



Happy New Year...
Happy New Normal...

Crime summary and prevention tips

A Note from Major Hawkins Bureau of Community Policing Commander, Brentwood Police

Happy New Year, Brentwood! I really hope everyone is doing their best to stay healthy and safe. We continue to face challenges head-on as we struggle to deal with a new COVID variant, and as we continue to see certain types of crime in our neighborhoods.

Just to provide you with a brief vehicle-related crime update from 2021 compared to 2020:

- Vehicle thefts were down
- Thefts from vehicles were down
- Attempted thefts from vehicles were down
- More than 10 vehicle-related suspicious persons were identified by BPD and crimes were prevented through enforcement action

This is great news and tells me that more of our residents and visitors are committed to keeping vehicles locked and valuables out of sight! Also, we received calls from some keen citizens who called in what they saw as suspicious!

Always call 911 when you see something suspicious, you are never bothering us. We wish we could be everywhere at once, but it's simply not possible. Well, not yet. Who knows what Apple will come up with next?

All of this great news is fine and good, but our work never stops. Areas all around Brentwood have been experiencing an uptick in vehicle-related crimes, and we still need to be vigilant with our vehicles, and in our surroundings. Please, continue to lock your vehicles, encourage your neighbors and friends to do the same, and continue keeping valuables out of sight. Over the next few

weeks additional BPD personnel will be out and about in the early morning hours in an attempt to prevent vehicle warm-up thefts, carjackings, and other vehicle-related crimes.

So many vehicle thefts that occur in the winter months take place as a result of people warming up their cars in the morning, or leaving their cars running while they run a quick errand. Those few minutes or seconds is all a thief needs to help themselves to your vehicle.



What do I do at home AND at work? If I warm up my car, I lock it, and I keep the key fob on my person. I don't keep my computer bag visible inside the car. I am aware of my surroundings as I leave home to make sure I don't see

anyone suspicious looking to commit a crime of opportunity in my neighborhood.

At the Police Department we have experienced several officers who have come down with COVID, but thanks to proper protocol, we are staying as healthy as possible. We



encourage you to stay well and to adhere to the guidelines set forth by the CDC. As a favor to your first responders, if you have been exposed

or are experiencing symptoms, please let us know before we make contact with you, or as soon as possible, so that we may take proper precautions.

As always, stay safe!

