

## Reminder!

**Look, listen, and trust your instincts when approaching your car-** Keep your head up, ears open, and eyes peeled when you are returning to your car. Do not ignore your gut feeling if you sense that something is wrong. If you see someone standing around in the parking lot, or you merely sense something is not right, do not proceed to your car. Return to a place where people are and ask a security escort to walk you to your car. If that is not possible, wait for a group of people and walk with them.



**Do not disregard safety because its daytime-** Not all carjacking's happen under the cloak of night. In fact, more than half of daytime carjacking attempts are successful. Be alert during the daylight as you would be at nighttime.



### **Prevention is key:**

*-Pay attention to surroundings and put your phone down.*

*-Have a cell phone and charging cord on you at all times.*

*-Check your mirrors for anyone possibly following you.*

*-Plan your travel even if it is locally.*

*-Take extra care when parking.*

*-Know how to react if your car is bumped from behind.*

*-Do not get out of your car if something is under your windshield wiper.*

*-Be wary of people trying to get your attention.*

*-Do not stop at remote money machines (ATM).*

*-Stay alert at intersections.*

*-Keep your driveway well lit and unobstructed.*

**Call 911 immediately** to report suspicious or criminal activity. Stolen vehicles are used to commit further crimes of violence. Help us break this cycle.

## Oak Brook Police Department

### How to Avoid Being Carjacked



The Village of Oak Brook would like to share helpful tips in keeping the community safe from carjacking's. Carjacking occurs when someone steals a motor vehicle from another person by use of force or intimidation. The best way to protect yourself from this scenario is to stay alert and be aware of your surroundings.

# How to Avoid Being Carjacked

**Keep your car tuned up and full of gas-** "E" does not stand for "Enough to get me where I need to go." Keep your car full of gas and in good working condition. If your car is not tuned up and breaks down, it can make you an easy target for carjackers.



**Lock your car doors and keep the windows up-** This applies whether you are in your car or not. Make it part of your driving ritual to lock your doors as soon as you get into the car, and as soon as you get out.



**Don't leave valuables in plain sight inside your car-** Place your purse or shopping bags in the trunk where they can't be seen. While driving, put valuable items on the floor rather than on the seats.



**Keep your car in a locked garage-** If possible, keep your car parked in your garage and lock the garage door and remove the key fob. Having an automatic garage door closed does not necessarily make it thief-proof. Carjackers "fish" garage doors with wire hooks to activate the release mechanisms of automatic garage doors.



**Be careful when warming up your car in cold weather-** If you need to warm up your car in the wintertime, have a second set of keys so that you can keep the car locked while it's idling. Carjackers use unlocked, running cars as opportunities to steal vehicles.



**Avoid trouble spots and driving in unfamiliar areas-** Avoid high crime areas, rural areas with less populated roads, and congested traffic spots. Look for a navigation app with the safety feature of avoiding high crime spots.

