If Your Vehicle Has Been Broken Into or Stolen

If the crime just occurred and the suspects are there or running away, call "911." If the crime was not witnessed, call (619) 531-2000 for non-emergency police service. Pay close attention to anything that may have been left behind by the suspect. Do not touch any evidence. Depending on circumstances, the report will be taken over the telephone.

Be prepared to provide your license plate number, a list of the missing items, and their serial numbers.

Call 911
For Emergencies

Call (619) 531-2000
To File A Report
Anywhere in the City of San Diego

NORTHEASTERN

Division

For general questions

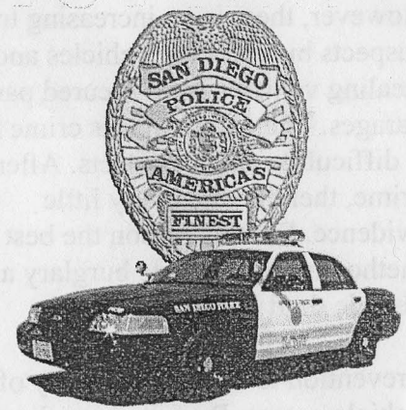
during business hours, M-F

Call: (858)538-8000

This information is available in alternative formats upon request.

Printed on Recycled Paper

Vehicle Burglary and Auto Theft



Prevention

Preventing Vehicle Theft and Vehicle Burglary

In San Diego, many vehicles are stolen or burglarized while parked on the street or in unattended parking lots. However, there is an increasing trend of suspects burglarizing vehicles and stealing vehicles from secured parking garages. The nature of this crime makes it difficult to catch suspects. After the crime, there is often very little evidence. For this reason the best method to stop vehicle burglary and vehicle theft is prevention.

Prevention is the responsibility of the vehicle owner. By following the suggestions on this pamphlet you will make the suspect's job harder and remove the reason for them to be there in the first place. The goal is to make them stop victimizing your neighborhood through prevention.

Leaving Property in Your Vehicle

The number one way to prevent vehicle burglary is to remove everything from the vehicle and lock the doors. Removing property from the vehicle removes the suspect's reason to be there.

Parking Tips

Do not let your guard down when parking in a secured parking garage. Many vehicle thefts and vehicle burglaries occur in these areas. Here are other parking tips:

- Lock the vehicle and roll up windows.
- Do not leave a key with the vehicle, especially Hide-A-Keys.
- Do not leave the vehicle running unattended. Many vehicles are stolen this way.
- Park in well lit areas.
- Use your vehicle security system.
- Use a steering wheel locking device.

Be a Hard Target

Now that you know that suspects have targeted your area, there are a few other measures that you can take to help police.

Do not prop doors open or hold the door open for people to enter your apartment facility. Suspects are not breaking into secure parking garages; they rely on you to let them in.

Report suspicious activity. Suspicious people may be looking into vehicles, appear nervous, appear lost, circling the same area, wearing unusual clothing for the weather conditions (large jacket in summer time or gloves), or be acting as a lookout. When in doubt, call police. Most arrests start as a call from a concerned citizen. When describing the suspect to police, pay attention to details such as height, weight, and clothing.

Record serial numbers and mark property, such as CD's with your driver license number. Your license number is safe and your property can always be connected to the crime.