

# BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS



## CAR JACKING PREVENTION GUIDANCE

### Getting to your vehicle

- Walk with purpose and stay alert.
- Approach with key in hand. Look around and inside vehicle before getting in.
- Be wary of people asking for directions or handing out fliers.
- Trust your instincts - if something makes you feel uneasy, get into the car quickly, lock the doors, and drive away.

### When driving

- Keep doors locked and windows rolled up at least partway, no matter how short the distance or how safe the neighborhood.
- When coming to a stop, leave enough room to maneuver around other cars, especially if sensing trouble.
- Drive in center lane to make it difficult for would-be carjackers to approach your vehicle.
- Avoid getting gas at night at dimly lit or deserted gas stations. Take keys with you if leaving vehicle. Lock doors as soon as return to vehicle.
- If you think someone is following you, drive to the nearest police station or open well-lit business. Honk horn to alert others to trouble and call 911.
- Do not stop to assist a stranger with a broken down vehicle. Help by calling 911 to report it.

### Exiting a vehicle

- Park in well-lighted areas, near sidewalks or walkways. Avoid parking near dumpsters, woods, large vans or trucks, or anywhere with limited visibility.
- Never leave valuables in plain view, even if vehicle is locked. Put items in trunk or out of sight.
- Look around before exiting and stay alert to the surroundings.
- Always remove key fob and lock doors when parked.

### If it happens to you

- If a criminal threatens you with a gun or other weapon, give up your vehicle immediately and do not argue.
- Get away from the area as quickly as possible.
- Try to remember a description of the carjacker - gender, race, age, hair and eye color, special features, clothes.
- Report the crime immediately to the police by calling 911.

