

Derby Police Department

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**Police Chief
Robert Lee**

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Capt. Doug Chambers

The Derby Police Department is asking for the public's help in curbing summertime vandalisms and thefts. Over recent weeks, the police department has noted an increase in the number of thefts from vehicles left parked and unlocked on streets and driveways.

Police officers are working to counter this trend through increased bicycle patrols, targeted surveillance in areas where thefts are being reported and enforcement of the city's curfew ordinance. Although arrests have been made, thefts continue to be reported.

The police department needs help from the public on two fronts. First, police are asking citizens to lock their vehicles when they are parked unattended day or night, and to avoid leaving valuables in plain sight.

Secondly, police are asking citizens to immediately report suspicious activity and suspected curfew violations when they are observed. Based on arrests that have been made and circumstances surrounding the reported cases, police believe persons responsible for most of these thefts have been under the age of eighteen. Having the opportunity to investigate activity as it occurs dramatically increases the opportunity for officers to intervene in a crime.

Police officers use the curfew ordinance as a tool to reduce juvenile crime, and parents are encouraged to become familiar with it. The curfew ordinance is available on-line at www.derbyweb.com/departments/city-code.cfm. A copy is also available at the Derby Police Department, 229 N. Baltimore. The curfew ordinance restricts unsupervised activities by minors between midnight and 6 a.m., and prohibits parents and guardians from allowing a minor to violate curfew restrictions.

Anyone with information regarding these thefts or any crime in Derby is encouraged to call Crime Stoppers of Derby, at 788-TIPS (8477). The call is confidential and if the information you provide leads to an arrest, you will be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.00.