



SSA SECURITY ALERT

CAR BREAK-INS and STOLEN VEHICLES

In our effort to keep abreast on crime occurring in the Mid-Wilshire Neighborhoods, information was received from information developed through client's calls.

Our SSA officer received the following information:

There has been a rash of car break-ins over the last week and a half. As examples:

- On a least two occasions, windows of the vehicle entered were broken out (on Windsor)
- Two other vehicles were entered with no evidence of forced entry. Both of the later vehicles were in driveways. (on Irving)
- Last evening/night, a vehicle was stolen from a driveway in the 200 block of Rimpau.

The following suggestions regarding vehicle break-in and car thefts should be revisited:

HIDE - LOCK - TAKE IT WITH YOU

During anytime of the year it is extremely important to be aware of the potential for this type of crime.

Burglary and or Theft from Motor Vehicles is the single most prevalent crime in the nation. Auto theft follows closely behind.

The reasons for this are as follows

- There is a wide variety of merchandise in a car (phones, laptops /tablets /clothes /music /change /wallets /credit cards)
- It is easy to complete this crime. It takes less than a minute to enter a vehicle (especially if unlocked) and most of the time there are no witnesses due to stealth, speed and ease of entry
- It is hard to get caught-car thieves/burglars work usually work in darkness, late hours when no one is around and residents are sleeping
- The crime is usually a misdemeanor so the risk factors of getting caught are minimal
- Thieves look for cars of value because a valuable car equals "good stuff inside"

These criminals span a wide range of persons. This is usually a crime of opportunity.

How to avoid being a victim or make you vehicle a “hard target”

1. Do not leave valuables such as electronic equipment, briefcases, phones, GPS devices, clothes, gifts or packages visible inside the passenger area of your vehicle. Secure these items in the trunk of your car.
2. **Always** lock and secure the doors and windows of your vehicle, even if it is left unattended for a short time.
3. Park in a well-lit area or in your driveway. If you have a driveway gate parking it behind the gate and ensure the gate is closed.
4. NEVER LEAVE YOUR KEYS IN THE CAR
5. Use the alarm on the car. If you car does not have and alarm, consider installing one.

It has been our experience that most criminals search for easy targets. Thus, by hardening the target it can either prevent the crime from occurring and/or buy enough time for suspects to be apprehended. Always be aware of your surroundings and take the necessary steps to protect yourself, family members and valuables.

Should anyone see a person of interest that could be a car burglar/thief, notify LAPD and the SSA officer.

Stay Safe,

Jerry Shaw Terry Segraves

Todd Orsini