Basic Street Sense

- Wherever you are — on the street, in an office or waiting for public transportation — stay alert and tuned into your surroundings.

- Send the message that you are calm, confident and know where you’re going.

- Trust your instincts. If something or someone makes you uneasy, avoid the person or place.

- Know the neighborhoods where you live and work. Check out the locations of police and fire departments, hospitals and emergency call boxes.

Department of Public Safety
(617) 414-4444
www.bumc.bu.edu/publicsafety
Workplace Violence
Violence in the workplace takes many forms, from raised voices and profanity or sexual harassment, to robbery or homicide. Boston University Medical Center is committed to promoting and maintaining a safe and secure environment for its faculty and staff, employees, students and visitors. Violent behavior, threats of violence, or physical intimidation will not be tolerated in the Boston University Medical Center workplace.

Is your office secure? Do you have good lighting, locked doors, and emergency buttons on your phones?

Check the identity of strangers who are in your office. Ask whom they are visiting and if you can help them find that person.

Anyone who believes that he or she is a victim of threatening or violent conduct in the workplace, or who observes such behavior or believes a credible threat of such behavior exists, should immediately report the conduct.

On Wheels
- Always roll up windows and lock your car when you park.
- Don’t pick up hitchhikers.
- Avoid parking in isolated areas.
- Leave enough space to pull around the vehicle in front of you when you are stopped in traffic or at a red light.

Common Trouble Spots
- **Stairwells and out-of-way corridors**
  Don’t use the stairs alone. Talk to a building manager about improving poorly lighted corridors and stairways.
- **Elevators**
  Don’t get into an elevator with people who look out of place or behave in a strange or threatening manner.
- **Restrooms**
  Attackers can hide in stalls and corners. Make sure restrooms are locked and only employees have keys.
- **After hours**
  Don’t work late alone. Create a buddy system for walking to parking lots and public transportation, or ask the Department of Public Safety for an escort.
  (617) 414-4444

On Foot
Day and Night
- Stick to well-lighted, well-traveled streets. Avoid shortcuts through wooded areas, parking lots, or alleys.
- Don’t flash large amounts of cash or other tempting targets like jewelry or expensive clothing.
- Carry your purse close to your body, don’t let it dangle by the strap. Put a wallet in a front or inside pocket.
- Have your car or house key in hand before you reach the door.
- If you think someone is following you, switch directions or cross the street. Walk toward an open store, restaurant or well-lighted house.
- If you are scared, yell for help.

On Buses and Subways
- Use well-lighted, busy stops.
- Stay alert! Don’t dose or daydream.
- If someone harasses you, use your voice. Loudly say “leave me alone!” If that doesn’t work, hit the emergency device.
- Watch who gets off with you. If you feel uneasy, walk directly to a place where there are a lot of people

IF YOU ARE BEING ROBBED
- Don’t resist. Give up your property; don’t give up your life.
- Report the crime to the police. Try to describe the attacker accurately. Your actions can help prevent others from being victims.