

Community Crime Alert – 103 Thefts from Vehicles 8/7/2018-9/3/2018

The Ventura Police Department has received approximately 103 reports of thefts from unlocked vehicles and vehicle burglaries (forced entry) between the dates of August 7, 2018 and September 3, 2018. These crimes have occurred on various days of the week and at all hours of the day. The crimes appear to have been random in nature and were not targeting a specific victim or vehicle type. Community members are encouraged to review the following tips to help prevent vehicle property crimes:

- Always close your windows, lock your vehicle and take your keys, even for quick errands.
- Remove visible items from your vehicle. Never leave purses, wallets, backpacks or other property in your vehicle. Even an empty bag may look tempting from the outside to a thief.
- Be aware that someone may be watching as you put a wallet, purse, or cell phone under your seat. Take these with you or secure them in your trunk.
- Pay attention and be aware of your surroundings
- Set your alarm if you have one.
- Lighting can be a deterrent – park in a well-lit area whenever possible. Consider sensor lights for your driveway and entry ways.
- Do not leave mail in your vehicle, especially where visible. This has your name and address on it.
- Avoid leaving your garage door opener in your vehicle.
- Avoid announcing your vacation on social media.
- At home, park in your garage if you have one. Lock your car and all garage doors.
- Record the serial numbers and other pertinent information such as make and model for your electronic devices (GPS, laptops, tablets) and cell phones.
- Familiarize yourself with the features of your devices, some can be tracked if stolen. Knowing how to activate this service quickly can help recover your property,

The Ventura Police Department urges community members to be vigilant and responsible neighbors. Removing all valuables from vehicles is the surest way to protect property. Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors. Community members are also encouraged to get connected to the Ventura Police Department on [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) [Nextdoor](#) to stay informed of crime and safety information.

Please immediately report all suspicious activity to the Ventura Police 24/7 nonemergency 805-650-8010 number or 911 in the event of an emergency or in process crime.

If you have any information about this crime, you can make an anonymous call to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS. If your information leads to an arrest, you could receive a cash reward of up to \$1,000.