• **Plan for flat tire or car trouble.** Make sure you review your insurances, roadside assistance, AAA and other automobile club accounts and rules in advance of your trip.

• **First aid and other gear.** When traveling in northern climates, make sure you bring provisions, like food and water, blankets and a first aid kit in the event of severe weather.

The Crime Prevention Division at UAB is highly dedicated to ensuring the safety of the students, employees, and surrounding community of the University of Alabama in Birmingham. As the holiday season vastly approaches, we ask that you remember and utilize the tips on the holiday safety and we wish you a Happy Holiday Season!!!

“Fail to prepare, Prepare to Fail”

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**Assistant Vice President** &  
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**Anthony B. Purcell**

**Sponsored by:**  
**UAB Campus Watch**

“Providing a safe and healthy environment throughout the holiday season”
**Trick-or-Treat**

- **Have adult supervision.** Accompany your kids if you don’t think they’re old enough to trick-or-treat on their own.
- **There is safety in numbers.** If they’re old enough to trick-or-treat without an adult, tell your kids to stay in a group.
- **Try tick-or-treat-friendly homes.** Ensure your kids only visit houses with lights on. And, you might also suggest the houses they visit have some sort of Halloween decoration on the porch.
- **Remain visible.** Dress your kids in a bright costume so others can see them. If their costume is dark, have your kids wear reflective strips or carry a glow stick or flashlight.
- **Remember, shorter safer.** Goes without saying but just in case you forget, ensure your kids’ costumes aren’t so long that they can trip over them.
- **Don’t cover the face.** Instead of masks, have your kids wear make-up so they can see better.
- **Have a great time!** Finally, make sure your kids have tons of fun and get lots and lots of candy.

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**“SHOP ‘TIL YOU DROP”**

Shopping during the holiday season can present unique danger. Taking a few prevention measures can help keep your holiday season joyous.

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.

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**TIS’ THE SEASON TO BE CAREFUL**

Christmas and holiday season are busy times on the nation's highways. Whatever the reason for hitting the road this Christmas holiday season, here are some helpful tips to secure your safety.

- **Have an itinerary.** Make sure you write up an itinerary and share it with others, particularly noting your estimated time of departure and arrival.
- **Keep your cell phone charged and handy.** If driving, make sure you check in during stops along the way with friends and loved ones at your destination.
- **Keep map, GPS and directions handy.** Make sure you map out your trip in advance of departure, and keep this material close by during the drive.
- **Stick to main roads and highways.** As much as possible, stay on well-lit main roads and highways.