

For Immediate Release

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Press Release

Hoboken Police Department warns public to beware of cellphone pickpocketing

The Hoboken Police Department is advising residents of an uptick in cellphone thefts in the region and is encouraging residents and visitors to protect their property from this crime of opportunity.

Investigators have received over two-dozen reports of so-called “apple picking,” or cell phone thefts and pickpocketing in Hoboken so far this year. The thefts take place in crowded local bars and restaurants, in which criminals stake out the establishment and wait for patrons to leave their phones unattended, out of sight, or easily accessible.

HPD advises the following to help individuals avoid falling victim to this crime:

- Never leave your cellphone unattended
- If keeping your cellphone in a pocket, make sure it’s in the front and not the back pocket
- Always keep purses in front of your body, even when sitting
- Don’t keep cash, credit cards, or personal identification in your phone case

If your phone is stolen, file a police report immediately. Anyone with information on recent cellphone thefts or pickpocketing, is asked to contact Police Officer Daniel Grossi with the Hoboken Detective Bureau, at GrossiD@Hobokenpdnj.gov.

