



Marshall Police Department

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Jesus E. Campa
Chief of Police

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PRESS RELEASE

Chief of Police Jesus “Eddie” Campa would like to remind you that according to the Texas Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority, a vehicle is burglarized in Texas and the contents stolen every two minutes. Sadly these types of crimes increase during the holiday season. Thieves won’t stop with stealing items from inside your vehicle, thieves will also look for personal documents that can help them steal your identity or tell them where you live so they can rob you of additional belongings at your home.

Chief Campa offers these simple common sense, but effective, tips for avoiding being a victim this Holiday Season, or for any season.

- Don’t leave valuables in plain sight – It’s a common sense thing, but drivers and passengers leave valuables in plain view every day.
- Try to park in busy, well-lit areas – On a busy day, “picking” your parking spot is easier said than done, but choosing a well-lit, visible parking spot makes a huge difference. Also, choose a space that has plenty of vehicular and pedestrian movement when possible. Auto-burglars prefer breaking into cars where they can’t be observed or attract notice.
- Lock ALL your vehicle’s doors – Even if you plan to be gone for only a brief time, don’t be lax about this. Don’t leave any windows open or cracked, which also include vent/wing windows and sunroofs.

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- Set your alarm or anti-theft device – If you have one, use it! Many people believe that car-alarms no longer make a difference, but they can be an effective deterrent to an auto-burglar, who many times chooses the easiest target.
- Mark your Valuables – As a last line of defense (not really to prevent theft as much as to aid in recovery) marks your valuables.

Another important element that plays into being proactive with safety issues is **situational awareness**. Here are three suggestions to help with this:

- Eliminate talking on your cell when going to your car
- Don't procrastinate when getting in your car
- Lock your doors and get on your way to your destination.

Don't forget that as members of a community, it's beneficial to all to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity. If you believe a burglary may be in progress, call 9-1-1.

Captain John S Best
Patrol Bureau Commander
Marshall Police Department

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