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Extra security measures in place at Gwinnett Place for shopping season

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By Will Frampton CONNECT

GWINNETT COUNTY, GA (CBS46) - Leaders with the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District will spend more to have more security officers in place at the roughly 170 restaurants, stores, and hotels along Pleasant Hill Road.

The increased security presence begins on Black Friday.

"If we can do things to take the burden off people's minds, make certain they can come to an area that is safe, that is well-maintained, that is clean, that'll make their holidays all the more enjoyable," said Joe Allen, Executive Director of the Gwinnett Place C.I.D.

"We're fighting to change the perception that people have of the greater Gwinnett Place area, this is one of the safest places you can go during the holidays," he said.

The C.I.D. contracts with Paradigm security, whose officers are equipped with handcuffs and tasers. They work closely with Gwinnett Police, and are able to detain suspects until police arrive.

Allen said two to three extra security officers per shift will be in place through the first week of 2016.

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