



Emerging Trends in Retail theft

Targets:

Fragrances, Clothing, Health & Beauty, Fresh packaged refrigerated meat

Method used to conceal stolen items:

Carry Bags - Enviro bags, carry bags, store bags, handbags

Prams - without babies, stolen items placed under blankets

Booster Box - bags or boxes lined with aluminium foil to shield security tags from antennas

Recent Scams

Local businesses have been targeted by telemarketers posing as representatives of NSW Police and staff from the Office of Crime Prevention. The phone operators state that they are representing a journal called the “Crime Prevention Review” and claiming that it is supported by the NSW Police Force and NSW Department of Education. The callers request businesses to donate money to fund a school education kit which they claim is distributed to all schools and police stations around the state and contains information about drug and alcohol awareness for teenagers. The callers further claim that the journal is “highly regarded as an education and prevention tool for the youth”. This journal is not supported by either Government department.

S/C Allen Crime Prevention Officer with Mudgee Police urges any local business that receives a call from a person representing the “Crime Prevention Review” to refuse to donate any money. If a business happens to find that they have been caught up in this scam they are urged to contact their local police or the department of Fair Trading.

Broken Windows

Whilst the debate continues on the potential for CCTV cameras in the CBD and related privacy issues, some tips from local Police include: after hours, turn your under-awning or shop-front lights on, point at least one internal security camera towards the window and ensure your cameras are recording overnight. If you have a window broken, consider the possibility of replacing the glass with polycarbonate or perspex type sheets. Your insurance company may assist you with the extra cost.