



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cold Weather Auto Thefts Increase

Gladstone police officers report a dramatic increase in cold weather auto thefts. They have received reports of 13 stolen autos between November 2, 2008 and January 2, 2009. A common denominator in these thefts include the fact that eight of the stolen cars were left unattended, motor running and unsecured. The problem is not isolated to one specific area but is citywide. However, the majority of thefts have been on the west side of the city.

When it is cold going to work in a cold car is bothersome, but having your car stolen from your driveway is even more bothersome. If you are going to warm you car up before leaving, have a spare set of keys and lock it up when you go back inside. Watch your car from a window or door while it is warming up, if you see someone approaching call the police. It doesn't take long to warm the car and it takes even less time to steal it if you don't take some basic precautions.