
2025

ANNUAL REPORT

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE
MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

This Report Reflects 2024 Data



WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lt. Governor

COLONEL MICHAEL A. JACKSON
Superintendent, Maryland Department of State Police

CHRISTOPHER T. McDONOLD
Executive Director



A Transition: Uniform Crime Report to the National Incident Based Reporting System

Effective January 1, 2021, the FBI mandated a change in crime reporting from the Summary Reporting System (SRS) to the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). The move is designed to improve the quality and quantity of crime data collected by law enforcement. NIBRS requires more detailed information about each reported incident, including data on victims, offenders, and circumstances of the crime.

In the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, motor vehicle theft is defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. In the UCR Program, a motor vehicle is a self-propelled vehicle that runs on land surfaces and not on rails. Examples of motor vehicles include sport utility vehicles, automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, all-terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles. Motor vehicle theft does not include farm equipment,

bulldozers, airplanes, construction equipment, or water craft such as motorboats, sailboats, houseboats, or jet skis. The taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by persons having lawful access is excluded from this definition.

In 2021 the Maryland UCR Program along with several Maryland law enforcement agencies transitioned to NIBRS. During this transition period and until all agencies are reporting NIBRS, there will be both SRS and NIBRS reporting in Maryland.

The data used by the Council comes from both the UCR and NIBRS. It is incumbent upon the Council to use only that data which has been validated as accurate. This report reflects 2024 actual vehicle theft and carjacking statistics validated and published by the Department of State Police, Central Records Division.

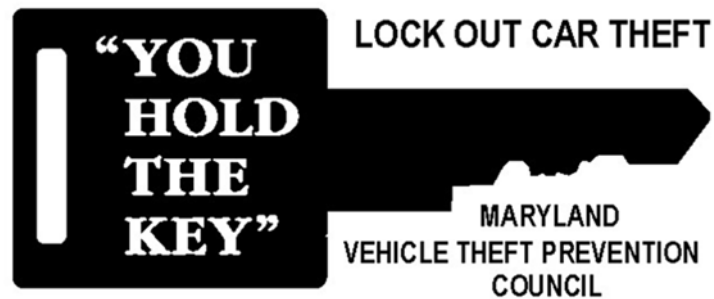
Note: This report reflects 2024 actual vehicle theft and car-jacking statistics.

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL



Wes Moore
Governor

Aruna Miller
Lt. Governor

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

1201 Reisterstown Road

Pikesville, MD 21208

1-800-96-THEFT

E-Mail: mvp.vtpc@maryland.gov

go.md.gov/mdautotheft

COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Vehicle Theft Prevention Council consists of thirteen members appointed by the Governor. The Council includes representatives of law enforcement, prosecutors' offices, automobile insurers, state government, and the general public.

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Colonel Michael A. Jackson

Secretary, Department of State Police
Chair

Betsy Fox Tolentino

Secretary, Department of Juvenile Services

Carolyn J. Scruggs

Secretary, Department of Public Safety &
Correctional Services

Christine E. Nizer

Administrator, Motor Vehicle Administration

COUNCIL STAFF MEMBERS

Christopher T. McDonold

Executive Director

Elena Russo

Director
Department of State Police
Office of Media Communications

Ashley Millner

Deputy Director
Department of State Police
Office of Media Communications

REGULAR MEMBERS

James V. Aluisi

Community Representative
Anne Arundel County

Neil N. Schachter

Community Representative
Baltimore County/Baltimore City

Marjorie Coyne

National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB)

Victor E. Epps

Nationwide Insurance Company, Foreign
Insurance Carrier Representative

Hon. Scott D. Shellenberger

State's Attorney for Baltimore County

Martin A. Hammond III

Representative
Office of the Governor

Phillip V. Lee

Community Representative
Prince George's County

(Vacant)

Domestic Insurance Carrier Representative

(Vacant)

Law Enforcement Representative

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Vehicle Theft Prevention Council (Council) is in its 31st year of service to the citizens of the State of Maryland. Council Programs have proven to be highly effective with a direct correlation to funding levels.

In 2024 Maryland has experienced a vehicle theft decrease of 19% and carjackings decreased 33% over the previous year. Based on 2024 data, the trend is still showing that Hyundai and Kia vehicles are still being stolen but not at the levels we saw during 2023. The VTPC continues to coordinate its efforts with grantees and allied partners to give out free steering wheel locks (anti-theft devices) as well as air tags to owners of Kia and Hyundai vehicles. Maryland continues to see an increase in thefts of vehicles using an Autel device to reprogram new key fobs. These thefts are done by professional organized groups and a large portion of these vehicles are not recovered. We ask owners of these vehicles to use steering wheel locks, brake pedal locks, and On-Board Diagnostics (OBD) blockers. Maryland is also seeing an increase in dealership thefts with tow trucks stealing high end vehicles.

The council's public awareness campaign utilizes in-content messaging on WBAL 1090, WIYY-98 Rock and Weather Channel Mobile Apps. We also utilize Baltimore radio station (92Q FM) to target the Urban Community in the Baltimore Metro Region.

In the Washington Metro Region (Prince George's and Montgomery Counties) the council utilizes a Spanish language music station (WLZL-FM, 107.9), an urban format music station (WPGC-FM, 95.5) a classic hits format music station (WIAD-FM, 94.7) and The Team (980 AM) to promote our message.

2025 COUNCIL INITIATIVES

In July 2025, the Council awarded 21 grants to a variety of organizations encompassing public awareness and prevention, law enforcement, prosecution, and juvenile intervention for a total of

\$2,406,182.00. These grants were focused on the Baltimore/ Washington Metropolitan Area where 94% of all vehicle thefts occur. Grants in the Baltimore Region were awarded to Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Anne Arundel County, Howard County, and the City of Annapolis. Grant assistance in the Washington Region includes Prince George's County, Montgomery County, and Charles County.

THE NATURE OF VEHICLE THEFT

Vehicle theft is primarily a crime of opportunity. Victims often fail to employ even the most modest precautions to deter theft. Frequently, victims either do not lock the vehicle, leave the vehicle with the keys in the ignition or, occasionally, both. Several surveys indicate that many cases of vehicle theft result from such carelessness. Surveys across the State of Maryland, reveal that about 50% of recovered stolen vehicles had the key (or key fob) in the car at the time of their recovery. Thus, the perpetrators often steal a vehicle with little effort.

***The Council
awarded 21
grants for
FY2026...for a
total of
\$2,406,182.00.***



PERPETRATORS

Vehicle theft can best be understood by the perpetrator's motivations. Thefts can be distributed into four distinct groups. In most cases, vehicles are stolen either for the resale or distribution of parts, for transportation purposes, for the commission of other crimes, or for exportation. The operation of "chop shops" and exportation allows for the complete destruction of vehicles often resulting in a total loss for the owner. In the other two instances (transportation purposes and the use of vehicles to commit other crimes) vehicles are generally not destroyed, and the large majority are recovered.

The 2024 Maryland UCR provided final arrest statistics for vehicle theft. In comparing 2024 to 2023 data, arrests for vehicle theft decreased from 2,575 in 2023 to 2,260 in 2024. The perpetrators, according to the 2024 Maryland Crime Report, were 20.3% male, 2.9% female and 76.7% unknown; with 5.3% being white, 15.1% African

American, 0.0% American Indian, Asian, and Pacific Islander and 79.5% unknown.

LOCATION OF THEFT

Historical data indicates that vehicle thefts often occur in two distinct areas that conform to a time frame. In most circumstances, thefts occur either in residential areas in the late evening and early morning hours, or in commercial areas in the mid-day hours. In both cases, the perpetrators easily elude observation.

TYPES OF VEHICLES STOLEN

Although vehicle theft is primarily a crime of opportunity, perpetrators often favor particular makes and models. The following list ranks, according to information received by the Council, the ten most common vehicles stolen in the area of occurrence.

2024: Top 10 Stolen Vehicles Nationwide:*

Vehicle	2024 Thefts
1. Hyundai Elantra	31,712
2. Hyundai Sonata	26,720
3. Chevy Silverado	21,666
4. Honda Accord	18,539
5. Kia Optima	17,493
6. Honda Civic	15,727
7. Kia Soul	13,562
8. Ford F150 Series Pickup	12,952
9. Toyota Camry	12,296
10. Dodge Charger	11,452

* Source: National Insurance Crime Bureau

CARJACKINGS

In 2024, there were 983 carjackings, a 32.6% decrease from the 1,458 reported in 2023, and the 1,015 reported in 2020.

The nature of vehicle theft and vehicle robbery differ drastically. Whereas vehicle theft is a crime of opportunity, vehicle robbery presents the perpetrator with intense personal involvement with the victim. In 2024, vehicle theft decreased 37% and carjacking decreased 32.6% over the previous year. In addition, the Council continues to provide funding to the Baltimore County Police Department/Regional Auto Theft Team, the Prince George's County Police Department Carjacking Interdiction Unit and the Montgomery County Police Department Carjacking Team for ongoing efforts to reduce carjackings.

COMPARISON WITH OVERALL CRIME

The trends in vehicle theft during 2024 can be compared to other forms of crime. There were 149,477 total crime incidents reported in 2024 compared to 150,766 in 2023. The crime index total decreased 0.9% in 2024 when compared to 2023. For 2023, the vehicle theft rate in Maryland has decreased 18.7% (23,955 in 2023; 19,474 in 2024).

CONCLUSION

Since its inception, the Council has been very successful in providing planning and fiscal resources to state, local jurisdictions, and community organizations whose effort, in turn, have reduced vehicle theft rates. The 30 years of successes are supported by the set of facts pertaining to vehicle thefts in Maryland. Management of the problem in future years will be a larger challenge as current data is suggesting additional efforts will be needed.



Carjackers Look for the Right Opportunity



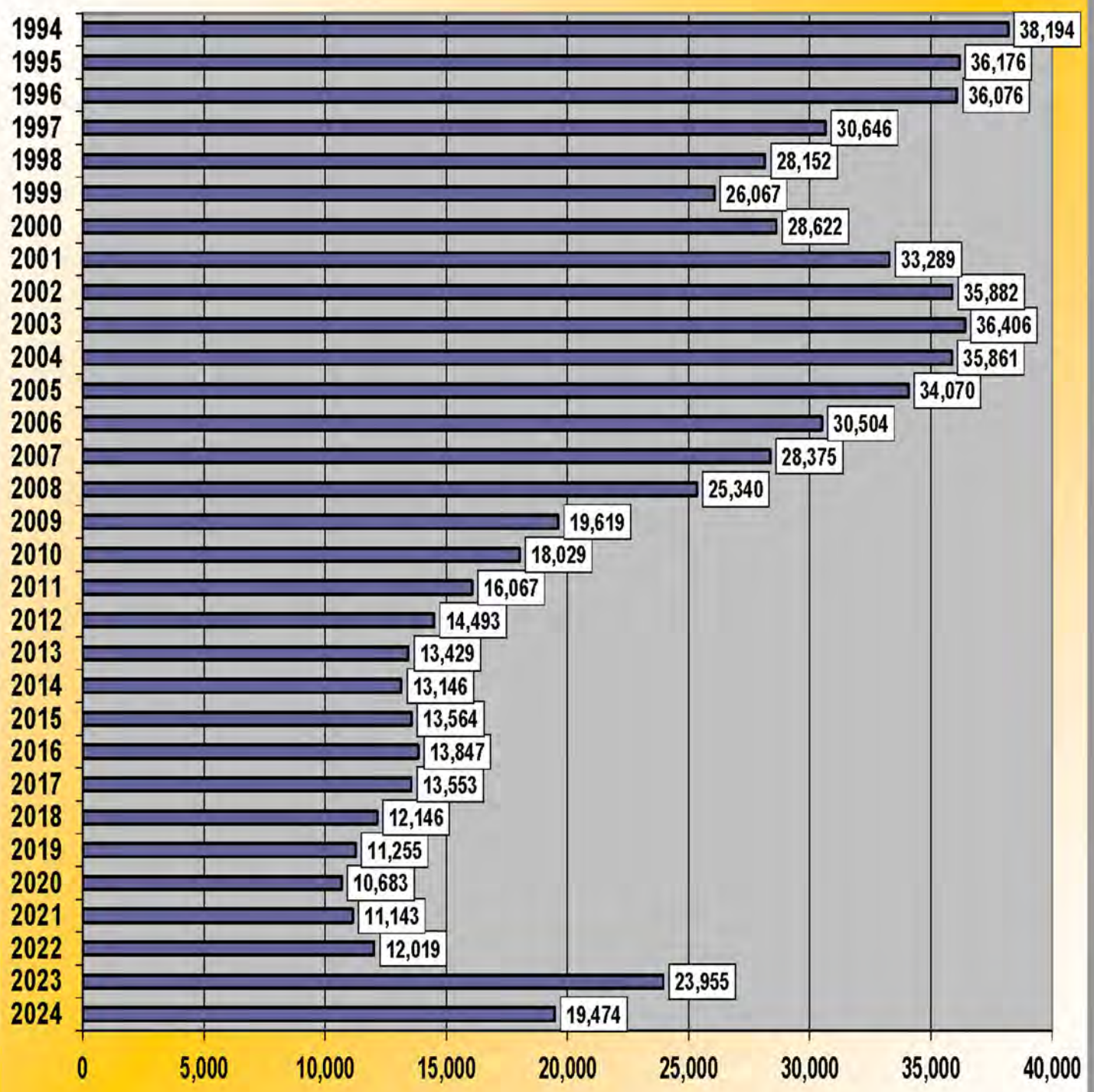
Generally, carjackers look for drivers slowing down, stopping or getting into or out of their vehicle. That is why carjacking often occurs in parking lots and garages, at stop lights and signs and by the side of the road.

