



Protect Your Vehicle



Theft of and theft from motor vehicles is one of the most common crimes reported to police departments. Items taken range from loose change to expensive computers/electronics. Vehicle parts often taken include a stereos, license plates, truck batteries, and even pieces of the exhaust system.

THE BEST WAY TO PREVENT THEFT FROM, OR THEFT OF, YOUR VEHICLE IS TO PARK IT INSIDE A SECURE LOCATION, LOCK ALL DOORS AND WINDOWS, AND REMOVE ALL VALUABLES AND OTHER ITEMS.

If you must park your vehicle outside make sure there are no valuables inside, or in sight. If you hear a noise or see something suspicious please take the time to look and see what is happening and call 911 right away if you suspect a crime is, or was about to take place.

Please call 911 immediately if you observe any suspicious or criminal activity including:

- Someone loitering in driveway/parking lot & looking into cars
- Someone you don't recognize trying to gain access to a house, car or building
- Someone carrying a weapon or tool that might be used to break in to a vehicle or home
- Juveniles out after curfew
- Sound of breaking glass

Here are a few tips that may help to prevent your vehicle from being targeted:

- Always lock your car, even if you will only be gone for a short time.
- Park in a locked garage whenever possible – removing the keys from the vehicle
- Close and lock all windows
- Remove personal information in your vehicle (SSN, Account #'s, Address)
- Don't hide extra keys in or on your vehicle
- Remove the garage door opener if the vehicle will be parked outside
- Take valuables with you or lock them in the trunk out of sight (Before arriving at your destination in case a would be thief is watching)
- Mark commonly stolen parts or tools with your Operation ID® number and
- Record the model name, number and serial number of valuable property if available
- Take a photo or video record of valuable property and store in a safe place along with the identifying numbers and information you've recorded

Property most often stolen from vehicles:

Gym bags	Sunglasses	Car/truck batteries	Cash/Spare Change
Checkbooks	Cameras	Identification	Tobacco products
Brief cases	CD's	Cell	Anything valuable
License Plates	Car Stereo	Phone/MP3/IPOD	
Exhaust system	Speakers	Laptop Computers	
Purses/Wallets	Tools	Credit Cards	

Remember value is in the eye of the beholder. Even if you have nothing valuable in your bag someone may break your window to get at it if it is in plain sight. Although there is no way to prevent 100% of these crimes, taking these precautions, and calling 911 to report suspicious activity to police immediately will help decrease your chance of becoming a victim, and maybe stop a crime from occurring. If you have any questions regarding this alert or would like more information, please call Crime Prevention Officer Nichole Korth at 763-531-5140. If you have been a victim of a theft please report it to the police department by calling 911 as soon as the theft is discovered.