

SCHAUMBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

BILL WOLF, CHIEF OF POLICE



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PRESS RELEASE COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Protect Your Car Against Catalytic Converter Thefts

There is a nationwide increase of catalytic converter thefts due to the valuable precious metals contained inside. Schaumburg police have responded to increased thefts in our community and remind residents to be alert.

A catalytic converter is a device which attaches to a vehicle's exhaust system and is designed to convert environmentally hazardous exhaust to less harmful gasses. A skilled thief can remove a catalytic converter in less than 90 seconds with a few simple tools, including an electric saw. The estimated cost to replace a catalytic converter can be in excess of \$1,500.00.



Consider these steps to help protect your car:

- If possible, park your vehicle in a secure garage
- Park in well-lit areas with high visibility
- Park near security cameras
- Install an anti-theft device such as an alarm, steel shield, or cable locking device (available at auto repair shops and online)
- Engrave your license plate or Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the catalytic converter

Report any suspicious activity by CALLING 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY!
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