

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI POLICE DEPARTMENT
DOING VEHICLE-RELATED CRIME



“If I Were A Thief... I could break into your vehicle and steal your things, or the vehicle itself, in about the time it would take me to put this card under your windshield wiper.”

“Your stuff could be gone that fast!”

“If I Were a Thief to stop me, or simply convince me to victimize someone else.”

ALWAYS LOCK YOUR VEHICLE WITH THE WINDOWS ROLLED UP. “Almost half the thefts I pull are from an unlocked vehicle. If a target is too hard – I will move on.”

DO NOT LEAVE ITEMS OF VALUE IN PLAIN VIEW INSIDE YOUR VEHICLE. “I look for things like cell phones, radios, briefcases, laptops, purses, packages, CDs, GPS devices, and other stuff that means quick cash for me. Even loose change could attract me. You better take anything that looks valuable with you.”

KNOW WHEN AND WHERE TO PLACE VALUABLES IN YOUR TRUNK. “I could be watching you arrive at your parking destination – so if you use your trunk, do so well before you park here.”

IF YOU HAVE AN ANTI-THEFT DEVICE, USE IT. “I like to work fast and quietly; so I do not like an alarm being set, or a steering wheel “club” being put in place correctly.”

DO NOT LEAVE YOUR KEYS IN YOUR UNOCCUPIED VEHICLE. “Even in a second – I could hop in your ride and be gone. I like to hang at convenience stores and I do not care if your kids have to go for a ride too.”

REMOVE GPS UNITS/ELECTRONICS AS WELL AS THEIR INDICATORS (MOUNTS/CHARGERS ETC.) “Knowing people will simply place the device in console or glovebox, if I see indicators, I will still break in and take my chances. Once I have your GPS, I know where you live and frequent.”
Form 5801 EN P.D. (8-2009)

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MAKE SURE THE LICENSE PLATES ON YOUR CAR ARE PROPERLY SECURED. “I can take your plates, put them on another vehicle, and commit a crime. That gives me your street identity. But if your plates are tightened-down, I will move on.”

UPON DARKNESS, OR OVERNIGHT, PARK IN A WELL-LIGHTED AREA. “I prefer working unseen, so I tend to avoid bright lighting. Not only is your car safer, but you will be safer walking to it.”

REMOVE SPARE CHANGE FROM CUP HOLDERS OR ASHTRAYS. “I have broken into cars for 35 cents in spare change costing you hundreds of dollars to fix your broken window.”

REPORT ANY INCIDENT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO POLICE. “Even if I do not commit a crime, by taking or damaging your property, the police need to know if you see me behaving suspiciously. You can make crime harder for me by sharing what you see with police, by calling 9-1-1.”

IF YOU DISCOVER A CRIME HAS ALREADY HAPPENED, REPORT IT TOO. “Make a theft or damage report on your loss. Or, you can make life easy for me by not reporting your stuff was taken. No heat. Thanks, victim. If you want to see where I have been busy recently, and reports were made, go to www.kcpd.org and click on Crime Mapping. Theft of Vehicle, Theft-TFA (from auto), and Theft-ACC (attached to) are vehicle-related crimes on the map.”

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI POLICE DEPARTMENT

For more information on theft from vehicles, theft of motor vehicles, improving security at home, identity theft, or improving neighborhood safety, please contact your Community Interaction Officer:

Central Patrol Division	816-759-6313
Metro Patrol Division	816-349-6428
East Patrol Division	816-480-8506
South Patrol Division	816-672-2828
North Patrol Division	816-437-6230
Shoal Creek Patrol Division	816-413-3440

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