

## Crimestoppers

### Tips for Staying Safe during the 2008 Carnival Season

Crimestoppers would like to wish everyone a happy 2008 Carnival season. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to stay safe. If you witness any crime over the holiday, please contact us at 822-1111. You will remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward.

There are several important ways you can keep yourself from being a victim of crime this holiday season. First, do not drink in excess. Not only does drinking increase your chances in being in a collision, it also makes you an attractive target for crime. Also, especially if you will be out and about on the streets, do not dress in expensive clothes or wear expensive jewelry. Lastly, whether you are with friends or family, choose a landmark where your group plans to meet in the event that anyone gets lost from the group.

We would like to offer the following safety tips from our partner in fighting crime, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office. You can also access this and other information at their Web site, [www.jpso.com/MG\\_Safety.htm](http://www.jpso.com/MG_Safety.htm).

- Teach your children their name and phone number.
- Mark your children's clothes on the inside with name, address and phone number.
- Go to the same area to view parades if possible and teach your child a landmark to meet if separated.
- Teach your child not to be afraid of police officers and if possible take them up to one prior to the parade.
- If no police officer is in your area teach your child to go to another parent with children for help.
- Teach your child to say, "You're not my Parent", to a stranger that talks to him or her and to get away.
- Never allow children in the street, try to find an area with barricades and stand behind them.
- Never follow behind floats, bands, etc.
- Never run after throws.
- Teach your children never to eat the candy that is thrown before an adult checks it. 09
- Don't put your hands on the ground.
- Don't fight over throws.
- Never throw anything at the riders.
- Put small children in a ladder off the street as far back as the ladder is tall, and have an adult stay with the ladder at all times.