

HARLINGEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

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HONOR



COURAGE



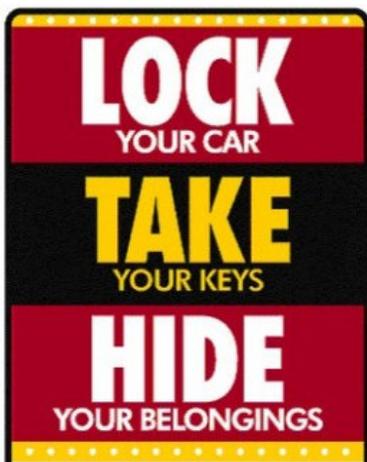
INTEGRITY

TIPS TO PREVENT VEHICLE BURGLARY

Motor vehicle burglaries are often a crime of opportunity. Vehicles are often easy targets and contain a wide variety of merchandise. Reports indicate that it generally takes less than a minute to break a vehicle's window, unlock the door, and remove items left inside. However, a large percentage of the vehicles that are broken into were left unsecured. The following is a list of things you can do to help from becoming a victim:

- **Lock, Take, Hide.**
- **Lock your vehicle (close all windows and lock all doors)**
- **Hide valuables from sight, or even better, take the items with you (wallets, purses, cell phones, laptops and other electronic devices, identification cards, passports, driver's licenses, other personal identifying information, and any other items of value)**
- **Park in well-lit areas. Avoid secluded areas.**
- **Remove after market stereo face-plates**
- **Record serial numbers of property left inside vehicles**
- **Do not leave the vehicle running or leave the keys inside the vehicle**
- **Do not hide a spare key in or on the vehicle**
- **Utilize an anti-theft device**
- **Report any suspicious persons or activity**

Remember that **YOU** are an important partner in the fight against crime.



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