

SAFETY TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION

While working on Convention business or enjoying the Florida hospitality, remember to keep to Safety first! Here are just a few things to ponder:

CHECK THE WEATHER

As you get ready to travel to the convention or planning day trips around the Convention city, check the forecast. Thunderstorms or other extreme weather conditions could alter your outdoor fun.

HEAT ILLNESS/SUN

If you are going to spend time in the sun, protect yourself from getting burnt. Wear sunglasses, especially near the water. Be sure to drink plenty of water to stay hydrated and avoid overheating. Heat exhaustion and heat stroke are potential problems. Headache, dizziness, fainting, weakness, irritability, thirst, nausea, or vomiting are all early signs that you need to get out of the heat. If you feel faint, are confused, or if you vomit, get help.

EXIT ROUTES

Unfamiliar places can be exciting (hotel rooms, convention halls, restaurants) but take note of where the nearest exits are. Upon entering your hotel room, look at the back of your hotel door and read where the nearest stairwell or exit is on your floor and out of the hotel. If there is an emergency evacuation of the Diplomat Hotel, the gathering point is across the street at the Diplomat Landing.

VIOLENCE

If there is an act of violence, the recommended action is: First, quickly take a moment to assess what is going on. Second, if there is an exit route, use it. Next, hide out in a designated shelter area, a locked office, or anywhere out of sight. As a last resort, if your life is in imminent danger, fight back.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY

Hotel security and staff are trained in AED/First Aid/CPR. Find a staff member, they can assist and

get additional help. Dial 28888 on a hotel phone or 911 on your cell phone if you need assistance. In an emergency away from the hotel, dial 911.

HOTEL EMERGENCY PLAN

The Hotel has trained staff, alarm and P.A. systems to alert guests of any emergencies or evacuations. If there is an emergency, and you are in no immediate danger, remain in place and listen for instructions. The alarm is a continuous short siren and strobes, followed by an automatic voice announcement.

TRAFFIC

Traveling by car? Familiarize yourself with the area, plan out your route with a map or GPS. Be aware of different driving patterns and give yourself plenty of time to make the trip. When walking, use crosswalks and always look both ways!

WATER SAFETY

Surf's up! Time to hit those waves. Florida uses a flag warning system to make swimmers aware of hazards. Yellow and red warn of current and tide hazards. A purple flag indicates a marine life hazard. Going boating? Check the weather, and wear a life jacket.

CRITTER HAZARDS

For those going on an Everglades tour, the guides will tell you about the reptiles and other animals that you could come in contact with. However, it is the mosquito that delegates will most likely come in contact with. A little repellent might be a good idea to avoid the bites.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information or to report an incident, contact Kent Jorgensen, Safety Committee Chair, 213-999-1164.

