



AND LOOK

From the desk of
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Vehicle Theft and Theft of Valuables – Security Tips

Vehicle theft, and thefts from vehicles, continues in and around Hayward and Union City. You can help prevent car theft and theft of valuables if you apply the following tips:

Many cars are taken by amateurs. Protect your car against this type of crime by taking the following sensible precautions:

Lock Up

- An unlocked car is an open invitation to a car thief. Lock up whenever you leave your car, *and take the keys with you.*
- Lock the trunk or tailgate.
- Close all windows – professional thieves have tools that unlock cars through the smallest of openings.
- When you park the car, remove cellular phones, stereo faceplates, GPS devices and other valuable possessions. Do not leave gift-wrapped packages or cameras lying on the seat. Lock all valuables in your trunk or take them with you.

Park Carefully

- Never attach a tag with your name and address to your key ring. If the keys are lost or stolen, the tag will lead the thief directly to your car – and your home
- At night, park in well-lit areas.
- Turn wheels sharply toward the curb when parking on the street. This makes it extra difficult for thieves to tow your car.

Operation ID

- Record your vehicle identification, the number located on a small metal plate on the dashboard of your vehicle, and store it in a safe place.

Use “anti-theft” devices

- Consider the purchase and installation of security devices such as:
 - Interior hood lock and release
 - Second ignition switch or “kill switch” to prevent electrical current from reaching the distributor coil
 - Fuel switch to prevent fuel from reaching the carburetor
 - Locking gas cap
 - Locking devices for batteries, wheels, decks, etc.
 - Alarm device to activate a siren, horn or lights – or all three – to frighten the thief away
 - A device that attaches to the steering wheel or brake pedal

If you see suspicious activity or persons in a facility, parking lot or garage, notify your local Security Department immediately at x1233.