



Organized Retail Theft

Organized retail theft can involve two or more people illegally obtaining retail merchandise through theft and fraud. The objective of these crimes is to steal from retail stores for financial gain and not for personal use.



According to the National Retail Federation, “Organized retail crime was on the rise before 2020, but the societal changes and shift to digital from the pandemic have led to an increase in the problem.” A 2021 survey found that more than two-thirds of retailers said the pandemic increased the overall risk for their organization, and 57 percent noticed a rise in organized retail crime.

Learn how you can partner with RCPD to help keep your business safe from these crimes.

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POSSIBLE INDICATORS

Possible Indicators that Someone Might Be Planning Organized Retail Theft

- Individuals asking your business questions about staff and security.
- Individuals observing entryways and exits to your business.
- Individuals wearing excessive clothing to disguise themselves.
- Individuals carrying large bags and totes.
- Usually, there are two or more people that seem to be working together and possibly a “getaway driver.”

PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY

- Observe and monitor your business entryways and exits constantly.
- Have “greeters” at your business entrance.
- Develop and regularly discuss emergency plans with your employees.
- Consider installing a video camera that will clearly record someone attempting to break into your business. Ensure cameras are on and in working order.
- Remove and secure high value merchandise when your business is closed.
- Recognize products that are valuable and in high demand.
- Stay alert at all times.

RANCHO CORDOVA REPORT

RCPD is asking businesses to report any and all criminal activity. If a theft occurs at your business:

- Call 911.
- Direct employees and customers to stay clear of perpetrators.
- Make note of assailants, tactics, and getaway vehicles, if possible.
- If CCTV video is captured and available, offer that information to law enforcement.

