



# The Arlington Police Department and YOU...

## Building a Partnership to Help Prevent Crime.

The Arlington Police Department would like to share with you important information regarding vehicle and apartment burglaries. We hope the following information is useful and educational for you to help with preventing crime.

### Vehicle Burglary

#### What is Vehicle Burglary?

State of Texas Penal Code: 30.04

- A. A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, he breaks into or enters a vehicle or any part of a vehicle with intent to commit any felony or theft.
- B. For the purposes of this section, "enter" means to intrude:
1. Any part of the body; or
  2. Any physical object connected with the body
  3. An offense under this section is a Class A Misdemeanor.

#### Suggestions to Help Deter Vehicle Burglaries:

- Take keys out
- Lock your car
- Park in well-lit areas
- Park in attended areas
- Use your garage
- Use tire/wheel locks
- install audible alarm
- Leave only ignition/door key with lot attendant
- Completely close car windows when parking
- Don't leave valuables in plain view
- Lock garage door and vehicle inside
- Replace T-shaped door locks with straight locks
- Engrave expensive accessories
- Take out removable radios and face plates
- Avoid parking between large vehicles (they provide cover)
- Do not approach your vehicle when a stranger is near it. Call 911 or Security.

#### Be Aware of Burglary Methods and Locations:

##### Entry Methods:

- Break glass
- Left unlocked
- Pried/Jimmied
- Window vents
- Sunroofs
- Convertibles
- Windows rolled down or half-rolled down
- Sliding windows (mainly trucks)

##### High Risk Areas:

- Apartments
- Restaurants
- Parks
- Bars
- Shopping Centers
- Auto parts/dealers/repair shops
- Single family residences

#### Suspicious Actions:

- Pulling door handles and looking into windows.
- Odd clothing for the time of the year.
- Nervous looking (looking all around, moving quickly or slowly. Lookouts.
- Checking for alarms by bumping or hitting the windows or bumpers for sensitivity.

#### Items to Avoid Leaving in Plain View:

Phones, pagers, cigarettes, money, CD's, briefcases, purses, wallets, radar detectors, sports equipment, removable radios, clothing, laptop computers, weapons, cassette tapes, address books, credit cards, console visions

### Apartment Burglary

#### What is Apartment Burglary?

State of Texas Penal Code: 30.02

- A. A person commits an offense if, without the effective consent of the owner, the person: (1) enters a habitation, or a building (or any portion of a building) not then open to the public, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault; or (2) remains concealed, with intent to commit a felony, theft, or an assault, in a building or habitation; or (3) enters a building or habitation and commits or attempts to commit a felony, theft, or an assault.
- B. For the purposes of this section, "enter" means to intrude:
1. Any part of the body; or
  2. Any physical object connected with the body
  3. An offense under this section is a Felony of a second degree.

#### Suggestions Personal Protection Tips at Home:

- Never let strangers inside your residence.
- When going out for the evening, turn on lights, a radio, or television to make your home or apartment appear occupied.
- If you plan to be out of town for a few days, purchase an automatic timer for lights.
- Have a trusted neighbor watch your home and pick up your mail and newspapers. Ask them to park a vehicle in your driveway.
- Immediately after the holidays, mark new purchases and gifts with your driver's license number.

#### Operation Identification:

Operation Identification is a citizen's burglary prevention program for use in homes and businesses. The Operation ID program involves the marking of property with an identifying number as means of discouraging burglary and theft. The Operations ID is comprised of two parts:

- Mark your valuables with your Driver's License Number so that your property can be easily traced and identified as yours.
- Display a sticker which tells would-be burglars that your property has been marked.

Do not mark property with your social security number because the police do not have access to social security information. After marking your property, make a list of your valuables and keep a copy of the list in a safe place. If you should subsequently become a burglary victim, you will be able to quickly describe the stolen property from the list.

#### Why is Operation ID So Effective?

Marked property is difficult for a burglar to dispose of or re-sell. It can be traced to the rightful owner with relative ease. And, if the burglar is caught with the marked property, it is solid evidence of possession of stolen goods.

#### How to Participate:

Engraving kits may be checked out from the Arlington Fire Department Stations or the Police Stations.

**For more information, please contact  
The Arlington Police Department  
Crime Prevention Unit at (817) 459-5725**