



City of
OAKLAND
California

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PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY

Increase in Street Robberies/Gold Chains

The Oakland Police Department would like to make the community aware of an increase in street robberies in which the suspects are targeting victims wearing gold chains. The crimes are occurring throughout the city; however there is a concentration of incidents committed in the Fruitvale business area, the area surrounding the Fruitvale Bart Station, and the residential areas around Lake Merritt. The majority of the victims have been female and the suspects usually approach them on foot, snatch the chain from the neck, and run away. At this time it appears that there are several groups of suspects committing these crimes and the suspect descriptions have been varied but mainly described as African American and Latino men in their teens and early twenties.

The Oakland Police Department is working diligently to address this issue. We have partnered with the Bart Police Department for focused patrols around the Bart stations, our Problem Solving Officers are working with investigators to follow up on leads and our Neighborhood Service Coordinators will be out in the community providing safety awareness information

Please be aware when going about your daily activities including coming to and from your home. The following safety tips are being provided as reminders:

- 1) Always be aware of your surroundings and don't become distracted by electronic devices including cell phones.
- 2) Stay in well lit and populated areas when traveling alone.
- 3) Be especially alert when coming and going from your vehicle.
- 4) If you chose to wear gold jewelry, wear it under your clothing until you reach your destination
- 5) If someone or something looks suspicious please call the police.
- 6) Program your cell phone with the OPD emergency number: **510-777-3211**.

For more information, please contact the Media Relations Office at 510.238.7230 or opdmedia@oaklandnet.com.

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