

# MILWAUKEE



# POLICE DEPARTMENT



## COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION



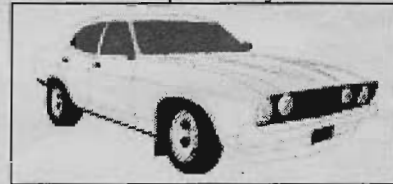
CRIME TREND BULLETIN #04-04



The purpose of this bulletin is to make our citizens aware of a crime problem that has developed in this area. **Please read this bulletin.** It is designed to help inform and protect you.

**DATE OF BULLETIN:** Thursday, February 11, 2004

**THE CRIME TREND IS: THEFT OF AUTOS  
IN THE AREA OF: CITY WIDE**



**OTHER FACTS:** Your vehicle is one of your biggest investments. Your vehicle is a target for theft no matter where you are. You must take preventive measures to safeguard your vehicle.



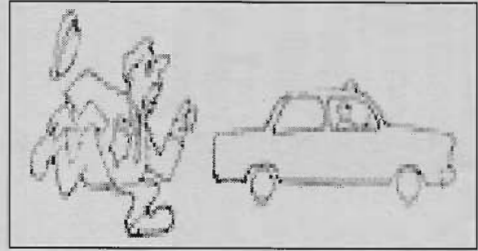
**It is a violation of City Milwaukee Ordinance 101-30 to leave ignition keys in a parked auto without some kind of a locking device on the steering apparatus, gearshift, brake system or ignition.**

**WHAT YOU CAN DO:** Park your vehicle in an area of high visibility. Park in a well lighted area at night. Always lock your vehicle and take your keys with you. Activate any anti-theft device you have. Install tapered door lock buttons. Frequently check your license plates. Thieves often steal license plates to use on other stolen cars. Use tamper resistant bolts to secure your plates. License plate renewal tags are also being stolen. Slice the tag with a razor blade after installation, to prevent it from being removed intact. When driving always keep your doors locked. Avoid unfamiliar areas. Don't daydream when stopped- **STAY ALERT**-Be observant. If bumped from behind and you feel it was intentional **DO NOT** get out of your car. Tell the other driver to follow you to the nearest police station to file an accident report. Please share this information with your neighbors.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** on how to protect your vehicle and yourself while in your vehicle, contact your District Community Liaison Officer or the Community Services Division at 935-7905.

*Together we can reduce crime and enhance the quality of life in our community.*  
(see other side)

## ANTI-THEFT DEVICES



- **Steering Wheel Locks**  
These devices prevent the steering wheel from turning. It also deters thieves because it is highly visible.
- **Engine Disabler or Kill Switch**  
This well-hidden switch cuts power to your starter.
- **Armor Collar**  
A metal collar, that locks around your steering column. It prevents tampering with the ignition system.
- **Hood Lock**  
A hood lock prevents a thief from stealing parts from under the hood or disconnecting anti-theft devices.
- **Clutch and Brake Lock**  
This mechanism, used only on manual transmission vehicles, locks the brake pedal and the clutch pedal together so one can't be operated without the other.
- **Alarm Systems**  
These can have many features. Some of these features are:
  - An LED warning light that notifies a car thief that your alarm is activated.
  - A loud horn or siren that can be activated by the remote-panic alarm.

*(The Milwaukee Police Department does not endorse or guarantee any of the above products. These devices are used as a theft deterrent.)*

### Recovering Stolen Automobiles

Most stolen cars are driven through the streets regularly-and thieves may be using them to commit other crimes. You can spot many of these cars and report them immediately to the police. Window etching (having your vehicle identification number etched onto a window) makes it difficult for a thief to resell your car or its parts.

You should also be on the alert for:

- Vehicles being operated without ignition keys.
- Broken plastic or holes in the steering column.
- Broken window glass.
- Dirty license plates on shiny cars.
- Persons offering to sell cars or accessories at less than their regular price.

**NANNETTE H. HEGERTY**  
**CHIEF OF POLICE**