### **Preventing Vehicle Burglaries**

- NEVER leave the keys in your vehicle.
- Always lock the doors, even when you are away from the vehicle for a short time.
- NEVER leave your vehicle running unattended.
- Always roll up your windows when you leave your vehicle, even when it's parked in the driveway or garage.
- Place items out of sight before you reach your destination. If you can't take personal property with you, lock items in the trunk. Do not place them under the seat. This includes your purse or wallet, CDs, books, cash, keys, cell phone, laptop, garage door opener, gym bag, briefcase, jewelry, tools, packages, etc. If a thief breaks into your vehicle and steals your garage door opener and keys, they have access to your home.
- Do not leave ANY mail in your vehicle. These have your name, address and possibly contain personal financial information.
- Remove "pull out" style stereos and/or removable face plates of stereos.
- Park in well-lighted areas. At home, park your vehicle near porch lights if you don't have a garage. Install motion detectors.
- At night park in well-lighted areas with pedestrian traffic.
- Avoid alleys.
- Set any alarm or anti-theft device.
- NEVER leave any documents, credit cards or checkbook in your vehicle. Remove the vehicle registration from your vehicle and keep it with you.
- NEVER place hidden keys in the car.

### **Share Your Thoughts**

The Ukiah Police Department's mission is simple: to make Ukiah as safe as possible. If you have any suggestions or comments about how we can improve, please complete our online survey.

If you would like to know more about crime in your neighborhood, you can sign up for telephone, cell phone and email notifications by clicking the Nixle button at www.ukiahpolice.com. You can also leave crime tips on our website.

### Who Do I Call?

Emergency 9-1-1

Call 9-1-1 for any life-threatening emergency or crime in progress.

Non-Emergency (707) 463-6262 Online Crime Report: ukiahpolice.com

Business Office (707) 463-6241 Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm



## Ukiah Police Department Safety, Professionalism, Community Service

#### **Nancy Sawyer**

Community Service Officer & Business Liaison (707) 467-5708 • nsawyer@cityofukiah.com www.ukiahpolice.com



# **Vehicle Security**

How can I protect my vehicle?



### You Can Help Prevent Car Theft

Though professional car thieves have entered the field in increasing numbers, most cars are still taken by amateurs who can be stopped fairly easily. You can greatly increase your protection against this type of crime by taking the following 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 and/or tailgate.
- Close all windows -- professional thieves have tools that help unlock cars through a minimum of open space.

#### **USE "ANTI-THEFT" DEVICES...**

- When buying a car, check the manufacturer's list of anti-theft options, such as interior hood and trunk releases, locking steering columns and others.
- Consider the purchase and installation of security devices, such as:
  - 1. Electric windows/doors.
  - 2. Electronic key.
  - 3. Keypad access.
  - 4. Steering wheel lock.
  - Interior hood lock and release.
  - A starter interrupt switch ("kill switch") which
    prevents electrical current from reaching
    the coil distributor, or a fuel switch which
    prevents fuel from reaching the carburetor.
  - 7. A locking gas cap.
  - 8. An alarm device which will activate a siren, horn or lights or all three to frighten the thief away before he is able to steal your car. Avoid a security system with an override feature.

#### VIN ETCHING...

This is chemically etching the vehicle identification number on the windows of your vehicle which effectively discourages thieves from taking your vehicle. Chop shops thrive on vehicles that have easily removable VINs or no etching at all.

## IF YOU ARE LEAVING YOUR VEHICLE BEHIND WHILE ON VACATION OR OUT OF TOWN...

- Take ALL valuables out of the vehicle.
- Lock the tailgate
- Disable the vehicle using a starter interrupt switch ("kill switch").
- Remove the distributor cap.
- Remove the garage door remote opener.
- Manually lock your garage.
- Take the keys with you.

### If Your Car is Stolen

I Promptly report it to law enforcement and

I your insurance company. Have this information I ready:
YEAR
COLOR
MAKE
MODEL
LICENSE PLATE
I VIN
I INSURANCE CO
POLICY #
INSURANCE AGENT
I INS. AGENT PHONE
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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### Get In Touch with UPD

### Emergency 9-1-1

I Call 9-1-1 for any life-threatening I emergency or crime in progress.

Keep this information in your purse or wallet.

Non-Emergency (707) 463-6262

I Online Crime Report: ukiahpolice.com

Business Office (707) 463-6241

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