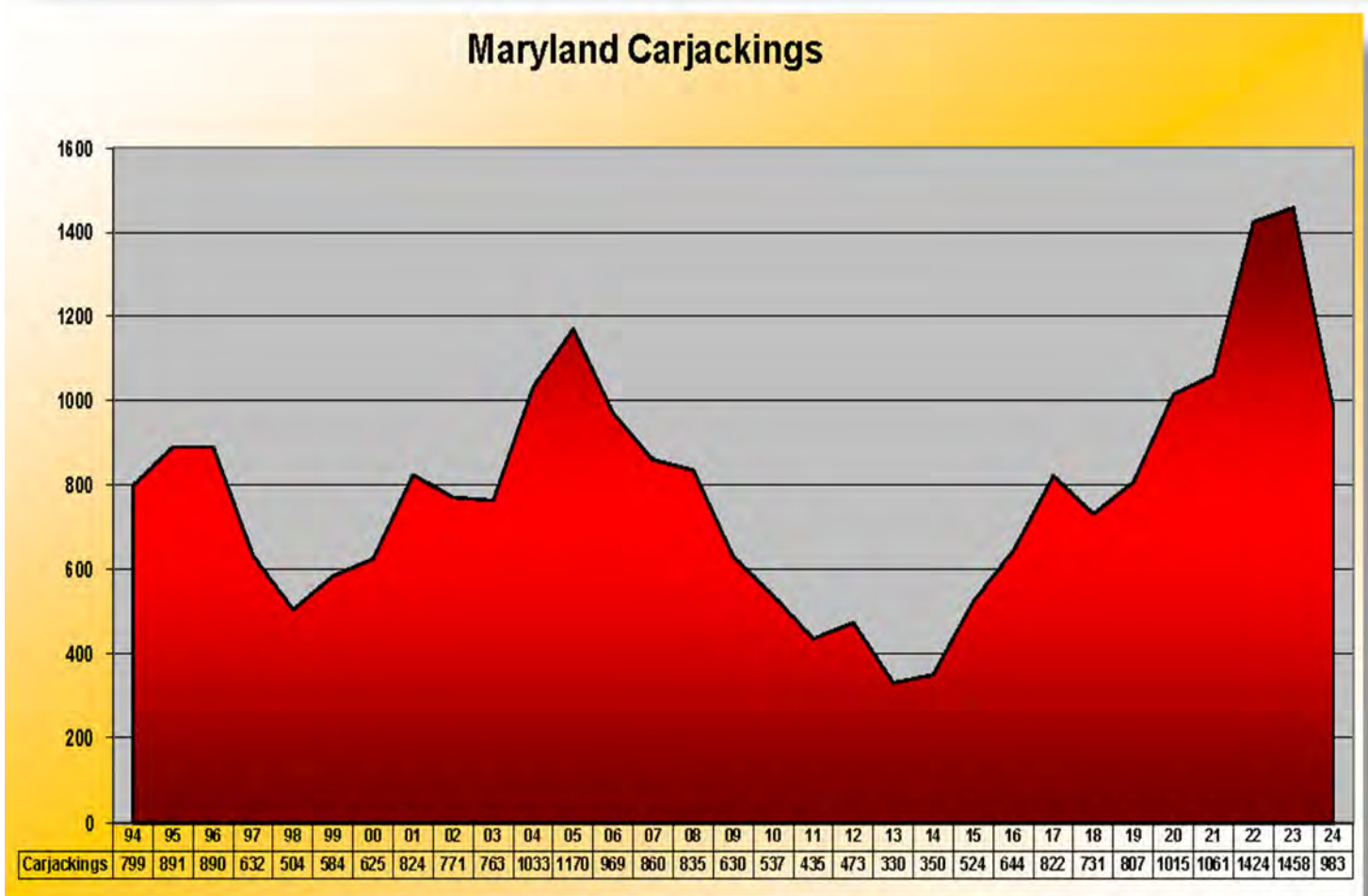
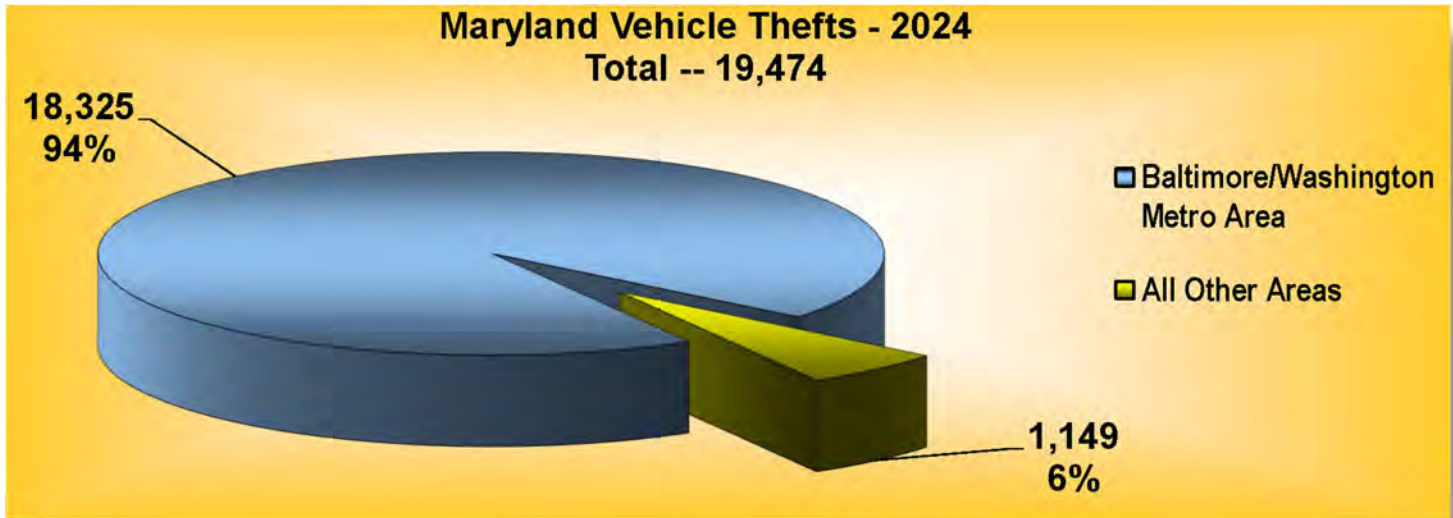
If you encounter a carjacker, surrender the vehicle without a fight. Carjacking is a serious and very dangerous situation. You can replace a car, but the life of every Maryland resident is precious.

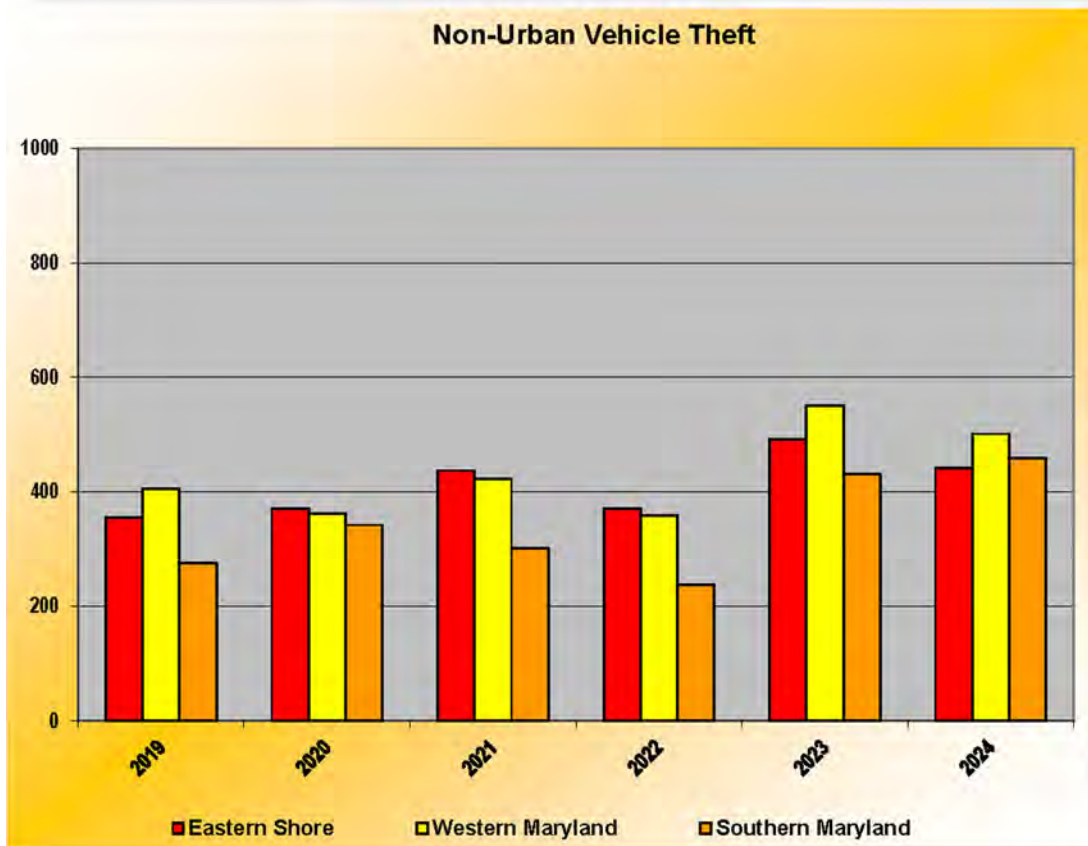
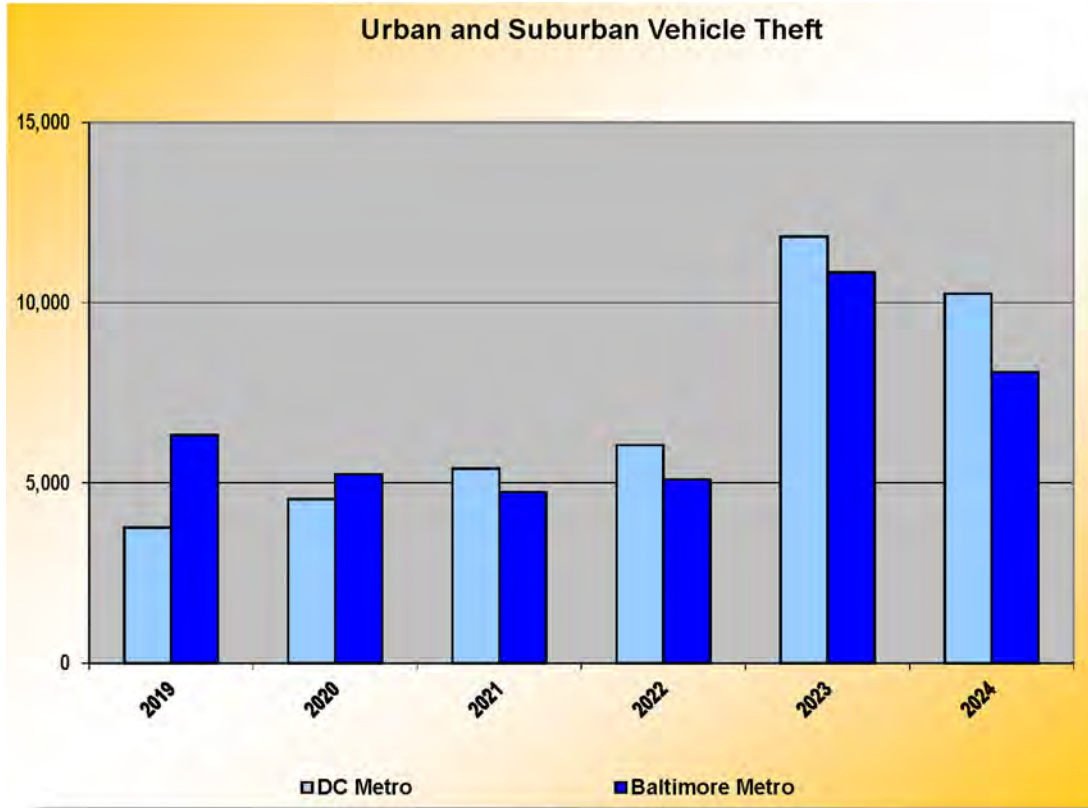


