

PRACTICE T-L-C

TAKE OUT VALUABLES

LOCK YOUR VEHICLE

CLOSE YOUR WINDOWS & SUN/MOON ROOF

Take out valuables:

If you can leave your valuables at home, do so. Otherwise, take valuables with you rather than leaving them in your vehicle. If you have to leave them in the vehicle, place them in your trunk *prior to arriving at your destination*.

Lock your vehicle:

Verify that your vehicle is securely locked before leaving the area. Keyless or remote locking systems can malfunction from a low battery, etc., leaving your vehicle vulnerable. Make sure it's locked! Check the batteries on your remote locking and alarm activation devices on a regular basis.

Close windows and sun/moon roofs:

Windows and sun/moon roofs (if equipped) allow thieves a quick and quiet way to enter your vehicle. Even a crack in the window makes a thief's job so much easier. Verify that your vehicle windows are rolled up, and that the sun/moon roof is closed before leaving the vehicle.

"See it. Hear it. Report it."

The Mokena Police Department would like your help in reducing vehicle burglaries. Remember that the best prevention against thefts from vehicles is to always lock your vehicle and not leave valuables visible. Let's work together in moving the thieves out of Mokena. Don't be a victim, and always practice personal safety by knowing your surroundings.

If you do see suspicious activity, it is important to report it immediately to the Mokena Police Department by calling 911. If possible, get a good description of the thief, his/her clothing, color and make of vehicle, and direction of travel. It is not always possible to get a complete vehicle license number. Even a partial license number is helpful. If you are not sure where you are, look for a landmark, or a street address on a building.

TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME



If you feel uncomfortable about calling us, you can report suspicious activity anonymously to **Crime Stoppers of Will County** by calling **800-212-6734**. You don't have to give your name. An operator will take your information and assign you a code number. If an arrest is made, you can call Crime Stoppers again, provide the code number, and a reward will be paid.

**Help the Mokena Police Department:
Be a Crime Stopper – not a victim.
Lock your car – report suspicious
activity.**

**For more information, call the Mokena
Police Department Crime Prevention**

Division at 708-479-3912

In an emergency, dial 911



LOCK-IT OR LOSE-IT



**"See it. Hear it.
Report it."**

Mokena Police Department

Chief Steven Vaccaro
10907 Front Street
Mokena, IL 60448
Phone: 708-479-3912
Fax: 708-479-0989
www.Mokena.org

Your Mokena Police, Village elected officials, and staff would like to thank you for your continued assistance in combatting car burglaries and car thefts in Mokena and the Lincoln-Way area. This activity spiked again recently; however, please be assured that we together remain committed to providing the resources necessary to deter this activity. While for obvious reasons we cannot fully disclose our tactical plans for addressing this issue, following are a few steps already taken, currently being taken, or planned in the immediate future to protect you:

- Additional Police personnel have been re-assigned to the midnight shift to increase manpower strength and presence where needed most.
- Directed and saturation patrols of specific neighborhoods have been put in place using both marked and unmarked police vehicles.
- Patrol officers are monitoring residential neighborhoods and notifying residents with open garage doors and the security risks associated with unnecessarily leaving these doors open.
- Traffic at vehicular entryways into Mokena is being monitored regularly.
- We are continuing to reach out to the Mokena community urging residents to lock vehicles, place valuables out of plain sight, and to not leave unattended vehicles running or with keys/proximity fobs present and visible.
- Cooperative communication is being maintained as we work closely with the Frankfort, New Lenox, and Manhattan police departments, as well as the Will County Sheriff's Office, to jointly combat these crimes.
- Assurance has been received from the Will County State's Attorney's Office that any arrests made in connection with these recent incidents will receive the State's Attorney's Office's full attention.
- Collaborative information is continuing to be exchanged between Mokena and neighboring communities, as well as with the Will County Sheriff's Office, regarding these most recent incidents.

We understand this issue is not resolved. As we have in the past, we ask you to remain vigilant. Report any suspicious activity by calling 911. Should you observe obvious criminal or suspicious activity or find yourself in the direct presence of criminal activity, we strongly urge you to NOT risk elevating the situation by seeking to engage the criminal(s) directly. As before, you can continue helping us combat these crimes of opportunity by locking your vehicles. Know that we all take these crimes very seriously, and that your Mokena Police Department, Village Elected Officials, and Village Staff all want to put an end to this activity. Should you have questions regarding any of our initiatives on your behalf, please contact Police Chief Vaccaro at 708-479-3912.

