

Internet Purchase Exchange Zone

The Borough of Shrewsbury's Mayor, Council and Police Chief recently established an "Internet Purchase Exchange Zone" in the Municipal Complex Parking Lot. It is their wish to provide a safer alternative to online transactions or exchanges between strangers occurring at homes within the Borough, therefore, two parking spaces located outside of the Police Station, behind the Historical Society, are designated specifically for this purpose. The Zone's proximity to police personnel is meant to increase residents' peace of mind when engaging in such transactions with unfamiliar individuals.

The "Internet Purchase Exchange Zone" will be under video surveillance, however, the Borough can make no guarantees, assurances or promises as to the safety or security of any of the transactions that may occur on Borough property. While the "Internet Purchase Exchange Zone" provides an area for buyers and sellers to meet, it is important to remember that people you meet online are strangers and can pose dangers. Not every buyer or seller you meet online is someone who is true with their intent.

When making arrangements to complete online transactions face-to-face, residents should be reminded to:

- Complete all transactions during daylight hours, if possible
- Bring a cell phone in case of emergency. Dial 911 to reach the Police Department.
- Notify friends or family about the details of the exchange beforehand
- Never invite strangers to your home or agree to meet at a stranger's home
- Reconsider any transaction with an individual who refuses to meet at a designated "Internet Purchase Exchange Zone"

Taking these simple precautions helps make these types of in-person transactions safer for everyone in our communities.

Please note that transactions involving weapons, drugs and drug paraphernalia is not permitted. Borough police officers, or any other Borough Official or staff, will not be permitted to witness, give legal advice, or settle disputes relating to any transactions. The Borough cannot make any guarantees, assurances, or promises with respect to the condition or authenticity of any items exchanged between parties.

For more information about personal safety online, please check out these resources:

- <http://www.staysafeonline.org/>
- <http://www.onguardonline.gov/>
- <http://getsafeonline.org>
- <http://wiredsafety.org>