

- ✓ Do not carry your passport, tickets, identification documents, cash, credit cards and insurance papers together. Keep them separate so that you do not lose everything in the event of theft or loss.
- ✓ Use the safety deposit box at your hotel. Never leave valuables in your room.

Crime and punishment

In the United States you are subject to U.S. laws and regulations. Canadian citizenship confers no immunity, special protection or rights to preferential treatment.

If you are arrested or detained, you can request the arresting officer to inform the nearest Canadian diplomatic mission. Most U.S. jurisdictions provide the services of a lawyer if you cannot afford one. Do not make any special arrangements with the police or prosecutors without the advice and guidance of your lawyer.

The civil and criminal justice systems in the United States differ significantly from those in Canada. For instance, each U.S. state has its own criminal code. Sentences tend to be longer, especially for crimes involving violence, drugs or "white-collar" offences. As a foreigner, you might have difficulty obtaining bail.

In many jurisdictions in the United States there is only limited eligibility for parole if you are convicted. Also, as a foreigner you might have limited opportunity while in prison for further education or training. After conviction