



# CITY OF CLEARWATER

POST OFFICE BOX 4748, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33758-4748  
CLEARWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT, 645 PIERCE STREET, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33756  
TELEPHONE (727) 562-4242

POLICE DEPARTMENT

## **RELEASE 09-053**

April 22, 2009

Contact: Elizabeth Watts

Public Safety PIO

[elizabeth.watts@myclearwater.com](mailto:elizabeth.watts@myclearwater.com)

(727) 562-4333

## **BE ALERT! DON'T BECOME THE NEXT VEHICLE BURGLARY VICTIM**

**Clearwater, Fla.** – The Clearwater Police Department strongly urges people not to leave valuable items in their vehicles. Since January 22, 2009, there have been 38 vehicle burglaries that follow the same pattern. In all cases, the window of the car was smashed and a purse or briefcase was taken. In most cases, the items could be seen from outside of the car. The burglaries have occurred throughout the city, but it appears that certain locations are being targeted: daycares, churches, recreation parks and facilities and fitness centers.

When people leave valuables in their vehicles in plain view, this is an invitation for criminal activity. Don't become a victim.

- Clean your car out; don't leave valuables in plain sight
- Lock your vehicle
- Park carefully in well-lit areas
- Use anti-theft devices

To play it safe, don't leave anything in your car you wouldn't mind having stolen!

Always report suspicious activity to the police. If anyone has information about vehicle burglaries, they are asked to call the Clearwater Police Tip Line 727-562-4080.

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