

# WESTERN SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT



## ***CRIME ALERT***

Western Springs, IL - Date: September 14, 2015

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The Western Springs Police Department is currently investigating 5 reported motor vehicle burglaries that all occurred sometime between 10:00 p.m. on September 12<sup>th</sup> and 8:00 a.m. on September 13<sup>th</sup>. The burglaries all took place in the 3900 and 4100 blocks of Johnson Avenue in Western Springs. All of the targeted vehicles were unlocked and parked on residential driveways. The unknown offender(s) removed items that included currency, a woman's purse, and various retail gift and credit cards.

The Western Springs Police would like to provide the following crime prevention tips to our residents:

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

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- 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 vent 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, cell phones) from the vehicle or place them in the trunk. If you leave items visible in your vehicle, you are a target.
- 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 a good neighbor:***

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- A person looking into parked vehicles may be looking to steal a vehicle 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, traveling 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 to report any suspicious activity or persons.**

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