

### OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE SERVICE DE POLICE D'OTTAWA

Working together for a safer community La sécurité de notre communauté, un travail d'équipe

# **Alert!**

## Theft From Vehicle Concerns:

Issue: Recently, several thefts from vehicles have been reported in the Trailwest and Bridlewood area. Historically, there is a marked increase in thefts from vehicles in residential communities and from store parking lots in December.

#### What you can do - General Safety Tips:

- Remove valuables and shopping bags from view. This includes loose change and electronic devices such as IPods, cell phones and GPS navigation systems.
- Never leave your vehicle running and unattended.
- Never leave your car or house keys in your vehicle.
- Park in well lit and secure areas with pedestrian traffic when possible
- When returning to your vehicle carrying bags, place them in trunk, and then drive away to a different parking spot if shopping is not completed.

#### Pop quiz: The Question:

Thefts from vehicles are a citywide crime trend. From the scenarios below, which vehicle is at risk?

- a) An unlocked vehicle with a GPS on the dash.
- b) A locked vehicle with a wallet sitting on the passenger seat.
- c) A locked vehicle parked on a poorly lit street with minimal pedestrian traffic.
- d) They are all at risk.

#### The Answer:

• The right answer is D. Thefts from vehicles are a crime of opportunity and can happen anywhere, and at any time. It is therefore important to take as many preventative measures as possible to try and safeguard yourself from becoming a victim.

"All Valuables Removed" Warning cards are available at Community Police Centres, Ottawa Police stations' Information Desks, and by request at pia@ottawapolice.ca.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact the Kanata/Stittsville Community Police Center 613-236-1222 X 2001

Remember: Check Crimereports.com for crime data in your community