



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Colleen Mestas, Chief of Police

Sergeant Amy Watkins, Public Information Officer
(559) 713-4216 (office) / (559) 713-4807 (fax)
awatkins@ci.visalia.ca.us

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

February 24, 2012

Visalia Police Department

Tips to help prevent vehicle theft

February 15, 2012.

The Visalia Police Department saw an increase in auto theft for the month of January, 2012. We are asking citizens in the community to assist police in our efforts to reduce vehicle theft by following a few prevention tips.

1. Always lock your car.
2. Always use anti-theft devices (steering wheel locks, brake pedal locks, fuel cutoff switches, electrical cut-off switches, steering column collars).
3. Always park your vehicle in a well-lighted area at night.
4. Always make sure you receive an ownership certificate when purchasing a used vehicle.
5. Never leave your keys in in the vehicle.
6. Never hide a spare ignition key in the vehicle.
7. Never leave your vehicle unattended with the engine on (cold morning warm-ups).
8. Install an audible alarm.
9. When possible, park your vehicle in a secure garage.
10. Beware of your surroundings prior to leaving or entering your vehicle.
11. Beware of high-theft vehicles.
12. Take advantage of technology (On Star, Lojak, ect.)

The Visalia Police Department would also encourage citizens to report suspicious activity in and around their communities.