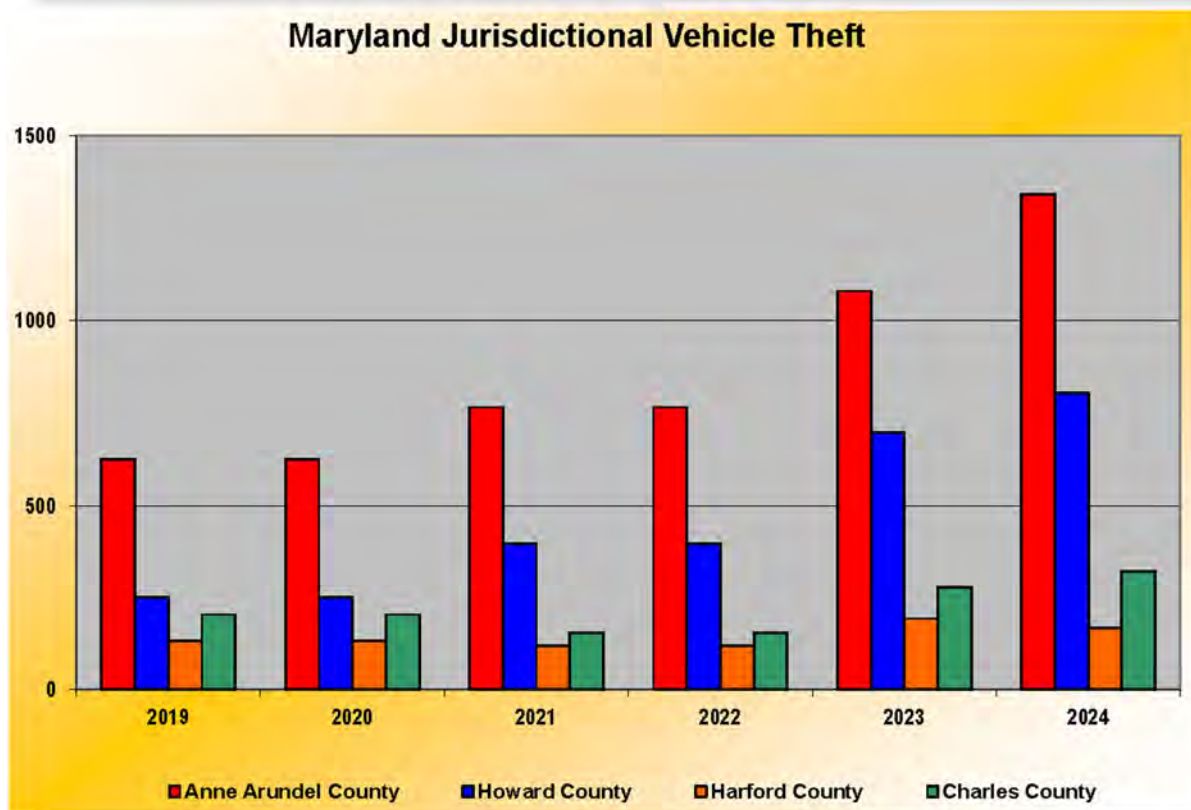
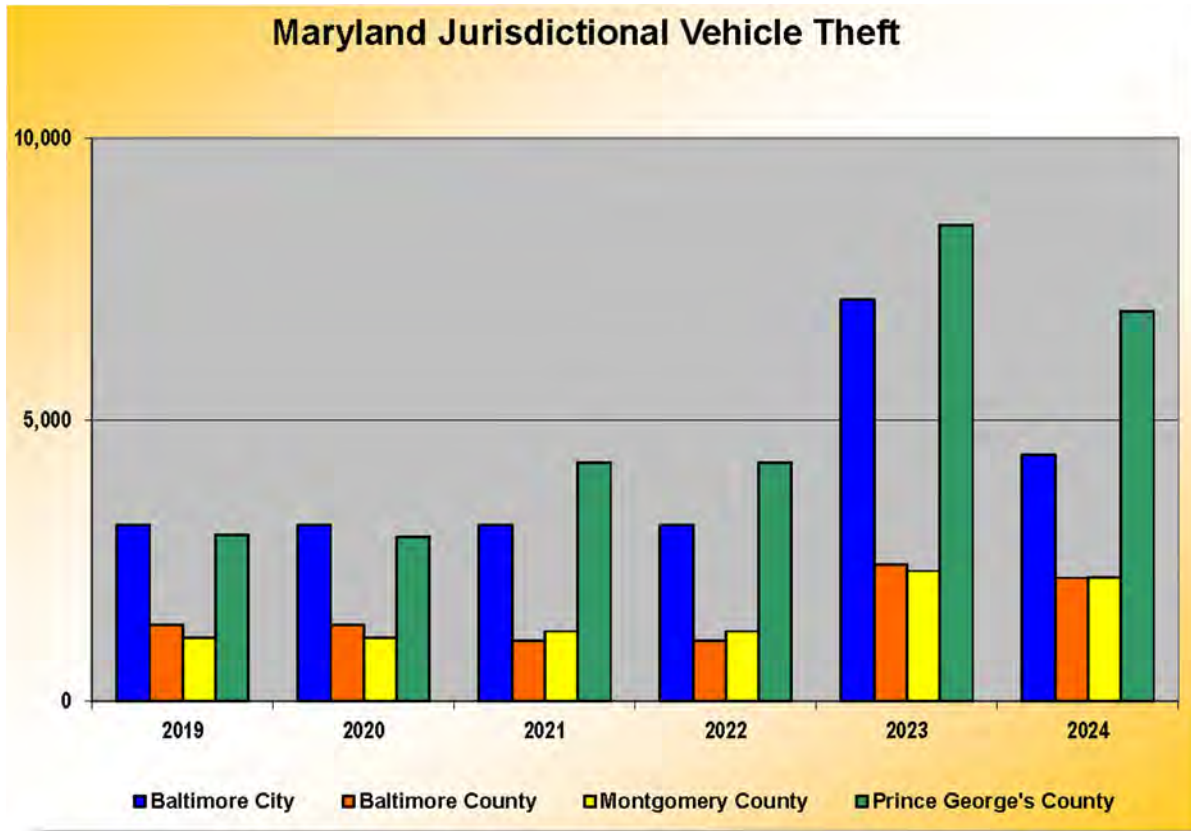
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Maryland Vehicle Theft











2025 PHOTO OF THE YEAR

This image of a residential “chop shop” was submitted by the Howard County Police Department, Special Investigation Division - Auto Theft/Arson Section. See more of “The Year in Words & Pictures” beginning on page 14 of this report.

STATEWIDE VEHICLE THEFT STRATEGIES

FOUR-PART APPROACH

The Council has embraced a four-part programmatic approach based on efforts in other states which have proven effective in the prevention of vehicle theft.

PREVENTION / EDUCATION

Statistics estimate that in three out of four cases of auto theft, owners left the doors unlocked. In 50% of vehicle thefts, keys were left in the ignition. Without prevention efforts and public support, law enforcement alone cannot effectively prevent vehicle thefts in Maryland.

Public education campaigns and prevention training programs can increase individual awareness of the cost of vehicle theft, provide tips for vehicle owners to prevent thefts, and demonstrate the savings that preventative measures yield. The Council encourages prevention programs that promote public awareness and provide public training in the preventative measures.

In an effort to assure maximum effectiveness and statewide coverage of a prevention campaign, the Council encourages programs covering multiple jurisdictions. Partnerships promoting vehicle theft prevention programs between local law enforcement agencies and community organizations are strongly promoted. All law enforcement grants are required to have a prevention component.

DETECTION AND APPREHENSION

The Council encourages detection and apprehension programs by specifically allocating funds to law enforcement agencies. Vehicle theft detection and apprehension programs include community involvement programs, detection training programs, and enhancements to information-gathering programs. Vehicle theft often transcends jurisdictional boundaries; the Council, therefore, encourages law enforcement efforts covering multiple jurisdictional boundaries. An example of this is multi-agency vehicle theft enforcement teams. Multi-jurisdictional efforts may include municipalities, counties, regions, and community organizations.

PROSECUTION & CONVICTION

Prosecution and conviction of vehicle thieves is one of the most important means of breaking vehicle theft rings and reducing the economic incentives of vehicle theft.

In the past, the prosecution of vehicle theft cases had a relatively low priority at both local and state levels because of four factors: staffs were limited and consumed with prosecution of violent crimes, vehicle theft is a property crime as opposed to a personal crime, victims receive insurance

compensation, and vehicle theft prosecutions are complex and expensive in comparison to resultant penalties. A special prosecutor to handle vehicle theft cases through both district and circuit courts is an effective method in achieving convictions.

The Council encourages prosecution and judicial programs designed to assist with the prosecution of persons charged with vehicle theft offenses, as well as efforts to implement legislative changes that facilitate the prosecution of vehicle thieves and forfeiture of their property.

JUVENILE INTERVENTION

Because of the large percentage of juveniles involved in vehicle theft, the Council dedicates a percentage of funds to juvenile service agencies to develop programmatic initiatives with specific vehicle theft offense components. The funds will also be used to improve data collection to enhance research and analysis capabilities of juveniles involved in vehicle theft and related offenses. Schools may be an effective setting for presenting special vehicle theft programs to large groups of young people. Current study data indicates a need to influence juveniles in both middle and high schools about the consequences of vehicle theft.

The Council encourages prevention programs that promote public awareness and provide public training in the preventative measures.



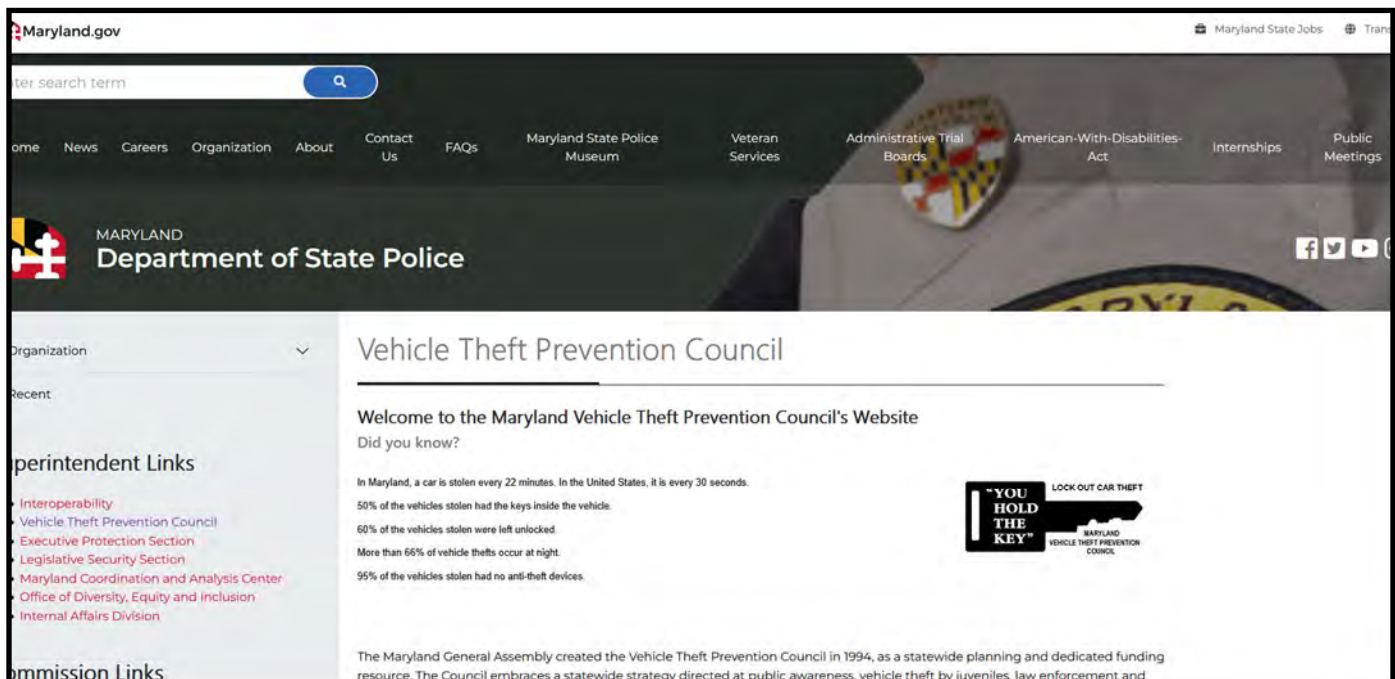
THE COUNCIL'S IMPACT ON PREVENTING VEHICLE THEFT

Since its inception, the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council has been effective in its efforts to combat vehicle theft throughout the State of Maryland. The combination of public awareness, prevention and education has played an integral role in the decline in vehicle theft. By continuing to fund the council, this multi-faceted approach can continue to be applied and provide untold benefits towards the continued reduction of vehicle theft statewide.

COUNCIL WEBSITE

go.md.gov/mdautotheft

Our website is directed at providing vehicle theft prevention data and an interactive link to the public and numerous other vehicle theft prevention organizations nationwide.



Vehicle Theft By The Numbers

850,708 The number of cars stolen in the United States in 2024*.

19,474 The number of cars stolen in the State of Maryland in 2024.

95% The percentage of stolen vehicles that had no apparent anti-theft devices.

66% The percentage of vehicle thefts that occur at night.

60% The percentage of stolen vehicles that were unlocked.

50% The percentage of stolen vehicles that had the keys inside the vehicle.

43% The percentage of stolen vehicles that are not recovered.

42 The number of seconds between each auto theft in the United States.

27 The number of minutes between each auto theft in the State of Maryland.

FACT:

Brochures like these, translated into Spanish, have helped the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council raise awareness throughout the state.

Lock Out Car Theft

The Key to Preventing Theft



"YOU HOLD THE KEY"
MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL
Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

go.md.gov/mdautotheft

Detenga el robo de autos

La llave para prevenir los robos



CONSEJO DE PREVENCIÓN DE ROBO DE AUTOS DE MARYLAND
"LA LLAVE ESTÁ EN SUS MANOS"
Wes Moore, Gobernador
Aruna Miller, Vice Gobernador

go.md.gov/mdautotheft

Robo de autos



¡De...
COM...
"LA LLAVE ESTÁ EN SUS MANOS"
Wes...
Arun...

go.md.gov

Robo de
vehículos
dentro del
auto



destruccion

CONSEJO DE PREVENCIÓN
DE ROBO DE AUTOS
DE MARYLAND

Wes Moore, Gobernador
Aruna Miller, Vice Gobernador

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Carjacking

...you can lose
more than just



Lock Out Car Theft!

"YOU
HOLD
THE
KEY"

MARYLAND
VEHICLE THEFT
PREVENTION COUNCIL

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Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor

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Robo de autos

...Ud. puede perder
mucho más que



¡Evite el robo de

CONSEJO DE PREVENCIÓN
DE ROBO DE AUTOS
DE MARYLAND

"LA LLAVE
ESTÁ
EN
SUS
MANOS"

Wes Moore, Gobernador
Aruna Miller, Vice Gobernador

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THE YEAR IN WORDS & PICTURES



Left:
The Maryland Community Policing Institute at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds Safety Day

Below Left:
The Maryland Community Policing Institute at the Sykesville National Night Out

Opposite Page (Upper Left):
The Maryland Community Policing Institute at the Maryland Center for Safe Schools Conference

Opposite Page (Upper Right):
The Maryland Community Policing Institute partnered with the Howard County Police Department to distribute Auto Theft information at The Howard County Fair.

Opposite Page (Below):
The Maryland Community Policing Institute partnered with the Howard County Police Department to distribute Auto Theft information at The Howard County National Night Out.



