

Community Education Campaign

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Crime Prevention Tips

Last week we sent out a Residential Burglary Prevention alert identifying the north end of Evanston as easy prey to vehicle and residential burglaries. This week the City of Evanston's Crime Analyst has identified a burglary to motor vehicle "hot spot" in Beat 76.



In today's crime bulletin there were 13 burglary to vehicle reports filed, 11 of which were in Beat 76. The losses included GPS units, USC, a radar detector, I-Pass, Cell phones and really, anything in plain view. PLEASE review the burglary to vehicle PREVENTION tips below.

Strategies To Protect Your Property In Your Vehicle

- Never leave your vehicle unlocked
- Never leave any keys in your car
- Never leave your vehicle windows partially open
- Do not leave items of value in your vehicle such as; GPS Units, I-Pods, purses, wallets, checkbooks, credit cards, pocket change, computers, cameras, briefcases, cell phones, jewelry, backpacks, presents, etc.
- When possible, take your garage door openers inside your home over night
- Install a burglar alarm
- Install constant illumination near residential driveways
- Write the make, model and serial number down immediately after purchasing a GPS, I-Pod, stereo system, computer, camera, or any electronic equipment etc. Keep this information in a safe place inside your residence.
- Consider etching your initials, or use a permanent marker on items such as CD's, garage door openers, gym bags, back packs or other items of significant value which are predominantly kept in your vehicle.
- Remember, a stolen item can't be entered into the stolen property data base without a serial number or other identifying number such as a driver license or victim name. These identifiers significantly increase our capability of matching stolen property to the victim.
- If your checkbook, credit card ATM card or cell phone is stolen, immediately contact the appropriate banking institution, credit card company or cell phone provider to notify them and cancel the service.
- Consider making photo copies of your credit cards with the contact number to report lost/stolen cards. Keep the photo copies in a safe secure place in the event you need the information after a theft.
- Consider forming a neighborhood watch program. If interested contact crime prevention at 847-866-5019 or P.S.T. at 847-866-5018.
- If you see a suspicious person trying door handles or looking into vehicles, call 911 or the non-emergency number 847-866-5000.