

INFORMATION BULLETIN

VEHICLE BURGLARY

- “Smash and Grab” vehicle burglaries are on the rise in the Porterville area. Thieves are casing parked vehicles:
 - looking inside for items of value
 - breaking the vehicle window
 - and stealing the items.

- With the current state of the Coronavirus
 - the Judicial Council of California has instituted a \$0 bail policy for all “non-violent” criminal offenses, both felony and misdemeanor.
 - The Judicial Councils reasoning for this policy change, is to reduce inmate and staff exposure to the Coronavirus.

- Additionally, the \$0 bail policy has mandated that local jails release all pretrial offenders whose crime is considered “non-violent,” with a few exceptions.

- With more criminals released into the community, it is logical to anticipate these “smash and grab” burglaries will likely increase.

In an effort to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of a vehicle burglary, Safety and Security offer the following tips:

1. Park your vehicle in a secure area if at all possible
2. If unable to park your vehicle in a secure area, park in a populated area, which may deter thieves for fear of being seen.
- 3.
4. During the hours of darkness, place your vehicle in a well-lit area
5. Always lock your doors and roll up your windows completely
6. NEVER leave an item of value in plain sight in your vehicle
7. Remove items of value from your vehicle, if at all possible
8. If you must leave an item of value in your vehicle, conceal the item by placing it in the trunk, glove box, under the seat, etc.
9. Make a record of the serial numbers of valuable items. This will assist the police with identifying your item when/if recovered

10. If you are the victim of a vehicle burglary, do not touch the vehicle as it may disturbed evidence. Contact the police immediately and report the crime. When the officer arrives on scene, provide them with all identifying information for the stolen item(s), make, model, serial number

Contact law enforcement if you are the victim of a crime:

Porterville Police Department 559-781-7400

Tulare County Sheriff Substation 559-782-9650

This presentation is brought to you by Porterville College Campus Safety and Security. If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to call:

Porterville College Campus Security 559-791-2440

Its an honor providing you with professional public safety services