*Photos & Text (both pages) courtesy of
Michael A. Krok
Manager*

**Maryland Community Policing Institute
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services**

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MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL



“Here at MCPI (Maryland Community Policing Institute) we exist to assist Law Enforcement and Citizens with Crime Prevention measures. We keep a stock of Vehicle Theft literature and Give-A-Way items to assist Law enforcement with spreading the word about how important it is to:

1. Lock your Car.
2. Never leave a spare key or key fob in your vehicle.
3. Use secondary security devices such as steering wheel locks.
4. Never leave your vehicle running unattended, even for a short period of time. This prevents Jump-In Thefts.
5. Take valuable items out of your vehicle or stow them out of sight. Remember, "Move it or lose it."
6. For push to start vehicles, place your key fob in a Faraday bag or box when not in use, even in your home, criminals have technology to get the code using a laptop to then gain access to your vehicle and steal it.



You are in control of the thief's opportunity to commit a crime, never make it easy or profitable for them.”

*Michael A. Krok, Manager
Maryland Community Policing Institute
Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services*

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MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL



*Photos & Text (both pages) courtesy of
Michael A. Krok
Manager
Maryland Community Policing Institute
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services*



In January 2025, the Harford County Sheriff's Office reported that the Bel Air Auto Auction in Bel Air, Maryland was burglarized by a group of approximately 12-14 suspects. They entered the lot on foot after cutting a hole in the fence from an adjacent business lot. The group then stole nine high-end vehicles: (6) 2025 Cadillac Escalades, (2) 2024 Escalades and (1) 2025 Chevrolet Suburban, fleeing in a convoy toward Baltimore County. These vehicles were placed on a BOLO and distributed to surrounding law enforcement. The MSP - Auto Theft Unit recovered this 2025 black Cadillac Escalade matching the HCSO BOLO parked and unoccupied in front of 5409 Call Place, SE in Washington, DC.

*Photo & Text courtesy of
Maryland State Police
Auto Theft Unit*



On 02/26/2025, Cpl. Wingfield responded to the College Park Barrack to verify a VIN for a vehicle purchased on Facebook. A check of the secondary VIN revealed the vehicle was a 2018 Honda Accord reported stolen to the Howard County Police Department on 12/18/2024.



Photos & Text courtesy of
Maryland State Police
Auto Theft Unit

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MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL



On March 24, 2025, Maryland State Police - Auto Theft Unit investigators began receiving court-ordered location data emitting from an outstanding stolen 2024 black Cadillac Escalade in the area of Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The suspect was using a cellphone jammer to thwart law enforcement. Troopers located the vehicle and recovered the jammer, a Glock 19x and \$40,000 cash.



Photos & Text courtesy of
Maryland State Police
Auto Theft Unit



Above: On December 23, 2025 Corporal Wingfield obtained a search and seizure warrant for an address in Laurel, Maryland. During execution of the warrant, investigators identified two stolen vehicles, a Cadillac Escalade and a Chevrolet Suburban, both determined to be fraudulently titled and reVIN'd. During the course of the warrant execution, investigators recovered thirteen (13) stolen vehicles. Additionally, MVA investigators have identified eighteen (18) vehicles seized by ATU and ASED in connection with this investigation.



Left: On 8/1/2025, Maryland State Police - Auto Theft Unit were informed by MVA investigators of a possible re-plated 1999 International dump truck. On 8/5/25, MSP - ATU detectives contacted and met the owner at his business located in Severn, MD 21144. The vehicle was inspected, and via confidential means the true VIN of the vehicles was determined to be stolen from Fairfax, VA on 6/25/25.



*Photos & Text courtesy of
Maryland State Police
Auto Theft Unit*

Summary of MVA's Use of VTPC Funding

Four (4) Additional Mobile LPR's

Thanks to funding from the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council (VTPC), the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) purchased four (4) mobile LPR's from Elsag. These LPR's will boost the MVA Investigations and Security Services Division's ability to assist state in local law enforcement in locating stolen and uninsured motor vehicles.

Removal of Uninsured Vehicles

The funding from the VTPC also enabled MVA Investigators to target vehicles with suspended registrations due to mandatory insurance violations. As a result, tags were removed from 287 uninsured vehicles, and over \$330,000 in fines related to insurance lapses were collected. This initiative helps protect Maryland vehicle owners by removing uninsured vehicles from the roads, reducing the risk of accidents involving uninsured drivers.

Recovery of Stolen Vehicles

During the process of searching for uninsured vehicles, MVA Investigators successfully recovered four stolen vehicles, further contributing to the safety and security of Maryland roads.

Financial Impact

The removal of uninsured vehicles and the enforcement of insurance regulations result in significant financial benefits. Maryland vehicle owners save thousands of dollars in unrecouped damage costs from accidents with uninsured vehicles. Additionally, up to \$2 million in uninsured motorist fines are returned to the VTPC each year, supporting ongoing efforts to prevent vehicle theft.

These initiatives demonstrate the MVA's and the VTPC's commitment to combating vehicle-related crimes and ensuring the safety of Maryland's motorists.

*Eric Danz
Manager
Investigations & Security Services
Maryland Department of Transportation
Motor Vehicle Administration*





Det. Eric Hoppa, a member of the Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team (RATT), receiving an award from the Northwest Citizen Patrol at the NWCP Dinner for arresting a car thief. Looking on is Chief Robert McCullough, Neil Schachter, and Rett Waldman.

Thank you Det. Hoppa and the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council for keeping our city safe.



*Photo & Text Courtesy of
Neil Schachter
President
Northwest Citizens Patrol*



From September 2025 to January 2026, Howard County Auto Theft Unit investigated a multi-jurisdictional organized vehicle theft ring. The case involved a stolen tow truck being used to commit vehicle thefts from neighborhoods, parking garages, and dealerships of high-end luxury vehicles. These thefts occurred throughout the DMV area. During the course of this investigation, it was learned that the suspects were using storage units to conceal stolen cars, "hit cars" (stolen cars used to commit vehicle thefts) and chopped up stolen vehicle parts. In all, Howard County Auto Theft served 10 total search warrants on residences, storage units, and one chop shop in Howard County and Prince George's County. A total of 12 stolen vehicles including the stolen tow truck were recovered during this investigation. Several stolen vehicles were recovered in New Jersey while enroute to the Port. This investigation led to the arrest of two well-known auto thieves.



*Photo & Text Courtesy of
Sergeant Ray Conner
Howard County Police
Department
Special Investigation Division -
Auto Theft/Arson Section*

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Above: Picture of chop shop. Numerous other stolen vehicle components were recovered from this shop in Howard County, Maryland.

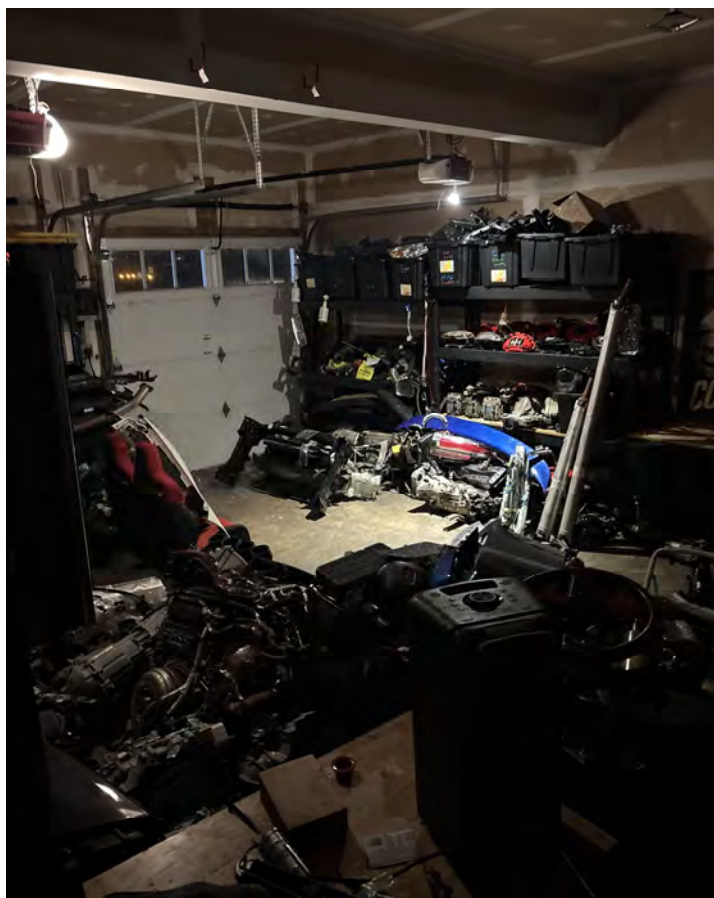
Right and Below: Storage units containing stolen vehicle components.



**Photos & Text Courtesy of
Sergeant Ray Conner
Howard County Police
Department
Special Investigation Division -
Auto Theft/Arson Section**



In August of 2025 the Howard County Auto Theft section received information from Fairfax County, Virginia in reference to a stolen engine listed on eBay and Facebook. The seller was identified as being a resident of Howard County. In September of 2025 Howard County Auto Theft along with Fairfax County, Harford County, and NICB local representatives served a search warrant on a residence in Howard County. During this search auto parts including engines, airbags, and transmissions were recovered from fifteen stolen vehicles. Stolen vehicle parts were found to be from the following jurisdictions: Baltimore County, Anne Arundel County, Harford County, Prince George's County, Baltimore City, Fairfax County, Virginia and Prince William County, Virginia . Several investigations continue related to this case.



*Photos & Text Courtesy of
Sergeant Ray Conner
Howard County Police
Department
Special Investigation Division -
Auto Theft/Arson Section*

Above Right: Stolen engines from residential Search & Seizure Warrant related to the eBay/Facebook investigation.

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Right: Storage unit related to the eBay/Facebook investigation located in Howard County.

Below: Engines and other stolen vehicle components seized during the eBay/Facebook investigation.



*Photos & Text Courtesy of
Sergeant Ray Conner
Howard County Police
Department
Special Investigation Division -
Auto Theft/Arson Section*

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In December of 2025 DFC Paul Downey (Auto Theft Section) assisted Howard County Violent Crimes Section with a Berla extraction related to an on going Homicide investigation. A Berla extraction, typically performed using the Berla iVe software, is a forensic, legal process that extracts and analyzes data from a vehicle's infotainment, telematics, and navigation systems. It captures evidence like GPS locations, call logs, paired devices, and vehicle events to support criminal investigations and accident reconstructions.



*Photos & Text Courtesy of
Sergeant Ray Conner
Howard County Police
Department
Special Investigation Division -
Auto Theft/Arson Section*



"The Howard County Auto Theft Unit is a small unit made up of only four Detectives. With support from the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, a civilian Auto Theft Specialist position is funded. Being a small unit this position is extremely important to assist with administrative work as well as assisting with linking vehicle theft trends together for Detectives. Furthermore, the training Detectives are able to attend with funding from VTPC greatly assists Howard County Auto Theft Detectives with staying current on the most up to date techniques to combat auto theft trends. Lastly, equipment needed to combat auto thefts within Howard County can be purchased as a direct result of funding provided by the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council."

*D/SGT Ray Conner
Howard County Police Department
Special Investigation Division - Auto Theft/Arson Section*

*Photo & Text Courtesy of
Sergeant Ray Conner
Howard County Police
Department
Special Investigation Division -
Auto Theft/Arson Section*

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"As a direct result of the support provided by the Maryland VTPC Grant, our unit has increased investigative efficiency, improved case clearance rates, and contributed to sustained reductions in carjackings and auto thefts throughout Prince George's County.

The VTPC Grant has provided critical financial resources to the Carjacking Interdiction Unit, enabling the purchase of specialized vehicles, surveillance, and investigative equipment, while fostering strong community and law enforcement partnerships throughout the region.

The VTPC Grant has been, and continues to be, an indispensable resource in protecting our community and ensuring long-term crime reduction."

Sgt. M. Milburn #3568
Prince George's County Police Dept.
Auto Crimes Section/ CIU



GPS/ Surveillance training hosted By PGPD auto crimes section (WAVE/ CIU). Participants included Officers from the United States Park Police, City of Bowie Police, Hyattsville City Police and Anne Arundel County Police.

*Photo & Text courtesy of
Cpl. M. Stargel #3754
Prince George's County Police Department
Strategic Investigations Division
Auto Crimes Unit / W.A.V.E*

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL



Images from National Night Out 2025.

Photos & Text courtesy of
Cpl. M. Stargel #3754
Prince George's County Police Department
Strategic Investigations Division
Auto Crimes Unit / W.A.V.E



Dynamic Vehicle Apprehension Training

*Photo courtesy of Sgt. M. Milburn #3568
Prince George's County Police Dept.
Auto Crimes Section/ CIU*

"The grant's support for acquiring and equipping covert vehicles has significantly enhanced our efforts against auto theft. These vehicles enable the W.A.V.E. Team to conduct discreet surveillance, respond in real time, and apprehend offenders. Without this funding, our ability to disrupt auto theft operations would be greatly reduced.

The grant's investment in advanced surveillance equipment has been instrumental in identifying suspects, collecting key evidence, and securing convictions. This technology remains one of our most effective tools in combating vehicle theft and related crimes. Prevention is as important as enforcement. With support from the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, we educate residents on theft prevention, engage communities in protecting their vehicles, and implement initiatives that deter criminal activity. This partnership strengthens our relationship with the public and empowers them to help prevent crime.

The Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council Grant has enabled W.A.V.E. team members to attend International Association of Auto Theft Investigators (IAATI) training seminars. These opportunities keep our team current on emerging trends and investigative techniques, while building valuable law enforcement partnerships. W.A.V.E. members share this knowledge in Maryland by providing specialized instruction to local and federal agencies and citizen police academies.

W.A.V.E. members also participate in National Night Out and other outreach events to educate the public on auto theft prevention and emerging trends. These efforts support ongoing initiatives to reduce vehicle theft and enhance public safety across Maryland."

