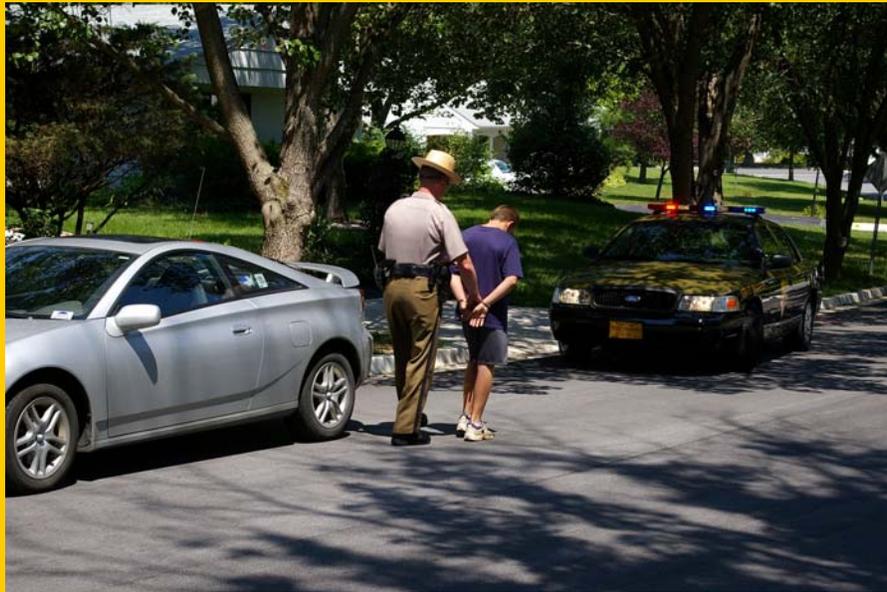


# 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

## MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL



MARTIN O'MALLEY  
*Governor*

ANTHONY G. BROWN  
*Lt. Governor*

COLONEL TERRENCE B. SHERIDAN  
*Superintendent, Maryland Department of State Police*

W. RAY PRESLEY  
*Executive Director*

[www.MDAutoTheft.org](http://www.MDAutoTheft.org)

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

## 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

### **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 Terrence B. Sheridan**  
Secretary, Department of State Police  
Chair

**David W. DeVore**  
Secretary, Department of Juvenile Justice

**Gary D. Maynard**  
Secretary, Department of Public Safety and  
Correctional Services

**John T. Kuo**  
Administrator, Motor Vehicle Administration

#### **COUNCIL STAFF MEMBERS**

**W. Ray Presley,**  
Executive Director

**Marianne T. Artfitch**  
Secretary

**Gregory M. Shipley**  
Director, Media Communications  
Department of State Police

#### **REGULAR MEMBERS**

**James V. Aluisi**  
Community Representative  
Anne Arundel County

**Ella White Campbell**  
Community Representative  
Baltimore County/Baltimore City

**Bruce J. Flaughner**  
National Insurance Crime Bureau Representative

**William Paul Holland**  
State Farm Insurance Company, Foreign  
Insurance  
Carrier Representative

**Hon. Glenn F. Ivey**  
State's Attorney for Prince George's County  
Maryland State's Attorney's Representative

**Donald Napier, Jr.**  
Office of the Governor  
Representative

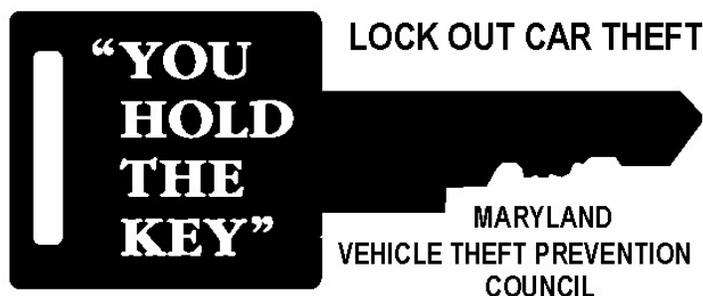
**Phillip V. Lee**  
Community Representative  
Prince George's County

