



## FSA – Keeping You Safe

### Preventing Cell Phone Theft

As cell phones become more sophisticated, more popular and more expensive, cell phone theft across the U.S. is on the rise. In Orange County Florida, Sheriff's detectives have seen a significant increase in robbery crimes, where the victims are targeted specifically for their cell phone.

When devices are stolen, identity theft becomes a major concern, as personal information is often stored in cell phone devices. To protect your cell phone and personal data against loss or theft, keep your cell phone stored in a secure place when not in use and avoid using your phone when you are in a public place in full view of passers-by.

Recently phones have been forcibly removed from individuals sitting on benches, waiting at bus stops and walking down the street. In addition, using security applications and removing personal information from your cell phone and other electronic devices will help prevent robbers from easily accessing your personal information. We also encourage you to follow these tips from the Orange County Sheriff's Office:

- Protect your cell phone with a password
- Take a picture of your phone's serial/IMEI number located on the box it came in, and email it to yourself
- Use anti-theft software on your mobile device, e.g. "Find My Iphone"
- Don't use your phone when walking around in public where your cell phone is visible to others Be
- aware of your surroundings
- Register your phone with your network operator the moment you know your phone is missing

*For more tips please visit the Florida Sheriffs Association's Crime Prevention Tips: [flsheriffs.org/crime-prevention](http://flsheriffs.org/crime-prevention)*