



PRESS RELEASE

- I. DATE AND TIME OF PRESS RELEASE: January 18, 2013 1000
- II. TYPE OF INCIDENT/SITUATION/ANNOUNCEMENT: Community Advisory
- III. FACTUAL INFORMATION:

The Livermore Police Department would like to remind our community members not to leave their vehicles running and unattended in front of their homes. With the cold weather over night and in the mornings, many community members are starting their vehicles to warm them up and defrost their windows, and then going back into their homes leaving the vehicle unattended. These running unattended vehicles are targeted by car thieves who simply enter the vehicle and drive away. This occurred most recently last week in north west Livermore.

It is also a violation of Livermore Municipal Code to leave a vehicle unattended with the keys in the ignition:

10.20.080 Unattended vehicles – Keys to be removed.

No person shall leave a motor vehicle, except a commercial motor vehicle, unattended on any street, alley, used-car lot or unattended parking lot without first stopping the engine, and removing and taking the key from the vehicle. Whenever any police officer finds any such motor vehicle standing in violation of this section, such police officer is authorized to remove the keys therefrom and deliver the same to the police station.

"While on patrol this morning I noticed several vehicles parked in front of homes just idling without anyone around them. I contacted the vehicle owners and talked to them about how their cars would have been easily stolen had a car thief been targeting their neighborhood. The owners all stated they hadn't thought about the risk of their car being stolen." "It's important that our community members help us in crime prevention in the city. By reducing crimes of opportunity and being vigilant for suspicious persons in their neighborhoods, we can all work together to reduce crime" said Sgt. Hurd.

The Livermore Police Department is looking for the community's cooperation in helping to reduce vehicle thefts.

Press Inquiries to Sgt. John Hurd at 925-580-8148