

Hi folks,

It was great seeing and meeting so many new CyberWatch members at the SSCA Annual Business Meeting/Luncheon at the Elks Lodge last month. As noted in our brief CyberWatch presentation, the most prevalent crime in both South Shores and San Pedro, in general, continues to be stolen vehicles. In earlier investigations, we learned some victims were positive their cars had been locked at the time of the theft. More on this later.

Please bear in mind: this Crime Summary reflects only those crimes where a formal police report was filed. **It doesn't include crimes for which NO police report was filed.**

3rd Quarter CyberWatch Crime Summary for South Shores

STOLEN MOTOR VEHICLES - 3

- July 21 - 1900 block of Cumbre Drive - 10 a.m. Parking area in front of Bogdanovich Park.
- September 24 - 1600 block of W. 25th St. - 7:30 p.m. Smart & Final parking lot.
- September 27 - 1700 block of Palacios Drive - 7:00 p.m. At Mantis Avenue.

VEHICLE BREAK-IN THEFT - 1

- August 11 - 2200 block of W. 25th St. - 11:00 p.m.

THEFT-LARCENY - 1

- August 16 - 1600 block of W. 25th St. - 6:30 p.m. Petty theft (\$950 or less in value of stolen goods).

3rd Quarter Crimes by Category for San Pedro, in total.

***STOLEN VEHICLES - 50**

VEHICLE BREAK-IN THEFT - 33

THEFT-LARCENY - 30

ASSAULT - 2

BURGLARY - 2

ROBBERY - 1

SEX CRIME (attempted rape) - 1

***As we can see, stolen vehicles, right now, dominate as a crime category.**

The "bad guys" have figured out a high-tech way of unlocking cars, starting ignitions and stealing automobiles.

Using a special electronic device, thieves are now able to "steal" your fob's signal from as far away as 30 feet. This is usually done by a criminal standing in your driveway between 2 and 4 a.m. and pointing their device at your home to "steal" the signal being emitted 24/7 by your car's keyless car fob.

With the backing of organized crime, this high tech theft now prevails in major port cities throughout North America. Once stolen, these cars are driven to awaiting containers in nearby ports where they are shipped overseas to waiting customers within hours. Each container typically holds 4 stolen cars.

How to Avoid Becoming a Victim of This New High Tech Theft.

At night, store your fob (or fob and key in older models) in a "Faraday pouch". *See example photo.

- A Faraday pouch, lined with steel mesh, blocks 100% of the signals from entering or leaving the pouch.
- Many of these Faraday pouches are available on Amazon. This one was purchased from Lampard...two pouches for \$9.95.
- As a substitute, you can also use an all-metal tea tin instead. They will block signals 100%, as effectively as a Faraday pouch. Although, Janice Hahn, a neighbor cautioned "Just remember where you put that fob!" 😊



So, be well. Stay safe.
Observe and report.

Bob