



## Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Bob Fletcher, Sheriff

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### Community Support and Crime Prevention Services

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Dear Business Owners & Managers,

The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Team is writing to make you aware of upcoming events that may affect the safety and operations of your business.

The high-profile court proceedings involving former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin are underway in Minneapolis. They are expected to draw people from across the country to the Twin Cities for protests, marches and demonstrations.

The Sheriff's Office has been an active participant of the multiorganizational effort to coordinate public safety activities throughout the metro area. The goal is to protect people, property and free speech during the trial—and prevent the type of destruction that occurred last year when some used the cloak of protest to burglarize and burn businesses. While the destruction in 2020 was primarily located within the city limits of St. Paul and Minneapolis, there is always risk that unrest could move beyond past concentrated areas.

We are asking our business partners to participate in the collaborative effort to better protect you, your employees, your customers, and your investments. Here are four items for consideration:

**Accurate Contact Information.** When emergency incidents happen, accurate information helps resolve problems more efficiently during both initial high stress and later paperwork stages. Attached is a list of information that deputies will seek should your business be involved in a service call. We suggest you complete the form, which you can share in advance with the Sheriff's Office or have handy to provide to a responding deputy.

**Proactive Reporting.** If you see something - say something. If you, or one of your employees observe criminal activity, or anything out of the ordinary, please call 9-1-1 and report it as soon as it is safe to do so.

**Prevention and Precautionary Measures.** Each business has unique operations and circumstances that influence security and prevention. There are common steps such as to securely lock up valuables, or remove them entirely, from the business at the end of the day. Proactively review your prevention needs and measures.

**Working Security Tools.** If your business has a security camera or alarm system, ensure it is functioning, and employees know how to use it. Good video will help us identify perpetrators in the case of an incident.

Thank you for your cooperation and support as we navigate these turbulent times together. If you have any questions, please give us a call.

Dan Young | Sergeant, Community Support Services

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