

# WESTERN SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT



## *CRIME ALERT*

Western Springs, IL - Date: October 17, 2016

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The Western Springs Police Department is currently investigating twelve (12) motor vehicle burglaries, one (1) motor vehicle theft, and one (1) recovered - previously stolen vehicle. The incidents all occurred between 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 16, 2016, and 7:00 a.m. on Monday, October 17, 2016, in the northwest section of the Village – specifically, the 3800 to 3900 blocks of Woodland Avenue; Grand Avenue; Lawn Avenue; and the 4000 block of Central Avenue.

- In each instance, the unknown offender(s) entered through an unlocked door and removed loose change, various amounts of cash, sunglasses, and a wallet.

The motor vehicle theft occurred in the aforementioned time frame and was stolen from a driveway in the 3900 block of Woodland Avenue.

- The motor vehicle theft occurred when an unknown offender(s) entered through an unlocked door and gain access to vehicle. Once inside of the vehicle the unknown offender (s) located the key fob to vehicle.
- The previously stolen vehicle was recovered in the 3900 block of Lawn Avenue, and it was reported stolen out of Chicago Police Department in the early morning hours of 10/17/16.

### ***Don't be an easy target:***

- Keep all vehicle doors and windows closed and locked at all times, even during quick errands. Lock the trunk, hatchback or tailgate to block access into your vehicle. Close all vents or wing windows and sunroofs. Always take your keys with you.
- If your vehicle has a built in security system, use it. If you don't have a security system installed, it is worth the investment. It may also qualify you for a discount on your auto insurance.
- Remove visible items (cash, wallet, purse, MP3 players, iPods and cell phones) from the vehicle or place them in the trunk. If you leave items visible in your vehicle, you are a target. Don't forget that GPS system, as these portable devices are targets too.

- Park your vehicle in an area that is visible to the public and well-lit at night. If possible, park your vehicle in the garage. If garage parking is not available, park your vehicle in the driveway and install motion-sensor security lighting on your home.

***Be vigilant:***

- A person looking into parked vehicles may be looking for a vehicle to steal or valuables left in plain view inside.
- The sound of breaking glass or car alarm could mean a vehicle break-in.
- Any vehicle without lights at night, cruising slowly, or following a course that seems aimless or repetitive is suspicious in any location. Occupants may be "casing" for a burglary.
- A person walking around pulling on car door handles may be looking for unlocked vehicles to steal from.

Residents are encouraged to call 9-1-1 immediately about any and all suspicious activity.

If anyone has any information regarding these crimes, please contact the Western Springs Investigative Division at (708) 246-8540.