

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

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INFORMATION RELEASE

Subject: Theft Prevention Tips

Date: 5/24/07

**From: Sgt David Campbell
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Case or Incident # N/A

Summary:

Now that the summer season is upon us the Juneau Police Department would like to remind people to lock their homes, vehicles, bicycles, and other valuable items to reduce the chance of being a victim of theft. Although crime statistics are low in Juneau there is crime and prevention is the key.

Every ten seconds, an American home is burglarized. In 2006 there were 131 residential burglaries in the Juneau Area. Most burglars are not highly experienced but rather young people who live in or near a neighborhood. Burglars are typically looking for an easy target from which to get goods or money specifically an empty home with easily accessible windows or unlocked doors.

In 2006 there were 359 thefts from vehicles and 56 vehicles reported stolen in the Juneau area. Many of these reported incidents were in vehicles that were unlocked. Throughout the United States approximately 50% of all stolen vehicles were unlocked and nearly 20% had the keys in them. Here are some tips to reduce your chance of being a victim.

- Always lock your car and take the keys with you.
- Never leave your car running, even if you will only be gone for a minute.
- Never hide a second set of keys in your car.
- Completely close your windows when parking.
- Do not leave valuables in plain sight

Bicycle thefts in Juneau have decreased over the years. In 2006 there were 96 bikes stolen in Juneau which is down from 136 in 2004. The easiest ways to protect your bike are also simple.

- Lock your bike through the frame and both wheels. Be sure to secure quick-release wheels.
- Register your bike with the Juneau Police Department. Information and forms on bicycle registration can be found at www.juneaupolice.com/community.php

Any charges reported in this press release are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

***** END OF STATEMENT *****

www.juneaupolice.com/updates