



FSA – Keeping You Safe

How to Protect Your Valuables at the Beach

Ah, sweet summertime on the beach. Just imagine: You're on the beach with your closest friends and family, celebrating the warm weather and good company. You watch your family enjoy the beautiful Florida waves as your toes slowly get buried in the sand with each time the tide sweeps across your feet. As you take a sip of your ice cold lemonade and walk back to your towel, you think to yourself, "I should take a picture of everyone having a good time!" As you approach your towel, you reach down into your beach bag only to find that you cannot find your phone—it's missing. In a state of panic, you begin to notice that you cannot find any of your belongings; your wallet, your necklace, even your car keys are missing. You've been a victim of theft.

While a day at the beach is always a fun time, unfortunately it is also an opportune time for thieves to steal the valuables and personal belongings of innocent beach goers. It's easy to let your belongings slip your mind as you enjoy some fun in the sun. However, simple awareness of the safety and secureness of your belongings is all it takes to prevent yourself from becoming a victim of theft on the beach. We encourage you to increase your awareness by following these and more tips from Brevard County [Sheriff Wayne Ivey](#):

- Don't bring all your items to the beach; you only need a few things to ensure you have a great day out in the sun such as towels, sunscreen, snacks, water, and beach toys.
- Never leave anything in plain view inside of your vehicle. If you do leave a valuable item in your car, lock it in the trunk of the vehicle.
- When parking your vehicle be sure to lock your car and roll up your windows.
- Don't leave your valuables unattended—if you wouldn't leave your car keys, cell phone or valuable jewelry on a park bench unattended, you certainly shouldn't leave it on a towel!
- If you have valuables with you on the beach, take turns swimming to look after your belongings.
- Don't hide your keys inside the tail pipe or behind the gas cover; that's the first place someone would look.
- Use a waterproof key holder (with a flotation device) that you can secure around your neck or wrist while swimming.

For more tips, please visit the [Florida Sheriffs Association's Crime Prevention Tips](#).