



# St. Johns County Sheriff's Office

*"Taking Care of People"*

## **Credit Card Security Precautions**

The fraudulent use of credit cards is not limited to the loss of theft of actual credit cards. A capable criminal only needs to know your credit card number to fraudulently make numerous charges, including cash withdrawals, against your account.

The following are a number of crime prevention tips or recommendations to guard against the illegal use of your credit cards:

- Photocopy both the front and back of all your credit cards and keep the copies in a safe and secure location. This will enable you to cancel your credit card as soon as possible if it is lost or stolen.
- Endorse all credit cards as soon as they arrive.
- It is advisable not to carry credit cards in your wallet or purse. Carry them separately if possible.
- When you write a check, never allow the salesperson to write down your credit card number on the check. If paying by credit card, never let the salesperson write down your driver's license or social security number.
- Avoid signing a blank receipt, whenever possible. Draw a line through blank spaces above the total when you sign card receipts.

These are only a few suggestions to help safeguard your credit cards from fraudulent use. Contact the SJSO Crime Prevention Deputy to arrange a presentation at your organization to learn more about financial crimes and credit card fraud.