*Corporal M. Stargel #3754
Prince George's County Police Dept.
Auto Crimes Section/ WAVE
Technical Operations Officer*



The Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council in 2025 awarded students from the College of Southern Maryland and the Community College of Baltimore County for their submissions in the public service announcement competition. Some students were awarded \$1,000. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who participated.

From left to right: Maryland/DC Anti Car Theft Committee President John Cadigan, CSM Dean David Robinson, Carrico Vela, Jada Cousins, Christopher Bowen, Brooke-Lynne Glover, Campbell Earheart, Veronica Walton, Thomas Hall, Professor Olaniyi Areke, Sophia Ringling, Michael Couch, Nicholas Wyandt, CSM President Dr. Yolanda Wilson and Chair of VPA Dr. Richard Bilsker.

*Photo & Text Courtesy of
Maryland State Police*



The Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, in collaboration with the Maryland State Police and the Maryland/DC Anti Car Theft Committee, hosts an annual Public Service Announcement (PSA) contest. This initiative invites students from Maryland's colleges and universities to create innovative video and audio PSAs aimed at raising awareness about vehicle theft and related crimes prevention.

From left to right: Maryland/DC Anti Car Theft Committee President John Cadigan, VTPC Executive Director Christopher T. McDonold, Jocelyn Strand, Professor Liz Savage and DIGM department coordinator Gianna Allen-Riethmiller.



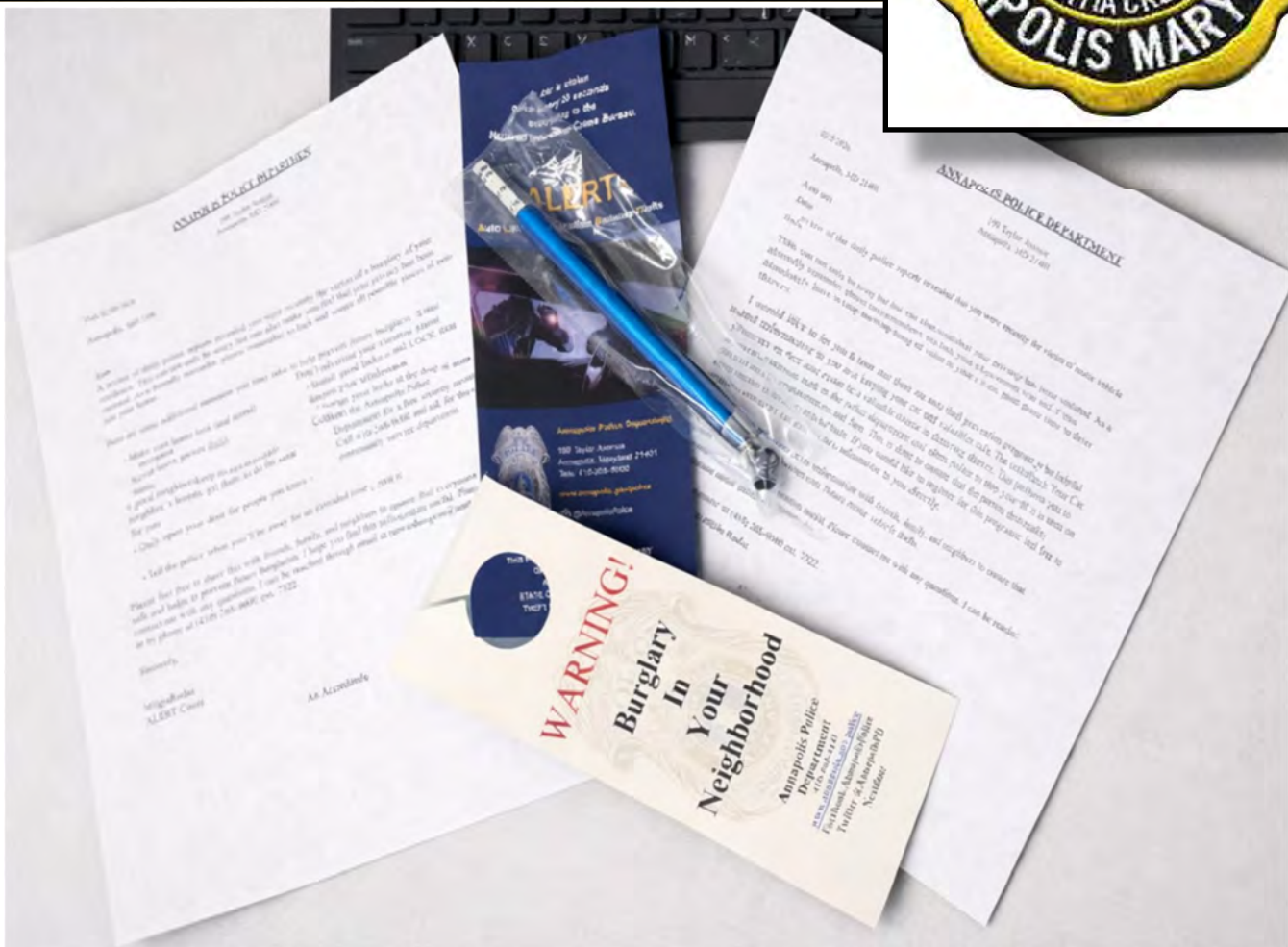
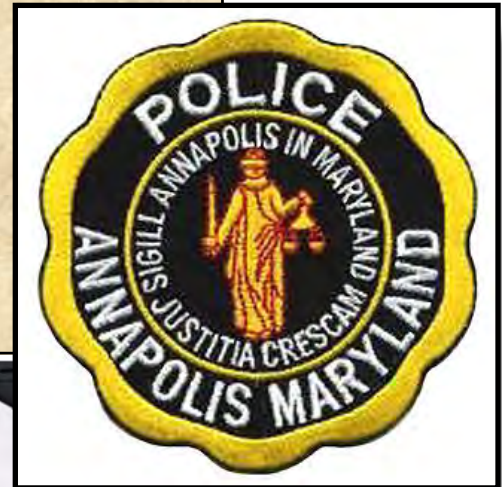
Photo & Text Courtesy of Maryland State Police

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

"The Annapolis Police Department is committed to reducing vehicle theft and theft from vehicles through thorough investigations, public education and property crime prevention initiatives. Collaboration with and support from the VTPC is essential to the agency's efforts in educating the public and victims of these crimes through community outreach, attendance at neighborhood and HOA meetings and the ability to designate a coordinator of the ALERT program."

Sergeant Kristoffer Becker
Community Outreach Supervisor
Annapolis Police Department



Example of letter and flyer sent from the Annapolis Police Department to a victim of a theft from their vehicle. Included is a flyer with tips to prevent auto theft, auto vandalism and theft from auto along with a notice of property crime occurring in the area.

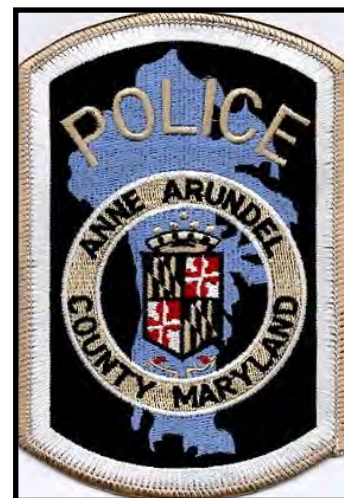
*Photo & Text Courtesy of
Sergeant Kristoffer Becker
Annapolis Police Department*



A white 2011 Nissan GT-R (California registration 7BQA094 / VIN JN1AR5EF1BM240161) was reported stolen in Anne Arundel County. Detectives initiated a multi-jurisdictional investigation, employing advanced electronic surveillance to track the vehicle's movements. The surveillance data later indicated the GT-R traveling toward Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Detectives promptly coordinated with the Philadelphia Police Department, which located the vehicle parked within city limits but was unable to continue surveillance at that time.

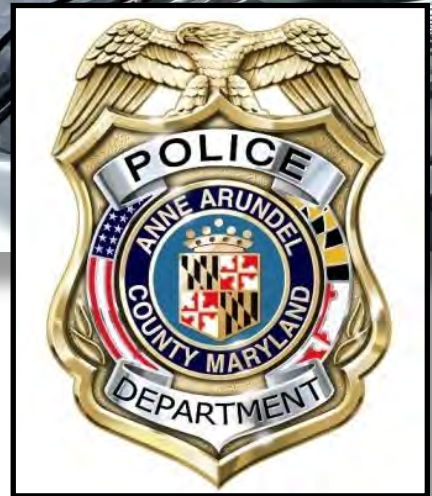
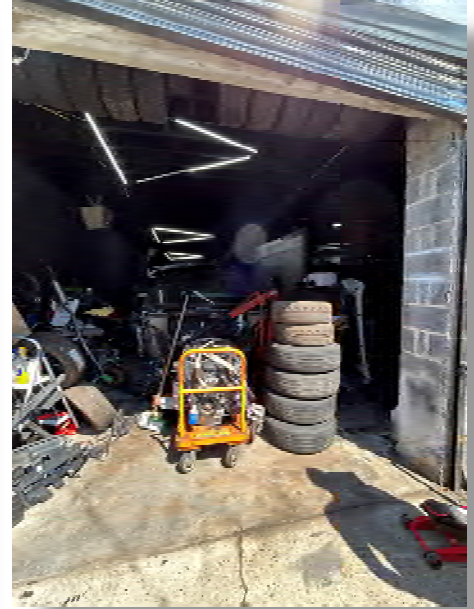
In August 2025, Regional Crimes Unit detectives expanded their efforts by collaborating with the Pennsylvania State Police. Together, probable cause developed and a search warrant was authored. On September 11, 2025, the warrant was executed. Inside the property, investigators recovered 22 stolen vehicles valued at approximately \$1.1 million, along with approximately 14,000 grams of suspected cocaine (including three pressed kilos), 413 grams of suspected methamphetamine, \$2,000 in U.S. currency, assorted ammunition, and four Glock magazines.

This outcome was possible in part because of the VIPER grant which fostered critical interagency relationships and partnerships. Those relationships directly enabled the coordination and collaboration necessary for this operation to be successful. Without the VIPER grant support the Regional Crimes Unit would not have had the technological capability or operational support necessary to disrupt a large-scale vehicle theft operation of this magnitude. Thank you for your continued support.



2025 ANNUAL REPORT

MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL



Photos & Text on both pages
Courtesy of
Sgt. E. Schwarz
Anne Arundel County
Criminal Investigation Division
Regional Crime Unit

"The Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council has greatly assisted our unit with the necessary funding for equipment that assists in our investigations on a daily basis. Funding that is often not available through our Department alone. Our Taskforce is viewed as a vital asset to the Baltimore area not only for its apprehension of auto theft suspects, but also in the apprehension of other violent crime offenders. It is well known that suspects who are committing violent crimes are often stealing vehicles in order to commit these crimes. The Council has also made it possible for members of our Taskforce to attend training hosted by IMPACT which is also funded by the MVTPC. These training events are always well attended by law enforcement as well as other Government Agencies such as MVA and the private sector such as many insurance companies. Our Detectives always learn something new during these events, and always walk away with a helpful new contact to use in their auto theft investigations."

Sgt. Tim Stadler
Baltimore County Police Department
Regional Auto Theft Taskforce



(Above, Left) This Honda was recovered after an investigation into a Facebook sale of a replated vehicle. The suspects ended up being caught at a hotel with 7 replated vehicles in the parking lot ready for sale. A search warrant of the hotel room recovered numerous fraudulent titles, key fobs, fraudulent temp tags and a large sum of currency.

(Above, Right) This was another vehicle from the Facebook investigation involving criminals who were stealing and replating vehicles.



(This Page, Above) This is a vehicle recovered from the Facebook investigation which spanned several counties in Maryland and involved stolen Hondas from New York and New Jersey.

(This Page, Below) Another recovered vehicle from the Facebook investigation. Once the investigation started, detectives started identifying cars that had already been sold to unsuspecting buyers. They had to be located and recovered from the buyers. These buyers were able to identify the suspects who sold the car to them using a photo show.



Photos and Text (both pages) Courtesy of
Sergeant Tim Stadler
Baltimore County Police Department
Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team (RATT)

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

“The Maryland State Police – Auto Theft Unit has benefited tremendously from the continued support of the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council (MVTPC). The MVTPC has played a vital role in advancing the unit's mission.

The Unit’s mission encompasses the investigation of motor vehicle theft trends, exportation and/or trafficking of stolen vehicles, illegal chop shops, vehicle insurance fraud, the sale of stolen vehicles to scrap yards, and other related crimes. These offenses often originate in metropolitan areas and, on occasion, extend into bordering jurisdictions and surrounding states.

The resources and support provided by the MVTPC directly enhance criminal apprehension and investigative efforts, while also assisting victims of auto theft which ultimately contributes to a safer Maryland for both residents and visitors.”

*Marcus Easley
Corporal
Maryland Department of State Police
Criminal Enforcement Division
Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team*



On October 23, 2025, at approximately 0001 hours, MSP-Auto Theft Unit Detectives responded to 27 Liberty Street to assist Carroll County Drug Task Force with the execution of their warrant. Detectives looked at all vehicles associated with the shop. In the center of the garage a black Harley-Davidson Motorcycle was observed. The VIN on the frame of the vehicle had been ground off, as had the engine number. A number off an engine component was located, and found to belong to a 2005 Harley-Davidson Motorcycle reported stolen through Westminster City Police Department on 08/24/2025.

*Photo & Text courtesy of
Maryland State Police
Auto Theft Unit*

"With support from the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, the Maryland State Police Auto Theft Unit has successfully conducted investigations leading to the recovery of stolen vehicles and the arrest of multiple individuals. This support has provided essential funding to enhance local, state, and multi-jurisdictional investigations, including efforts by the Car Rally Task Force to recover stolen vehicles, parts, and firearms.

