



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
LEADING BOLDLY, WORKING TOGETHER*

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Kimberly Bruce
Strategic Communication Manager**

October 27, 2015

Phone: 779-348-7331

E-mail: kimberly.bruce@rockfordil.gov

Rockford Police Issues Motor Vehicle Advisory

Rockford, IL – The Rockford Police Department is advising citizens to be aware of vehicle safety protocols following an increase in vehicular thefts in the community.

Early model minivans such as the Dodge Caravan are among the frequently targeted vehicles for theft due to the lack of installed anti-theft technology that is now common practice on all car models.

“Much like the national trend, we have witnessed an uptick in vehicular thefts in Rockford, particularly with early model Dodge Caravans which are easy to steal quickly,” said Lieutenant Carla Redd. “As the winter season approaches and many people begin ‘warming up’ their cars, it is important to remind citizens to be proactive in protecting their property.”

Rockford Police advises citizens to take the following precautions to protect their vehicles:

- Never leave your running vehicle unattended.
- Always have keys to your vehicle on your person.
- Keep all vehicle doors and windows locked.
- Park in well-lit, populated areas (or in your home garage, if applicable).
- Remove or conceal from plain sight items of value including plug-in electronic devices (e.g., GPS, iPod, etc.).
- Utilize available anti-theft systems and devices (e.g., car alarm, horn, steering-wheel lock, electronic technology, etc.).

Contact the Rockford Police Department at 815-966-2900 to report a stolen vehicle.

###

