

Car Burglaries (aka “Smash and Grabs”)

Prevention Tips

*Keep criminals from **victimizing** you by following simple **steps** to make sure you are **not the target!!!***

- **Can occur anywhere from 10-30 seconds**
- **Thieves often stake out parking lots**

Do not present the **Opportunity**:

- Plain sight and easily grabbed and carried away without much effort
- Always remove valuables/hide in trunk – purses, wallets, money, laptop bags, backpacks, shopping bags, cell phones, GPS, I-pods, CD’s, keys
- Always close your windows and lock your car doors
- Park in well lit areas close to a building

Trust your instincts. Always **call 911** to report suspicious persons wandering around in parking lots

Keep a list of serial numbers for commonly used electronic equipment (make, model and serial number)

- To enter into computer database
- To help police try to locate items if the offender(s) are found with the property or if it is pawned
- To ensure property is returned to rightful owner

*Simple steps you should use whenever you park your car even if it’s for “**just a minute**”*