



City of Downey

FUTURE UNLIMITED

PRESS RELEASE

March 20, 2012

On Saturday, March 24th, the Downey Police Department will be initiating *Operation Save Our Seats*. This program will allow residents to bring their sport utility vehicles to the west parking lot of the Downey Police Department between the hours of 10:00am and 3:00pm to have their 3rd row seats “etched” with their vehicle’s license plate number for identification purposes. By etching the license plate number of your vehicle onto the seat frame, law enforcement has a better chance of returning stolen seats to their rightful owners, and hopefully hold those accountable for committing the thefts.

Downey Police would like to also offer tips to help avoid being the victim of auto thefts and burglaries.

By following these simple steps, becoming a victim of an auto-related theft can be greatly reduced.

- NEVER leave your car “running” and unattended, including warming it up in your driveway on cold mornings, even if only “for a moment.”
- Place items out of sight *before* reaching your destination or move them inconspicuously once you arrive. This includes packages and gym bags.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- If possible, always park your vehicle in a driveway when arriving home, not leaving it on a public street.
- Lock ALL doors even if you plan to only be gone for a brief time.
- Set any alarm or anti-theft device.
- NEVER leave the vehicle registration, documents or checkbook in the car.
- NEVER place hidden keys in the car.
- If you have high end audio or video equipment installed in your vehicle, keep it covered and out of site when your vehicle is parked. This is especially relevant in shopping centers or apartment complexes.

If you see suspicious activity, immediately call the Downey Police Department at (562) 861-0771. If it is an emergency, please dial “9-1-1.”



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If you have any questions on how to prevent auto related crimes, please call Detective Ethan Roberts at (562) 904-2334. For further crime prevention advice, refer to the “crime tips” tab at www.downeypd.org.