



## Auto Theft Prevention Tips

- 1. DO NOT leave your vehicle unsecured!**
- 2. DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE RUNNING OR WITH THE KEYS IN THE IGNITION-NOT EVEN FOR A "FEW" SECONDS!!**
- 3. Try and park in well-lit areas.**
- 4. Keep valuables and packages out of sight.**
- 5. Use theft deterrents-car alarms, steering wheel locks (Club type), kill switches**

Participate in programs like the Texas H.E.A.T.-Help End Auto Theft Program and P.O.P.S. - Protect Our Parts Program

**H.E.A.T.** is a statewide vehicle registration program administered by the Texas Department of Public Safety that helps law enforcement officials identify stolen vehicles.

**Public Service:** Any vehicle owner in Texas can obtain decals for his/her car or truck that authorized law enforcement officers to stop the vehicle and verify ownership between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. anywhere in Texas.

**Border Decals:** Available to alert officials to check ownership of any vehicle driven across the border into Mexico.

Why enroll? A car is stolen in Texas every five and a half minutes. More vehicles are stolen between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. than any other time. In 2000, more than 93,000 vehicles were stolen in Texas. Simply by enrolling, you make it a lot harder for a thief to drive away in your car.

**Enrolling is easy:** Just complete the H.E.A.T. registration application to have your vehicle entered in a statewide database, accessible by law enforcement agencies, 24 hours a day. Personal and company vehicles are eligible for H.E.A.T. registration. You don't have to be a permanent Texas resident to participate in the program as long as you can provide a Texas address and phone number while in state.

Come by the Lampasas Police Department and register your vehicle.

### **Protect Our Parts Program (P.O.P.)**

Thieves often try to hide the identity of a stolen car by altering the car's identification number. The Authority, in partnership with the Texas Action Council on Theft, created the P.O.P. (Protect Our Parts) Program to assist in vehicle recovery efforts. P.O.P. uses visibly traceable labels printed with ID numbers attached permanently to vehicle parts and accessories. Even if the number is removed, it is still visible through ultraviolet light. Parts information is automatically entered into a database and made available to law enforcement officials worldwide.

**To sign up, call 1-800-286-9801.**

