



## **POLICE CRIME REPORT**

February 10, 2020 to February 16, 2020

### **Weekly Public Safety and Crime Information**

#### **Winter Weather and Auto Thefts and Burglaries**

Did you know that it is illegal in Maryland to leave your vehicle running and unattended with the keys in the ignition? Maryland State Code: Transportation – Article 21, Section 1101(a) states that a person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle may not leave it unattended until the engine is stopped, the ignition is locked, the key is removed, and the brake is effectively set.

**The penalty for this violation is a \$70 fine and one [1] point on your license. *(This subsection does not apply to individuals who have vehicles equipped with a remote keyless ignition system).***

It can be tempting to warm up your vehicle while getting prepared to leave in the morning. While it may seem convenient to do so and make your mornings more comfortable, this leaves your vehicle vulnerable to what is known as “Warm-Up Thefts”.

Criminals will see a vehicle is running and know that the doors are likely unlocked. They can enter your vehicle and take valuable items or sensitive personal information. They could even drive off with your vehicle.

#### **Preventing “Warm-Up” Thefts**

To prevent yourself from becoming a victim of warm up thefts, auto thefts and burglaries, follow the tips provided below.

- Never leave your car running or the keys in the ignition when you are away from the vehicle, even if it is just for a minute.
- Consider investing in a remote keyless ignition device which would allow you to warm up your car and not risk thefts or penalties.
- Keep valuables out of sight or in the trunk. Purses, credit cards, and cell phones in plain view only help attract thieves.
- Always rollup the windows and lock your car, even if it is in your driveway, garage, or in front of your home.
- Never leave the registration or title in your car, if stolen; it makes it easier for the thief to dispose of your vehicle. It can also make you a target of identity theft.
- Be alert when approaching your car, have a plan of action, and have your keys in your hand. Check around, under and in your vehicle for suspicious individuals. Immediately leave the scene to get help if you have any concerns for your safety.
- Only park your car in busy, well-lighted areas.
- Install a mechanical locking device – commonly called clubs, collars, or J-bars – that locks to the steering wheel, column, or brake.
- If your vehicle has an alarm or another anti-theft device, use it.

## **Additional Resources**

For more information regarding warm up thefts, visit these websites:

NIH – Cold Weather and Auto Theft  
[https://www.ors.od.nih.gov/News/Pages/cold\\_weather.aspx](https://www.ors.od.nih.gov/News/Pages/cold_weather.aspx)

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*The Rockville City Police Department is committed to protecting and serving all members of the public. By following the safety tips and resources provided above, you can help us help you by taking steps to inform yourself on public safety issues to prevent yourself from becoming a victim.*

If you have a crime or concern to report, you can call the Rockville City Police Department at:

**Non-Emergency: 240-314-8900**

**Emergency: 9-1-1**

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!**

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## **Rockville City Police Reported Incidents**

The Rockville City Police Department provides a weekly Crime Report of serious incidents to serve as an overview of police activity occurring within the City Limits of Rockville. Please note this summary does not include every reported incident that has occurred during this time frame.

**It is to be noted that the words “arrested” and “charged” do not imply guilt.**

## **ARRESTS**

02/10/20, a male, age 24, was arrested for trespassing and resisting arrest following an incident that occurred in the Unit block of Helen Heneghan Way.

02/11/20, a female, age 40, was arrested for trespassing, second-degree assault of a law enforcement officer, and disorderly conduct following an incident that occurred in the 200 block of West Montgomery Avenue.

02/12/20, a female, age 40, was arrested for driving under the influence following an incident that occurred at the intersection of East Gude Drive and Taft Court.

02/14/20, a male, age 45, was arrested for shoplifting following an incident that occurred in the 1800 block of Rockville Pike.

02/15/20, a male, age 21, was arrested on the strength of a bench warrant for failure to appear in court and trespassing for an event that occurred earlier in the 200 block of East Middle Lane.

## INCIDENTS

Unit block Barrington Fare, the complainant reports that an unknown subject removed a bag containing credit cards, US currency, and identification cards from an unsecured residence between 5:40 a.m. and 5:50 a.m. on 02/10/20.

400 block North Stonestreet Avenue, the complainant reports that an unknown subject forced entry into a motor vehicle and removed a toolbox and miscellaneous tools between 8:54 a.m. on 02/14/20 and 8:50 a.m. on 02/16/20.

1300 block Rockville Pike, the complainant reports that an unknown subject vandalized a cash register and removed US Currency from a business at 2:45 a.m. on 02/16/20. **The suspect is described as:**

**B/M - Last seen wearing: Black Jacket and Blue Jeans**

1000 block Maple Avenue, the complainant reports that an unknown subject removed a backpack, laptop, and a jacket from an unsecured motor vehicle between 9:00 p.m. on 02/12/20 and 8:00 a.m. on 02/13/20.



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The Rockville City Police Department is a Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency.  
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