



## BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

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Dear Shrewsbury Borough Resident,

One of the great aspects of living in Shrewsbury is that it is a safe community. Our police department does an incredible job protecting the residents of our town. Unfortunately, no community is immune to car theft, including Shrewsbury. With the lifting of Covid restrictions and warmer weather, there has been an increase of car thefts not only in the Two Rivers area, but throughout the state. In June, four cars were stolen in Shrewsbury during the overnight hours. In all those cases the cars were left unlocked with the key FOB in the vehicle. The thefts occurred on Robinson, Garden and Willow. To perpetrate this crime, thieves try car door handles until they find one that is open, and if the keys are in the car, start the vehicle and drive away. It is important to note that in other towns there have been reports of thieves using the garage door opener in an unlocked car to open the garage door and gain access to the house.

The first car theft this year in Shrewsbury occurred on June 17<sup>th</sup>, with thefts then occurring on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Since the first theft, our police have increased patrols and their visibility to hopefully deter this criminal behavior. But the police alone cannot stop these crimes from occurring. They need your help.

So, what can we as a community do to reduce the chance of these thefts occurring? **The short answer is LOCK YOUR CARS AND BRING THE FOBS INTO YOUR HOME.** These crimes are crimes of opportunity. When the thieves find that one town is an easy target (unlocked cars), they are emboldened to return to the same town to steal another car. If thieves find a town consistently locks their cars, they move on.

There is no single way to stop these thefts from occurring. However, taking the simple step of locking our cars we will greatly reduce the chance of these thefts continuing. Hopefully, with your help these car thefts will stop.

Rest assured that the Borough and the police department will continue to do everything it can to ensure the safety of Shrewsbury. We hope we can count on you in helping protect our community.

Be well and stay safe.

Mayor Erik Anderson

Chief Robert Turner