



# Hightstown Police Department

415A Mercer Street  
Hightstown, New Jersey 08520

## \*\*\*Crime Prevention Message: Prevent Theft ~ Lock Your Vehicle\*\*\*

The majority of vehicle break-ins occur outside private homes, in driveways, or on the street in front of the victim's home. Thefts from vehicles would be drastically reduced if people would lock their car doors and not leave valuables inside their vehicles, in the view of the public. Leaving items on display, whether in or on a dashboard, or in a mounted cradle, or sitting on the passenger seat, is an open invitation to opportunistic criminals.

### Tips for Protecting Valuables:

- 1) Always lock your vehicle.
- 2) Completely close all car windows.
- 3) Remove **All Items of Value** such as handbags, wallets, cell phones, laptops, GPS systems, etc. from the car when you are not driving. Take out removable radios and faceplates.
- 4) Don't cover items in your car with a blanket or jacket. Ideally, you should take them with you, but if unavoidable, place them in the trunk prior to arriving at your destination. Do not leave anything in glovebox or console.
- 5) Park in a well-lit area close to your destination.
- 6) Avoid parking between large vehicles; they provide cover for thieves.
- 7) Use outdoor lighting; porch and motion lights help deter crime.
- 8) Don't leave the registration or title in your car. Your car registration has your address on it. File the title at your home or office, and carry the registration in your purse or wallet.
- 9) Record serial numbers of your valuables. Engrave your belongings with a personal identification number (PIN) or your initials.

Get involved! Be your neighbor's eyes and ears. Talk to neighbors regarding activity in your neighborhood. By becoming familiar with those who belong in your neighborhood, you can help reduce crime. By taking simple precautions and just a few moments to remove valuable items from your car, you can significantly improve your chances of not becoming a victim of this type of crime, even when your car is left unattended in your driveway, outside your house, or place of work. **Contact the Hightstown Police Department at 609-448-1234 or dial 911 if you see anything suspicious or out of place.**