Without the support of the Maryland VTPC, I believe auto theft units statewide would face significant limitations in funding and resources, restricting their ability to conduct long-term and complex investigations."

Nayim Sadik
Assistant Commander
Maryland Department of State Police
Criminal Enforcement Division



"Vehicle theft has been a real concern for many families and businesses across our County. In the Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office, we have seen improvement in case volume, with vehicle theft-related cases decreasing from 1,026 in 2024 to 682 in 2025. Even with this progress, these cases still affect our neighborhoods and require steady attention and resources. Support from the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council helps our office stay prepared and responsive.

Council grant funding supports a dedicated legal assistant working in our Major Crimes Unit on vehicle theft cases. That added support makes a meaningful difference behind the scenes. As investigations grow more complex and evidence becomes more technical and time-consuming to review, having dedicated legal support helps keep cases organized, prepared, and moving forward in court.

While this work is not always visible to the public, it directly supports accountability and strengthens case outcomes. It also helps ensure that victims and impacted community members see steady progress in their cases.

We value the Council's continued partnership in helping us maintain a strong response to vehicle theft and protect the safety and confidence of the community we serve."

Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office



A BMW X5 that was carjacked at gunpoint in Montgomery County, that would later be recovered with an arrest, with the assistance of Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, DC.

*Photo and Text Courtesy of
Sgt. Wayne Nichols
Montgomery County Police Department,
Major Crimes - Robbery Section*

"The VTPC has become extremely beneficial for our unit. Because of our relationship and participation, multiple investigators have been able to receive advanced training in multiple investigative techniques and investigative fields. This would not have been possible otherwise, as budget limitations have also affected the distribution of training funds within our department."

*Sgt. Wayne Nichols
Major Crimes Division - Robbery/Carjacking Section
Montgomery County Police Department*



As phones and phone data continue to become more vital to investigations, these posts were discovered by investigators, as the suspects seemingly mock their crimes from inside the carjacked vehicle.

A carjacking suspect brandishes their weapon while standing in a carjacked BMW X5, for a video on social media.

*Photos and Text Courtesy of
Sgt. Wayne Nichols
Montgomery County Police Department,
Major Crimes - Robbery Section*



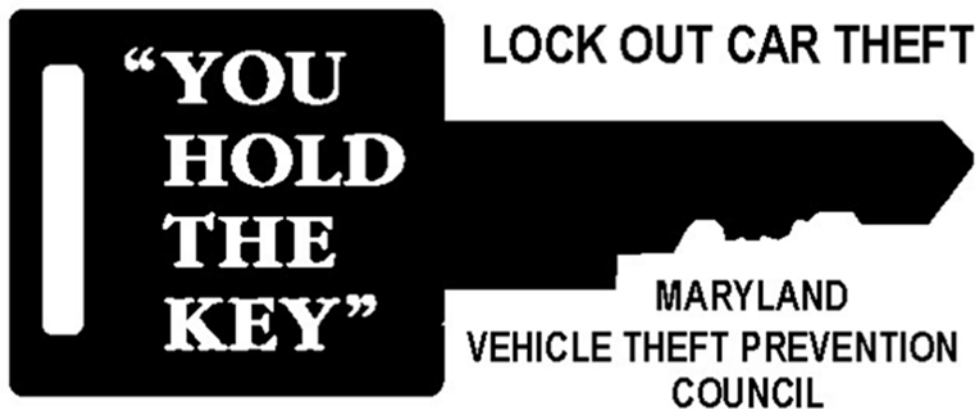
Basic Auto Theft Investigations Course – November 2025 , Montgomery Village, MD hosted by Montgomery County Auto Crime Enforcement Section (ACES).

*Photo and Text Courtesy of
Aziza Hussain-Bocchicchia | She/Her
Crime Analyst
Auto Crime Enforcement Section | ACES
Major Crimes Division
Montgomery County Department of Police*

"The VTEPP grant continues to drive progress in targeted enforcement, community outreach, and technological enhancements that support vehicle-theft prevention and investigative efforts in Montgomery County.

Data demonstrates both persistent challenges and measurable gains resulting from grant-funded strategies. As we move into the new year, leveraging actionable intelligence, sustained collaboration, ongoing training, and strategic resource deployment remain essential to disrupting organized theft rings and reducing vehicle theft countywide."

*Aziza Hussain-Bocchicchia | She/Her
Crime Analyst
Auto Crime Enforcement Section | ACES
Major Crimes Division
Montgomery County Department of Police*



“Washington College’s Geospatial Innovation Program (WCGIP) continues to support the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council (VTPC) by helping partner agencies translate vehicle theft data into clear, practical resources for decision-making and reporting.

This year, VTPC stakeholders can now explore theft and recovery trends across all participating jurisdictions in a unified statewide view, with the option to filter by jurisdiction and date range and generate print-ready outputs on demand. This shift from single-jurisdiction analysis to a cross-jurisdiction view better reflects how vehicle theft crosses boundaries and reveals regional and cross-border patterns. To support this statewide capability, we held stakeholder engagement sessions to gather input and refine our approach, reinforcing the value of cross-jurisdiction insight and the need for both streamlined reporting and deeper online analysis. In response to partner feedback, we delivered online mapping and reporting tools designed to make data easier to access, interpret, and apply in real-world prevention efforts.

Next year, we will expand these tools by continuing stakeholder engagement, integrating additional datasets, and adding curated, user-friendly analytical features. These new additions will be supported by practical training materials and hands-on sessions to help jurisdictions apply the tools effectively. We will also continue advancing GeoAI-ready capabilities to support faster insight, stronger coordination, and more targeted prevention efforts across Maryland.

VTPC plays an essential role in strengthening statewide coordination, accountability, and prevention efforts across Maryland, enabling cross-jurisdiction collaboration that no single agency could accomplish alone. We are grateful for this partnership and the opportunity to support participating jurisdictions with consistent, decision-ready tools.

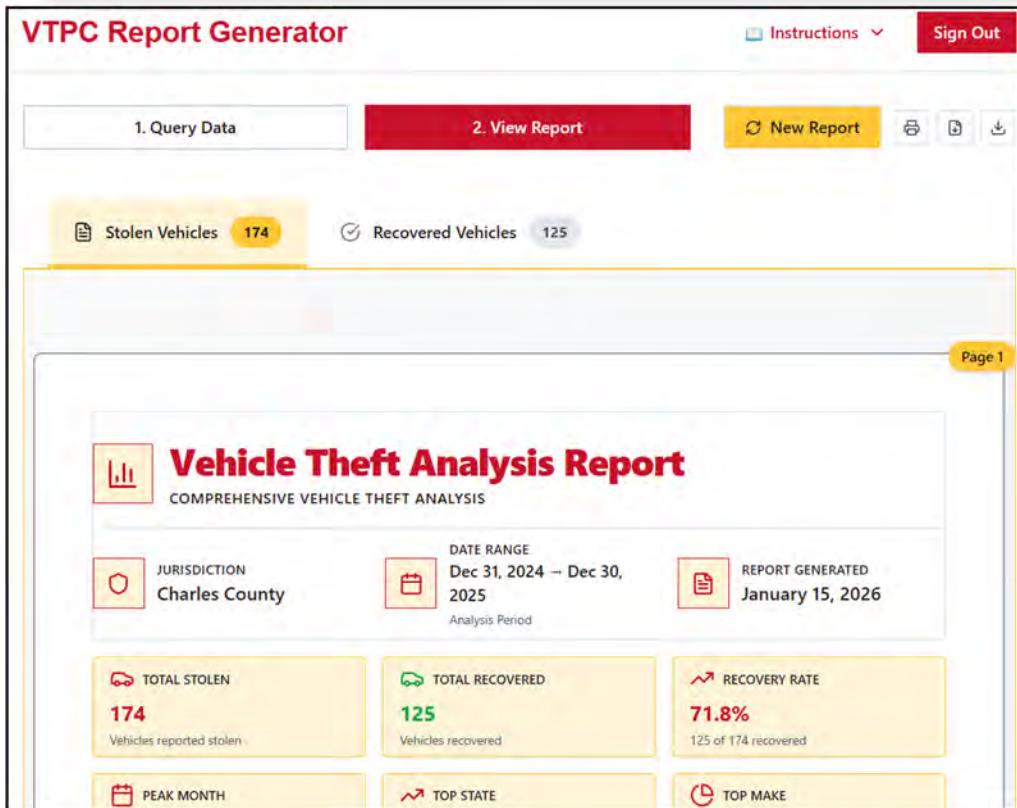
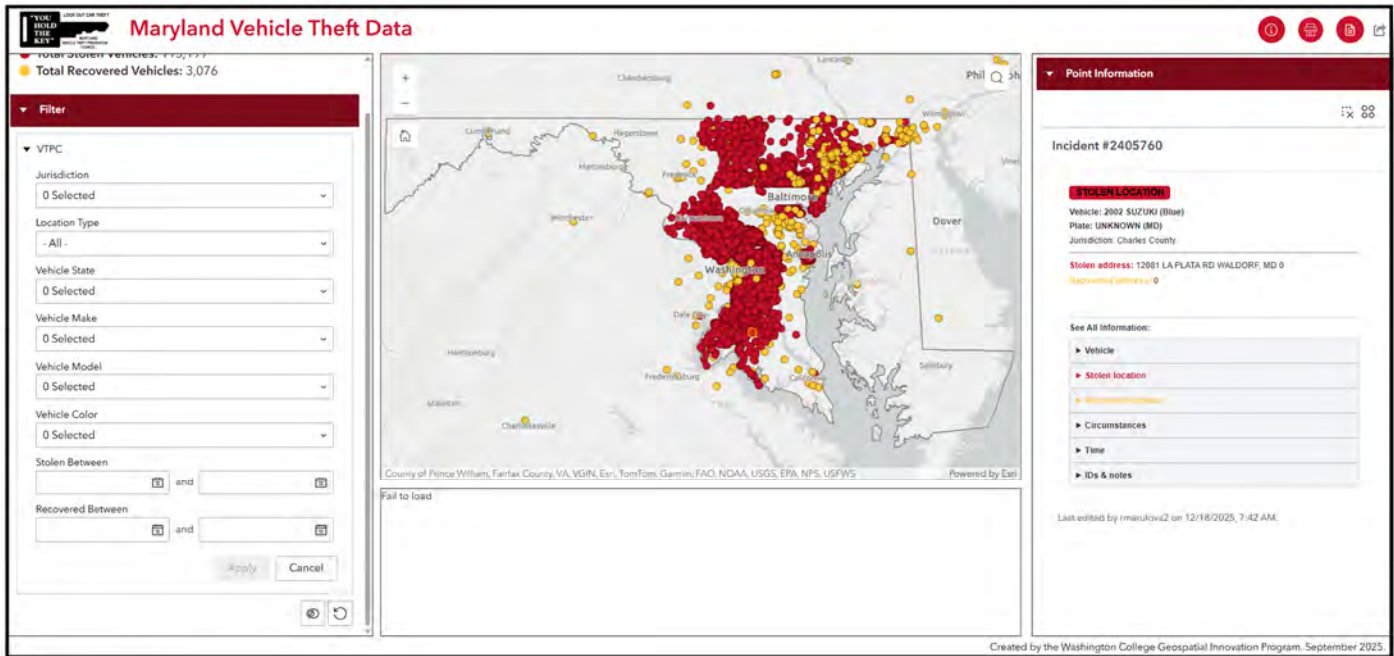
Current jurisdictions include the City of Annapolis, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Cecil County, Charles County, Harford County, Montgomery County, and Prince George’s County. Jurisdictions interested in collaborating through the VTPC grant may contact elifs2@washcoll.edu.”

Emily Lifs
GIS Analyst II
Washington College Geospatial Innovation Program



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MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL



(Above) VTPC Mapping Dashboard: Online mapping tools with print-ready outputs help agencies visualize trends and support data-driven decision-making across Maryland.

(Left) Standardized Reporting Template: Jurisdictions can generate standardized, print-ready theft and recovery summaries on demand, filtered by jurisdiction and time period.

IMPACT Training's use of funding provided by the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council is a primary reason cutting edge information classes like these are readily available to Maryland Law enforcement.



In this photo retired Prince George's County Maryland detective (Chris Arnold) now co-owner of North American Technical instructs on the Autel tablet the latest in devices used by organized criminals to steal vehicles for profit, export or use in other crimes. These devices are demonstrated with the additional paraphernalia needed to recreate key fobs to steal vehicles without the need to have an original fob.

*Photos & Text (both pages)
courtesy of
Joseph Asplen
Training Coordinator
IMPACT Training Inc.*

Officer Training Yields Results That Help Protect All Maryland Citizens

IMPACT Training supports the development of Maryland Instructors providing funds to insure they present locally and regionally to benefit the entire vehicle crime fighting community, sharing current knowledge about auto theft trends. In addition, these classes help to identify future leaders and trainers that will keep Maryland in the forefront of the fight against vehicle crimes.



This photo shows devices and paraphernalia recovered by officers as a result of this training. Once officers know what kind of devices to look for, they can identify and recover those devices stopping criminals before they can act.

