

"The National Safety Council finds as many as two thirds of drivers may be pulling into shopping centers distracted. One in five accidents happen in a parking lot."

**ADDRESS**

176 Johns Hill Road  
Highland Heights, KY 41076

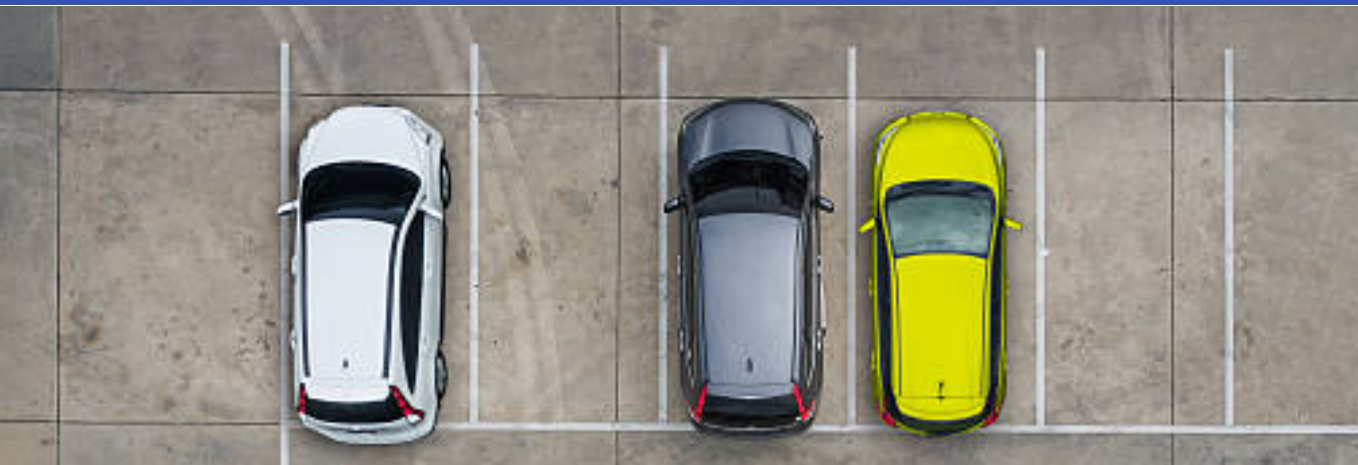
**PHONE**

(859) 441-8956

**E-MAIL**

Clerk Sonoma Moreland  
smoreland@hhky.com

**HIGHLAND HEIGHTS  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**



**PARKING  
LOT SAFETY**

TIPS TO STAY SAFE IN PARKING LOTS

# 8 TIPS FOR PARKING LOT SAFETY

In a National Safety Council public opinion poll, 66% of drivers nationwide said they would make phone calls while driving through parking lots.

Respondents also said they would:

- Program GPS systems (63%)
- Text (56%)
- Use social media (52%)
- Send or receive emails (50%)
- Take photos or watch videos (49%)

NSC found teens (59%) were more likely to engage in personal grooming than adults (53%) while driving in parking lots, but less likely to be on the phone (60% vs. 66%).

## LIGHT IT UP

Always try to find a very well-lit and well-traveled garage or lot to park in. Park as close as you can to a light post.

## SECURE VEHICLE

Always lock your doors and leave your windows fully rolled up.

## URGENCY

When returning to your car, get inside, immediately lock the doors and begin to drive off. Do not sit in your car and make a shopping list, fix your makeup, rummage through your purse, or review your purchases.

## KEYS OUT

Have your keys out before you leave the building - do not wait until you are near your car to start fumbling in your pockets or purse looking for them.

## STAY ORGANIZED

Have everything you need ready and organized before you unlock your doors and try to get out of the car.

## AVOID DISTRACTIONS

Do not talk on your cell phone, text, or listen to loud music when walking through a parking lot. Pay attention to your surroundings at all times.

## COMMON SENSE

Always remember to use your common sense and do everything you can to prioritize your personal protection. If you can avoid traveling at night alone, this is best.

## WATCH OUT

Always watch out for moving vehicles. Anticipate the actions of other drivers. They may not be paying attention to you, the pedestrian.

## SAFETY ALERT!

Safety isn't guaranteed just by driving slowly in parking lots. Following are some safety tips for drivers:

- Stay in lanes and avoid cutting across lots
- Drive slowly and use directional signals
- Anticipate the actions of other drivers
- Obey stop signs and no-parking signs
- When backing out, be mindful of vehicles and pedestrians
- Watch for small children and parents with baby strollers

Choosing the right parking spot can go a long way toward deterring theft and crime.

Consumer Reports provides some simple safety rules:

- Pick spots that are well-lit and close to stores where you will be shopping
- Lock your doors
- Store purchases in places that are out of sight (in the trunk or tucked under dark-colored blankets)

Large parking lots, such as those found at shopping malls, are considered most vulnerable to crime, according to the Urban Institute Justice Policy Center.

One way for consumers to steer clear of trouble is to pick a lot where pedestrian traffic is restricted and video surveillance equipment is used to monitor the facility.