**To:** DOC - All officers I-III  
**Subject:** In Case...

Folks – I understand many of you may feel uneasy with some of the community response to the news stories on the released videos. I would like to remind you that I have had a few years in law enforcement here, and cases of violence against targeted public officials here in this state are rare, and the few we have had were recent but had been focused upon on-duty police officers. Still, here are a few suggestion that you might consider when out and about.

**From:** Wallace, Jimmie L (DOC)

Employees can walk out together- force in numbers.  
Employees can change out of their work uniform when getting off duty.  
They can carry a very bright flashlight, one that strobes is very distracting during a problem encounter.  
Being aware of their surroundings and if they see something suspicious in the parking lot report it immediately.  
Making sure that they are not followed home, by traveling different routes occasionally.

**From:** Wyckoff, Jacob A (DOC)

Also as an FYI we will be conducting an Officer Safety / Officer Survival course in the PO Academy January 14<sup>th</sup> from 0800-1100.

All good suggestions, though you might also consider:

- Have an “on-duty” keep eyes on off-duty staff leaving the complex until departing staff drives off the property
- When approaching your vehicle, scan it for people, tracks, objects, or liquids underneath your vehicle, be especially aware that nothing is propped up against your tires. (liquids –fuel/brake fluid = cut lines)
- Have car keys in hand with car key extended to insert in door lock immediately, and look inside before entering; and once inside - lock doors, key in ignition, and start car before further settling in.
- If snow/ice removal necessary, do so while car is running and on-duty still has “eyes on” you
- If notes or package are found on vehicle, do not touch and obtain assistance from on-duty supervision to determine appropriate response – such as: take photos, preserve fingerprint evidence, call police
- At home, lower window blinds when dark outside
- Have home’s outdoor lights in working order, motion sensor lights are preferred
- If unknown vehicles pass your home at slower than usual speeds, take note on date/time/description of vehicle if possible
- Alert trusted neighbors to be mindful of similar suspicious activities

- During daylight, occasionally walk around home for suspicious tracks/objects etc.; if found photograph and call police for any suspicious/threatening objects
- Talk to family if age appropriate to be mindful of suspicious activity – play “what if..” scenarios with them that will provide them with ideas and a sense of self-control (plan) in emergencies
- Preserve email/letters/phone messages that are threatening and alert police
- And finally, trust your instincts – if it doesn’t feel right, proceed with caution

Carrying weapons are more problematic; every year cops all across the country are shot with their own weapons, and they are trained to retain and use specialized equipment to keep weapons secure – but still lose them and have them used on them. OC spray is preferred as less lethal and requires less accuracy in an emergency close up situation. Ultimately, your best defense is you; be watchful and surprise is less likely.

Again, such talk in the comments section of news articles and those on facebook are usually from a few that have issues and/or histories that prompt them to speak out; paying attention to them only because they are fixated on us is making it seem personal, but I have seen familiar names of many that are speaking out now who have also spoken out on many other unrelated issues. My advice is to take all this ranting with a grain of salt. You work everyday with similar folks, so you understand how such talk erupts. Don’t get rattled by the chatter, you are all professionals – in calmly conducting yourselves in your daily life, you will reassure your family, your love ones, and this community, that we will remain focused upon our mission.

Hope this helps.  
Walt



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