



Contact

For Immediate Release

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ICT Joins College Station in Preventing Crime

The Insurance Council of Texas (ICT) has joined with the College Station Police Department in a crime prevention campaign aimed at preventing auto thefts and auto burglaries. The program involves the funding and distribution of signs that read, “**LOCK** your car, **TAKE** your keys and **HIDE** your belongings.”

Sergeant Janice Kemp of the College Station Police Department said their officers have seen the positive effects of the **LOCK, TAKE and HIDE** program and they welcome the addition of 100 more signs to erect around the city that houses 49,000 Texas A&M students.

“These signs will be a welcomed addition to informing not only our students but all of our residents to use some common sense when walking away from their vehicles,” said Sgt. Kemp. “We have way too many cell phones, lap tops and GPS units simply disappear because they were left in clear view of auto burglars.”

In Texas, an estimated 100,000 vehicles are stolen and another 250,000 are burglarized each year. It is also estimated that half of the vehicles stolen had the drivers’ keys left in the ignition and/or unlocked doors.

Sgt. Kemp said the signs will be placed in large public and private parking areas such as shopping malls, city parks, restaurants, apartment complexes and other areas where there is parking congestion.

Insurance Council of Texas spokesman Mark Hanna said law enforcement personnel welcome any kind of deterrent for criminals as well as good advice for drivers. “Police departments all over Texas have turned to ICT requesting these signs because they have helped lower the crime rate where the signs have been installed,” said Hanna. “The signs offer a simple message and best of all, they work.”

ICT initially started the crime prevention program in Austin on March 2, 2005, and has since begun similar programs in Round Rock, Garland, Mesquite, Frisco, Celina, Del Rio, Houston, Laredo, Brownsville, Highland Village, Beaumont and Galveston.

The Insurance Council of Texas is the largest state insurance trade association in the country consisting of more than 500 property and casualty insurers writing business in Texas.

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