



Health Talents International, Inc.

A Ministry of Teaching and Healing

To: HTI Volunteers
From: Rick Harper
Re: HTI Volunteer Team Member Security Precautions
Date: 3/7/2014

Following a 2009 review of our security practices with an international consulting firm, HTI developed some personal security tips we'd like to pass on to you. Most of them are common sense and applicable to US and international travel.

Please do not be alarmed with this information, instead take comfort in the knowledge that we have given considerable thought to your safety and that of our ministry team in Guatemala.

Each of these precautions is more critical when we are in areas of high crime and most are applicable in all settings.

Currently, the only time our volunteer surgical teams and mobile teams travel through areas of high crime is upon departure from the airport and until we are approximately 30 KM from Guatemala City. As part of our normal travel plans, we travel during daylight and in a two or three vehicle caravan.

Automobile Security

- When driving in urban areas with traffic congestion, stop signs or stop lights... lock your door and keep your window rolled up.
- Always close and lock your door, without exception.
- Avoid all forms of jewelry with any value.
- Avoid clothing with corporate or business logos, especially international companies that are readily recognized.
- Keep valuables out of sight and inside the vehicle.

Personal & Family Security

- In the event of robbery, keep some "quick release" cash in your front pocket or an easily retrievable location. The thief may be satisfied in his or her haste and not request your billfold or purse.
- Know your PIN numbers for any credit cards you are carrying. In most cases, those are not known by travelers, but the thief will not believe you don't know. Know it or leave them at home!
- You have a 70% less chance of harm if you are traveling with at least one other person, whenever possible, travel in twos.
- Do not resist armed robbers or kidnappers.
- If accosted, try to remain calm, be patient and do as instructed.