

# JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## INFORMATION RELEASE

**Subject: Theft Prevention Tips**

**Date: July 22, 2009**

**From: Cindee Brown-Mills**

**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 tend to be low in Juneau, **there is crime** and prevention is the key.

According to the FBI, a burglary occurs somewhere in the United States every 15.4 seconds. In 2008 there were 103 residential burglaries in the Juneau Area. Burglars are usually looking for an easy target from which to get goods or money such as an empty house with easily accessible windows or unlocked doors. Here are a few tips to help protect your home.

- Use a solid core or metal door for all entrance points into your home.
- Get to know your neighbors. Good neighbors look out for each other.

In 2008 there were 283 thefts from vehicles and 54 vehicles reported stolen in Juneau. Many of these reported incidents were 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 are also a problem. In 2008, 67 bikes were stolen in Juneau. The easiest ways to protect your bike are also simple.

- Lock your bike through the frame and both wheels.
- Register your bike with the Juneau Police Department. Information and forms on bicycle registration can be found at [www.juneaupolice.com/community.php](http://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](http://www.juneaupolice.com/updates)