

CRIME ALERT ISSUED JANUARY 7, 2010

Dear Neighbors:

Don't roll out the red carpet for car thieves! Theft from parked cars and other vehicles is a major problem in our neighborhood and we all can do something about it. I recently attended a meeting with the LAPD senior lead officers for our area and discussed this problem and how to "take a bite out of crime." To some people, theft from vehicles seems like a victimless crime-but it is not. In one instance, thieves got a hold of a storage locker key from a car glove box, went to the storage locker, and stole EVERYTHING. While crimes like this may occur in a big city like ours, we can protect ourselves by being reminded to take a few simple steps to stay safe.

Unlocked vehicles, vehicles with open windows, or vehicles with objects in plain sight are invitations for trouble. Remember to lock your car when parked on the street or in a garage. Leave NOTHING of value inside your vehicle if you can help it. Your trunk is not a safe. Often thieves will watch you place valuables in your trunk and then strike when you walk away. DO NOT leave evidence of GPS devices in your vehicle such as mounting brackets, or suction-cup smudges on your windshield. Hide all chargers and cables from plain view. And never leave your i-pod, Blackberry, i-phone, laptop, keys, garage door opener, or the like in your car, especially when parked overnight.

This may seem like common sense, but sometimes our days are so hectic that we forget that simple things can save a lot. If you are a victim of this type of crime, be sure to file a police report. The LAPD dispatches additional resources based on crime reports coming from a particular area. Don't be shy about calling 911 to report suspicious activity. The Greater Griffith Park area has 3 LAPD Senior Lead Officers who are responsible for working with the public on crime prevention issues. They are, Gina Chovan (Los Feliz) - 213-793-0713, Lenny Davis (East Hollywood) 213-793-0762, and Al Polehonki (Franklin Hills) 213-793-0763. Don't hesitate to contact me regarding public safety issues such as NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH or for assistance with reaching the LAPD, LAFD or other public safety related agency.

Attached, please find a "LEAVE IT-LOSE IT" public safety flyer you can display in your apartment complex, place of business, place of worship and the like.

Kindest Regards:

Dan Sandman  
Chairman  
Public Safety Committee  
Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council  
[www.GGPNC.org/publicsafety](http://www.GGPNC.org/publicsafety)