



Shawnee Police Department

5850 Renner Road ▪ Shawnee, Kansas 66217

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Chief Sam Larson

Hello Shawnee Citizens:

The surrounding area has seen a recent uptick in the number of auto burglaries and car thefts, to include all of Shawnee. As you may already be aware, a couple of them have been violent in nature with one involving shots being fired. These incidents are being investigated by the police department. Patrol personnel have stepped up their patrol activities and their tactics to hopefully catch these perpetrators and hold them accountable. **CALL THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY, DO NOT CONFRONT THESE SUBJECTS.**

Information recently sent out through the department's social media outlets included current statics about this type of crime happening in Shawnee. It is important to reiterate that information here.

To date, there have been 209 auto burglaries in Shawnee, of which 173 were vehicles that were left unlocked. There have been 135 stolen vehicles, the vast majority were left unlocked and with keys or key fob's left in them, and many were left running to warm up. We are asking everyone to be diligent about crime prevention by locking their vehicles, not leaving valuables visible in vehicles, securing their homes, closing garage doors, and consider not leaving garage door openers inside vehicles parked in the driveway. Additionally, turn on your porch lights and landscape lighting. Often times criminals seek dimly lit areas to use the cover of darkness to conceal their activities.

Things to consider doing to avoid being a victim:

Remove all valuable items from your vehicles and lock your car doors at night. Remove garage door openers from cars you park outside and consider disabling the built in garage door opener in the vehicle.

Track your packages and know when they are being delivered. Consider having a trusted neighbor or family member retrieve those packages if you are away.

Be sure to retrieve mail from your mailboxes each day. Consider using the Post Office drop boxes for outgoing mail as opposed to placing it your mailbox for the mail carrier to take.

Integrity

Professionalism



Teamwork

Dedication

Turn porch and garage lights on at night.

Do not confront the individuals. Call 911.

When out in public venues, be aware of your surroundings. Keep track of your wallet, purses, and handbags as you navigate stores and be cautious of being distracted by strangers.

Be vigilant and be safe. If you think something is suspicious, call the police. No need to wait. We will send an officer to you and/or the area as time and call load allows.

Help us keep Shawnee the safe and friendly community that it is known to be. Call 911 or the non-emergency line at 913-631-2150.

Take Care.

Sergeant Matt Burger
Shawnee Kansas Police Department
Community Outreach Relations and Engagement
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