APPENDIX A

VEHICLE THEFT

Jurisdictions Receiving Council Assistance
*1994 vs. 2024

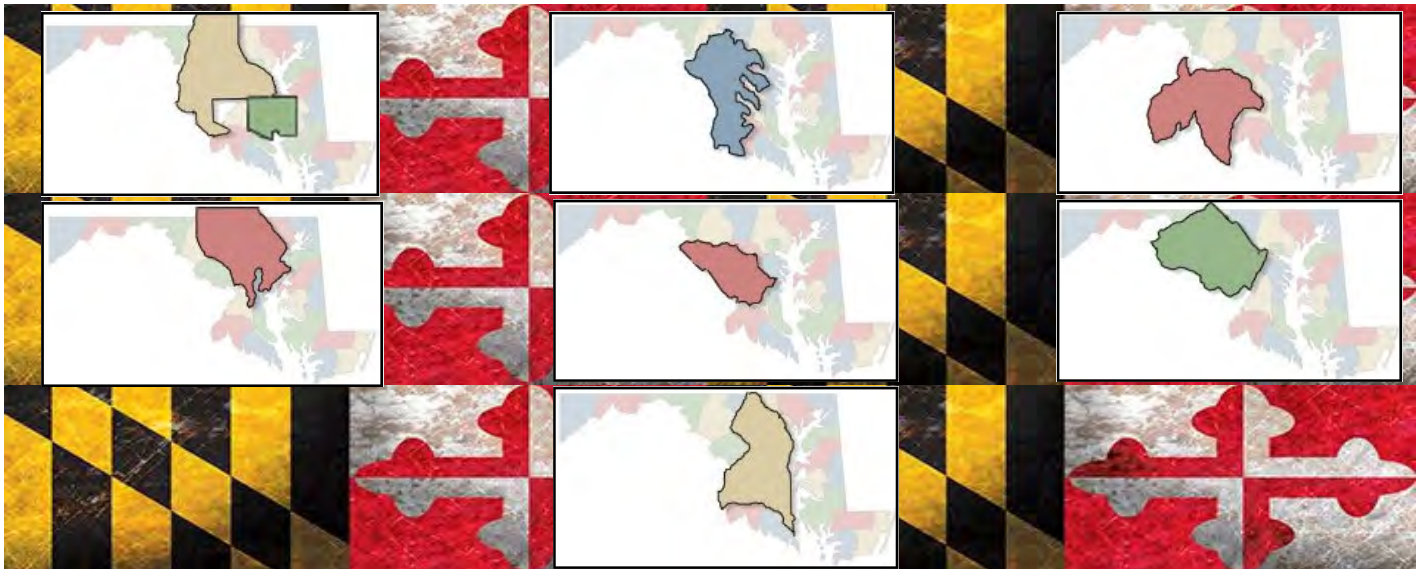


Vehicle Theft Rates

(Stolen Vehicles Per 100,000 Population - State-Wide)

*1994	763.00	
1999	492.00	-36%
2000	539.00	-29%
2003	661.00	-13%
2004	652.00	-15%
2005	679.00	-11%
2006	543.00	-29%
2007	505.00	-34%
2008	450.00	-41%
2009	344.20	-55%
2010	312.20	-59%
2011	275.70	-64%
2012	246.30	-68%
2013	226.50	-70%
2014	219.20	-71%
2015	225.80	-70%
2016	225.80	-70%
2017	224.00	-71%
2018	201.00	-74%
2019	186.20	-76%
2020	176.40	-77%
2021	180.80	-76%
2022	195.00	-74%
2023	383.50	-50%
2024	310.90	-59%

	1994	2024	+%
Baltimore County	6,289	2,195	-65%
Baltimore City	13,603	4,375	-68%
Anne Arundel County	1,806	1341	-26%
Charles County	435	323	-26%
Harford County	403	167	-59%
Howard County	1,157	804	-31%
Montgomery County	3,370	2,196	-35%
Prince George's County	9,477	6,924	-27%
TOTAL	36,540	18,325	-50%
STATE-WIDE	38,194	19,474	-49%



APPENDIX B

VEHICLE THEFT

Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force Operations
Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team (R.A.T.T.)



Vehicle Theft Statistics

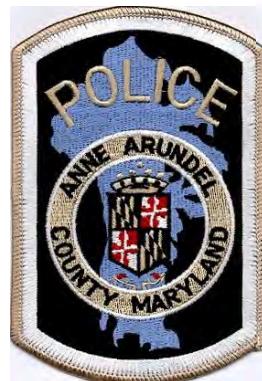
	Baltimore County	Baltimore City	Total
2020	1,354	3,128	4,482
2021	942	2,996	3,938
2022	1,080	3,128	4,208
2023	2,427	7,138	9,565
2024	2,195	4,375	6,570
2025*	3,002	4,214	7,216
Totals	11,000	24,979	35,979

Regional Auto Theft Team Accomplishments

	Adults Arrested	Juveniles Arrested	Total Arrests	Recovered Vehicles
2020	365	129	494	1,205
2021	428	117	545	1,119
2022	277	97	374	1,002
2023	302	106	408	1,082
2024	304	166	470	1,330
2025*	157	237	394	1,623
Totals	1,833	852	2,685	7,361

Source: Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team (R.A.T.T.)

* Estimated figures provided by the jurisdiction.



APPENDIX C

VEHICLE THEFT

Washington Area Vehicle Enforcement (WAVE)
Auto Theft Task Force



Unit Accomplishments Since 2019

General Statistics:	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025*	TOTAL
Stolen Vehicles	2,714	2,961	3,539	4,200	6,881	6,013	4,615	30,923
Subjects Arrested:	175	301	236	181	244	204	170	1,511
Stolen Vehicles Recovered:	491	546	433	278	717	706	479	3,650
Stolen Tags Recovered:	21	23	29	29	12	10	18	142
Firearms Seized:	16	39	70	70	40	44	17	296
Amount of Heroin Seized (g):	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Amount of Cocaine Seized (g):	118.0	23.0	670.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	811.7
Amount of Marijuana Seized (g):	630.3	231.9	57,721.3	371.7	974.0	267.0	0.0	60,196.2
Amount of Ecstasy Seized (pills):	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Felony Warrants Served:	27	21	30	91	84	40	50	343
Misdemeanor Warrants Served:	7	17	1	13	20	23	16	97
Carjacked Vehicles Recovered w/Arrest:	3	9	14	19	0	0	0	45
VIN Inspections:	3,314	3,663	2,542	3,664	1,843	2,135	1,641	18,802
Business Inspections:	35	18	2	5	15	29	0	104
Search Warrants:	110	161	100	63	48	35	15	532

* Estimated figures provided by the jurisdiction.



APPENDIX D

GRANT RECIPIENTS

Summary of Grant Recipients for
Fiscal Year 2026



Law Enforcement

Annapolis Police Department Auto Larceny Education Reduces Thefts

A highly motivated public education and awareness program directed at preventing and deterring vehicle theft and theft from vehicles.

FY 2026 Award: \$20,085.00

Anne Arundel County Police Department

Vehicle Theft Investigation, Prevention, Education, and Recovery (VIPER)

A comprehensive vehicle theft investigation, prevention, education, and recovery project to effectively reduce the serious vehicle theft activity in the county.

FY 2026 Award: \$52,798.00

Baltimore County Police Department (RATT)

Cracking Down on Auto Theft

Provides vehicle theft prevention and educational training, identifies repeat offenders, enhances prosecution, and establishes a multi-jurisdictional vehicle theft investigative task force with the Baltimore City Police Department and the Maryland State Police.

FY 2026 Award: \$490,315.00

Award includes both Auto Theft Reduction through Crime Analysis and Cracking Down on Auto Theft programs.

Charles County Sheriff's Office Vehicle Theft Project

Provides for a dedicated vehicle theft investigator, vehicle theft investigative training, and aggressive community prevention and education program.

FY 2026 Award: \$28,000.00

Department of Maryland State Police

Theft Reduction, Enforcement & Support

Provision of vehicle theft investigation and technical assistance to local law enforcement agencies, statewide vehicle theft enforcement program.

FY 2026 Award: \$122,533.00

Harford County Sheriff's Office Theft Reduction, Enforcement & Support

A comprehensive vehicle theft investigation, prevention, education, and recovery project to effectively reduce the serious vehicle theft activity in the county.

FY 2026 Award: \$17,000.00

Howard County Department of Police

Howard County Interagency Collaboration on Vehicle Theft Reduction

The formation of an interagency team dedicated to vehicle theft reduction by maximizing prevention, investigation, and prosecution efforts.

FY 2026 Award: \$61,260.00

Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA)

Stolen & Uninsured Vehicle Initiative

Targets vehicle theft through the use of technology and relationships with established auto theft units.

FY 2026 Award: \$85,800.00

Montgomery County Police Department

Vehicle Theft Enforcement and Prevention Project

Implements a task-force approach to vehicle theft by creating a centralized vehicle theft investigative unit, encouraging prevention through public education, and proving crime analysis.

FY 2026 Award: \$158,100.00

Montgomery County Police Department

Carjacking Team

To focus efforts on individuals and groups committing carjackings in Montgomery County and operating over a wider geographical area using a three-pronged plan of action: investigation, enforcement, and public education/crime prevention.

FY 2026 Award: \$25,000.00

Prince George's County Police Department

Carjacking Interdiction Unit

To focus efforts on individuals and groups committing multiple carjackings in Prince George's County and operating over a wider geographical area using a three-pronged plan of action: investigation, enforcement, and public education/crime prevention.

FY 2026 Award: \$260,500.00

Prince George's County Police Department - WAVE Team

Vehicle Theft Prevention Initiative

Comprehensive program directed at law enforcement, support and participation in the Washington Area Vehicle Enforcement Team; Analyze stolen and recovered vehicle theft data and enhanced cooperation with prosecutor.

FY 2026 Award: \$476,551.00



APPENDIX D

GRANT RECIPIENTS

Summary of Grant Recipients for
Fiscal Year 2026



Prosecution

Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office

ACARS Conquering Auto Theft Recidivism Soon

Computer tracking and analysis of case prosecution of juvenile vehicle theft offenders and direct support to police efforts.

FY 2026 Award: \$138,000.00

Baltimore County State's Attorney's Office

A Comprehensive Enforcement and Prosecution Project

Intensive prosecution of repeat vehicle theft offenders and direct support to police efforts.

FY 2026 Award: \$120,000.00

Prince George's County State's Attorney's Office

Aggressive Auto Theft Prosecution: Applying Resources and Getting Results

Program directed at aggressive prosecution to improve conviction rates for adults and juveniles charged with vehicle theft and to get higher sentencing for convicted offenders.

FY 2026 Award: \$68,000.00

Juvenile

Olde Mill Foundation Auto Theft/Prevention/ Education and Information Initiative

Vehicle theft prevention program at the grassroots community level. Coordination with community police officers and juvenile intervention prior to the offense.

FY 2026 Award: \$30,000.00

Community Prevention

Maryland Community Crime Prevention Institute

Vehicle Theft Prevention Public Awareness Support

Supports the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council's public awareness campaign through the operation of the toll free hotline (1-800-96-THEFT) and distribution of brochures and other educational materials.

FY 2026 Award: \$8,240.00

Northwest Citizens Patrol

Vehicle Theft Prevention Project

Promotes education and crime prevention by focusing on both offenders and vehicle owners. Tactics include educating vehicle owners through marketing and community seminars and deterring offenders through aggressive cooperation with prosecutors and delaying parole of offenders.

FY 2026 Award: \$40,000.00

Public Awareness

Vehicle Theft Prevention Council

Public Awareness Committee

Promotes action to lower rates of auto theft statewide by establishing the best possible media themes and methods to increase public awareness and to educate citizens in vehicle theft prevention measures.

FY 2026 Award: \$100,000.00

Miscellaneous

Industry Merged with Police Against Car Theft (IMPACT)

Provides Basic, Advanced and Certification Training for Law Enforcement and Auto Insurance Special Investigation Units

FY 2026 Award: \$56,000.00

Washington College

Collect, analyze, and map data to better understand and develop strategies to reduce vehicle theft in Maryland.

FY 2026 Award: \$48,000.00



APPENDIX E

GRANT RECIPIENTS

Grant Award Analysis by Jurisdiction for
Fiscal Years 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026



	FISCAL YEAR 2023	FISCAL YEAR 2024	FISCAL YEAR 2025	FISCAL YEAR 2026
	\$1,869,000.00	\$3,051,765.00	\$2,640,488.39	\$2,406,182.00
	AWARDED	AWARDED	AWARDED	AWARDED
ANNE ARUNDEL				
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY POLICE DEPT	\$60,000.00	\$72,000.00	\$51,065.00	\$52,798.00
ANNAPOLIS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$20,085.00
TOTAL	\$82,000.00	\$94,000.00	\$73,065.00	\$72,883.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	4.38%	3.08%	3.13%	3.03%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	5.64%	6.37%	4.51%	6.89%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	11.20%	11.32%	11.16%	11.17%
BALTIMORE CITY				
BALTIMORE CITY STATE'S ATTORNEY	\$53,000.00	\$254,000.00	\$232,100.00	\$138,000.00
NORTHWEST CITIZENS PATROL GROUP ¹	\$30,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
TOTAL	\$83,000.00	\$294,000.00	\$272,100.00	\$178,000.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	4.44%	9.63%	10.30%	7.40%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	26.89%	26.03%	29.80%	22.47%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	5.61%	5.38%	5.26%	5.28%
BALTIMORE COUNTY				
BALTIMORE COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT ²	\$425,000.00	\$528,000.00	\$489,850.00	\$490,315.00
BALTIMORE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$120,000.00
TOTAL	\$545,000.00	\$648,000.00	\$609,850.00	\$610,315.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	29.16%	21.23%	26.10%	25.36%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	8.45%	8.99%	10.13%	11.27%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	13.31%	13.14%	12.85%	12.79%
CHARLES COUNTY				
CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$28,000.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	1.61%	0.98%	1.97%	1.16%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	1.85%	1.27%	1.15%	1.66%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	3.10%	3.09%	3.07%	3.08%
HARFORD COUNTY				
HARFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$20,000.00	\$20,500.00	\$23,814.00	\$17,000.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	1.07%	0.67%	0.90%	0.71%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	1.55%	0.98%	0.80%	0.86%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	4.82%	4.81%	4.78%	4.80%



APPENDIX E

GRANT RECIPIENTS

Grant Award Analysis by Jurisdiction for Fiscal Years 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026



	FISCAL YEAR 2023 \$1,869,000.00 AWARDED	FISCAL YEAR 2024 \$3,051,765.00 AWARDED	FISCAL YEAR 2025 \$2,640,488.39 AWARDED	FISCAL YEAR 2026 \$2,406,182.00 AWARDED
HOWARD COUNTY				
HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$70,000.00	\$93,765.00	\$51,254.40	\$61,260.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	3.74%	3.07%	2.19%	2.55%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	2.56%	3.31%	2.91%	4.13%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	5.45%	5.49%	5.44%	5.46%
MONTGOMERY COUNTY				
MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE DEPT	\$98,000.00	\$165,000.00	\$130,284.85	\$158,100.00
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CARJACKING TEAM	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$25,000.00
TOTAL	\$98,000.00	\$165,000.00	\$145,284.85	\$183,100.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	5.24%	5.41%	6.22%	7.61%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	12.21%	10.38%	9.67%	11.28%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	15.57%	15.64%	15.44%	15.47%
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY				
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. POLICE DEPT / WAVE	\$425,000.00	\$547,000.00	\$524,655.14	\$476,551.00
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. POLICE DEPT / Carjack		\$450,000.00	\$250,450.00	\$260,500.00
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. S/A OFFICE	\$141,000.00	\$189,000.00	\$130,749.00	\$68,000.00
OLDE MILL FOUNDATION	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
TOTAL	\$596,000.00	\$1,216,000.00	\$935,854.14	\$835,051.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	31.88%	39.85%	35.44%	34.70%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	31.76%	35.33%	35.68%	35.56%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	13.92%	13.92%	13.64%	13.60%
MARYLAND STATE AGENCIES				
MD STATE POLICE - Auto Theft Unit	\$125,000.00	\$196,500.00	\$101,366.00	\$122,533.00
MD COMMUNITY CRIME PREV. INST.	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$22,000.00	\$8,240.00
VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL (PUBLIC AWARENESS COMMITTEE)	\$53,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$70,700.00	\$100,000.00
MD MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION	\$50,000.00	\$73,000.00	\$160,000.00	\$85,800.00
TOTAL	\$250,000.00	\$391,500.00	\$405,066.00	\$316,573.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	13.38%	12.83%	15.34%	13.16%
MISCELLANEOUS				
INDUSTRY MERGED WITH POLICE AGAINST CAR THEFT (IMPACT)	\$40,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$50,200.00	\$56,000.00
WASHINGTON COLLEGE	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$49,000.00	\$48,000.00
TOTAL	\$95,000.00	\$99,000.00	\$99,200.00	\$104,000.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	5.08%	3.24%	4.25%	4.32%

¹ GRANT MONIES AWARDED TO COMMUNITY VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTIONS PROGRAMS IN BALTIMORE CITY.

² INCLUDES GRANT MONIES TO SUPPORT THE BALTIMORE CITY/BALTIMORE CO. COMBINED REGIONAL AUTO THEFT TEAM (R.A.T.T.)

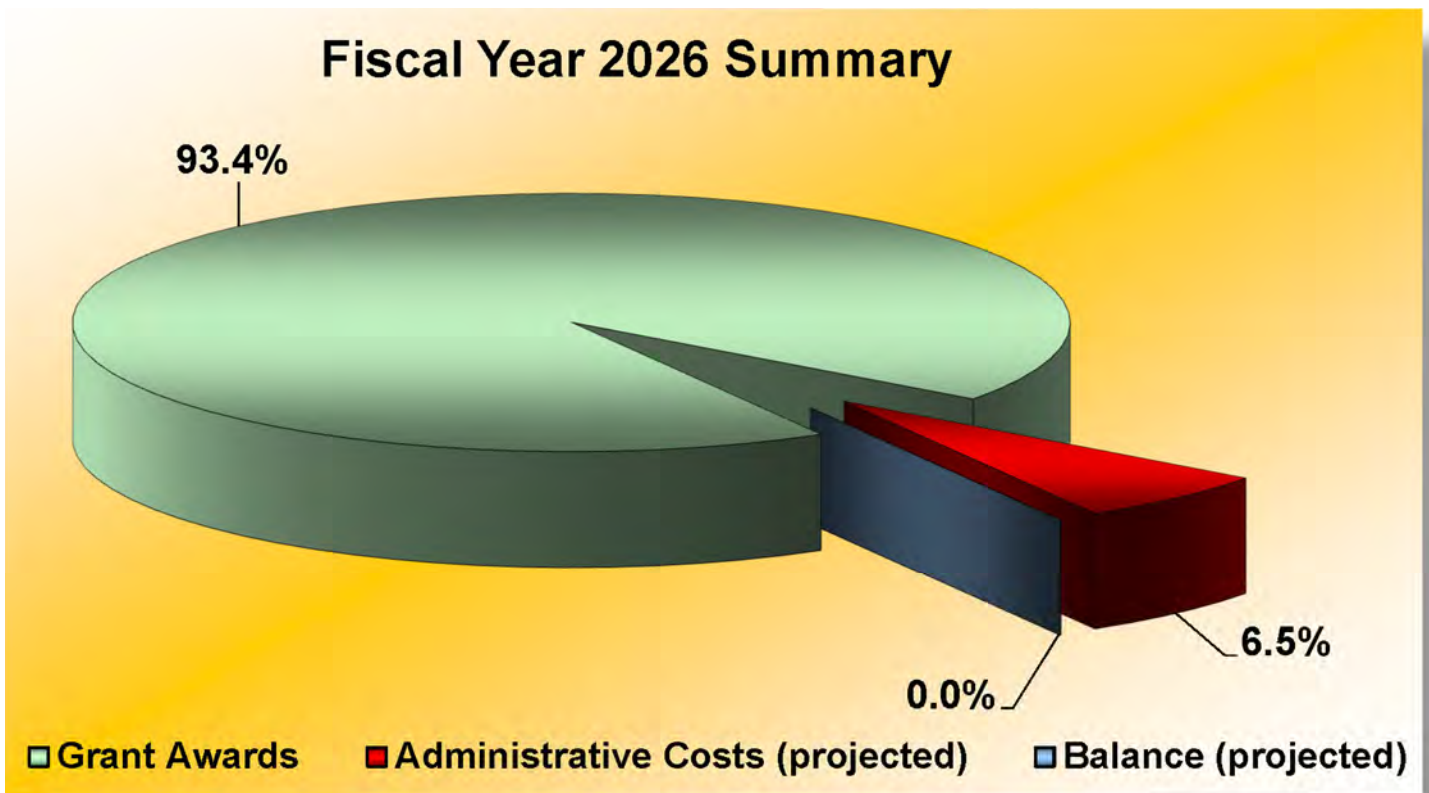


FISCAL SUMMARY

Vehicle Theft Prevention Council
Fiscal Year 2026 (July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026)



Funding Available	\$2,575,000.00
Grant Awards	\$2,406,182.00
Administrative Costs (Projected)	\$168,432.74
<hr/>	
Total Disbursement (Projected)	\$2,574,614.74
Balance (Projected)	\$385.26



APPENDIX G

VEHICLE THEFT INCIDENTS

National Vehicle Thefts Totals
1994, 2019 - 2024

	2024	Totals	2023	Totals	2022	Totals	2021	Totals	2020	Totals	2019	Totals	1994	Totals
1	TX	102,607	CA	195,875	CA	203,018	CA	201,029	CA	168,323	CA	141,757	CA	308,205
2	CA	94,685	TX	124,483	TX	105,133	TX	95,072	TX	84,276	TX	77,489	NY	128,873
3	IL	36,142	WA	53,066	WA	46,990	FL	43,246	FL	38,271	FL	39,048	FL	127,186
4	WA	34,390	IL	41,514	FL	46,020	CO	38,566	CO	30,542	WA	24,402	TX	110,753
5	CO	29,133	CO	37,955	CO	42,706	WA	35,920	WA	27,399	GA	23,776	IL	66,218
6	NC	26,818	NY	37,535	IL	38,699	IL	28,671	GA	25,506	CO	22,113	MI	62,304
7	MD	25,850	MD	34,202	OH	30,361	OH	28,102	MO	24,189	MO	21,072	PA	54,153
8	NY	25,563	PA	33,433	MO	29,815	MO	26,629	IL	21,332	TN	19,180	NJ	52,164
9	MO	24,447	TN	32,126	NY	28,323	GA	26,243	TN	21,098	IL	18,775	OH	47,413
10	TN	24,312	OH	30,995	GA	26,612	NY	23,087	NC	20,520	OH	18,672	AZ	43,467
11	OH	24,225	MO	29,350	MI	25,753	NC	22,661	OH	20,077	AZ	18,151	MA	42,348
12	MI	22,751	MI	27,788	TN	23,830	MI	21,465	NY	19,656	NC	18,061	GA	39,312
13	GA	21,526	NC	27,366	NC	23,576	TN	20,896	MI	18,385	MI	17,744	MD	38,194
14	PA	19,482	GA	24,506	OR	22,934	AZ	20,803	AZ	17,937	OR	15,185	TN	28,994
15	NV	15,678	NV	21,639	PA	22,407	OR	20,105	OR	16,585	SC	14,975	WA	28,743
16	FL	14,533	FL	19,635	AZ	21,694	PA	18,292	PA	15,474	IN	13,723	MO	27,038
17	IN	13,660	AZ	18,381	MN	17,832	MN	17,060	IN	15,435	OK	13,378	LA	26,219
18	NJ	12,600	OR	17,405	NJ	16,165	SC	16,348	OK	15,047	NY	12,704	IN	25,011
19	VA	12,598	LA	16,830	IN	15,440	IN	16,210	SC	14,718	AL	12,577	OR	21,764
20	MN	12,453	NJ	16,627	SC	15,345	NJ	14,800	MN	14,146	PA	12,390	NC	21,342
21	OR	12,378	MN	15,313	NV	15,279	OK	14,255	LA	12,400	NV	11,260	CT	20,167
22	SC	11,489	IN	15,177	VA	14,256	WI	14,051	KY	11,497	MD	11,259	WI	18,321
23	AZ	10,551	VA	15,060	LA	13,638	NV	13,513	AL	10,926	MN	11,217	VA	18,289
24	KY	10,433	SC	13,613	MD	12,019	LA	13,139	VA	10,853	LA	10,716	OK	15,461
25	NM	10,382	KY	12,878	OK	12,007	VA	12,538	NV	10,556	NJ	10,336	CO	14,365
26	WI	9,534	OK	10,696	WI	11,709	AL	11,480	MD	10,469	VA	10,269	MN	14,355
27	OK	9,260	CT	10,541	NM	11,424	MD	11,143	UT	10,288	KY	10,196	AL	14,000
28	AL	8,601	NM	10,427	AL	10,616	KT	10,850	NJ	10,278	NM	8,957	SC	13,184
29	CT	8,521	WI	9,874	KY	10,217	NM	10,107	WI	9,393	AR	7,420	NV	11,065
30	LA	8,140	AL	9,378	KS	8,588	AR	9,196	NM	9,006	WI	7,385	MS	10,810
31	MA	7,275	MA	8,220	AR	8,216	KA	9,105	CT	8,422	KA	7,279	KY	8,558
32	KS	6,133	DC	7,401	CT	7,091	UT	8,560	AR	7,933	UT	6,738	KS	8,383
33	DC	5,534	AR	6,554	MA	7,084	CT	7,798	KA	7,229	MA	6,132	NM	8,350
34	AR	5,318	AK	6,554	UT	7,082	MA	7,042	MA	6,835	CT	5,964	DC	8,261
35	NE	4,992	KS	6,496	MS	6,150	MS	6,454	IA	6,235	MS	5,747	AR	7,726
36	IA	4,307	UT	5,004	IA	5,379	IA	5,955	MS	6,083	HI	5,254	HI	6,383
37	UT	4,170	NE	4,690	NE	5,058	NE	4,689	HI	5,344	IA	5,142	NE	6,236
38	HI	3,532	HI	3,799	DC	4,703	DE	4,367	NE	5,048	NE	4,985	UT	5,689
39	MS	2,232	MS	2,912	PR	2,735	HI	3,338	PR	3,667	PR	3,667	RI	5,183
40	DE	2,034	DE	2,507	HI	2,639	MT	2,956	DC	3,399	AK	2,617	IA	5,096
41	MT	1,867	MT	2,148	MT	2,512	PR	2,473	MT	2,676	WV	2,419	AK	3,275
42	SD	1,680	SD	2,133	SD	2,259	SD	2,370	SD	2,315	MT	2,377	WV	3,274
43	ND	1,451	ND	1,691	WV	2,046	WV	2,329	WV	2,271	DC	2,333	DE	2,945
44	ID	1,334	RI	1,536	DE	1,879	DC	1,885	ND	2,074	ND	1,792	MT	2,450
45	RI	1,314	WV	1,509	AK	1,802	ID	1,863	AK	1,969	SD	1,756	NH	2,302
46	WV	1,312	IA	1,494	RI	1,796	AK	1,778	ID	1,767	DE	1,604	ID	2,210
47	ME	1,128	ID	1,494	ID	1,766	ND	1,743	DE	1,665	ID	1,571	ME	1,776
48	NH	872	ME	1,102	ND	1,750	RI	1,712	RI	1,509	RI	1,358	ND	964
49	AK	606	NH	779	VT	1,039	WY	950	NH	1,044	NH	893	SD	872
50	WY	573	WY	727	ME	944	NH	873	WY	964	ME	726	VT	862
51	VT	405	VT	591	WY	770	ME	822	ME	862	WY	713	WY	771
52	PR		PR		NH	750	VT	627	VT	264	VT	298	PR	

Source: FBI Crime Data Explorer / NIBRS Data

A PARTNERSHIP IN LAW ENFORCEMENT



The key to preventing
vehicle theft *is* in
your hands.



Lock your car.
Take your keys or key fob.
Hide your valuables.
Use an anti-theft device.



Maryland
Vehicle Theft Prevention Council
1201 Reisterstown Road
Pikesville, MD 21208
1-800-96-THEFT
go.md.gov/mdautotheft