**Chief Randy M. Rudy**  
Chief of Police, Aberdeen Police Department  
Local Law Enforcement Representative

**Steven F. Rutzebeck**  
GEICO Insurance Company, Domestic Insurance  
Carrier Representative

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

## 2007 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND



**Martin O’Malley**  
Governor

**MARYLAND**



**"Watch Your Car"**  
Program

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

**MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL**

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# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

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June 1, 2008

The Honorable Martin O'Malley  
Governor of Maryland  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor O'Malley,

The Vehicle Theft Prevention Council is pleased to present its 2007 Annual Report. This represents the Council's 13<sup>th</sup> year of service to the citizens of the State of Maryland.

The Council's Programs have proven to be effective in reducing the vehicle theft problem since the Council's inception and implementation of programs. Today, vehicle theft rates are still below the 1994 base year. This is the result of outstanding program strategies which emphasize enforcement and education.

The staggering cost of vehicle theft in terms of lost property and criminal enterprise remains a real concern. It is also a quality of life crime that affects all citizens regardless of social or economic status. The Council remains committed to its charter of reducing the incidents of vehicle theft.

Sincerely,

Terrence B. Sheridan  
Superintendent

TBS:wrp  
Enclosure

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

## 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Vehicle Theft Prevention Council (Council) is in its 13<sup>th</sup> 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. From 1995 - 2000, Vehicle Theft Programs were fully funded and vehicle theft decreased 32%. From 2001 - 2004 funding levels were drastically reduced and vehicle theft increased 28%. Full funding levels were restored in 2005, 2006 and 2007 with a corresponding decrease of 20%.

#### WASHINGTON REGION

Of significance, is the high level of vehicle thefts experienced in Prince George's County. Between 2001 - 2004, vehicle theft increased 102% from 8,659 to 18,482. With enhanced funding in FY 2005 - FY 2008, vehicle theft prevention programs were restored in the County. By the end of 2007, vehicle theft had decreased 37% to a level of 11,636; vehicle theft in the Washington Region decreased 35%.

#### BALTIMORE REGION

The Council's most prominent success has been in the Baltimore Region. In 1994, 55% of all vehicle thefts in the state occurred in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. The Council's first funded Program was to assist in creating a multi-jurisdictional Task Force between the City and the County which has come to be known as the Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team, or RATT. This proved to be highly successful; vehicle theft rates in Baltimore City and Baltimore County decreased 50% between 1995 - 2000, a level which has been maintained through 2007. The RATT concept was duplicated in the Washington Region in 2005 with similar results.

#### 2007 COUNCIL INITIATIVES

The Council awarded 23 grants in 2007 to a variety of organizations encompassing public awareness and prevention, law enforcement, prosecution, and juvenile intervention, for a total of \$2.3 million (See Appendix E). 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, and Howard County. Grant assistance in the Washington Region includes Prince George's County, Montgomery, and Charles Counties. All of these areas have experienced significant vehicle theft reduction upon receiving Council grant and program assistance.

The Council continues to support and administer "Watch Your Car" which is a National Vehicle Theft Prevention Program. The Program is voluntary and allows police to stop vehicles displaying the special "Watch Your Car" decals between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. There are currently over 35,000 Maryland motorists registered in the Program.

The Council also continues to partner with the MD-DC Anti-Car Theft Committee (ACT). ACT is the Council's private sector partner and provides free "VIN Etching" and other vehicle theft prevention services which supplement the Council's public awareness efforts.

#### CONCLUSION

The continual decline in Maryland vehicle theft rates strongly suggests that based upon funding levels, the Council has been successful in providing planning and fiscal resources to state, local jurisdictions, and community organizations whose effort, in turn, affected vehicle theft rates. Our goal is not only to continue to reverse the vehicle theft trend, but to continue to manage the problem in the future.

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

## 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

### NATURE AND EXTENT OF VEHICLE THEFT IN MARYLAND

After four years of significant increase between 2000 - 2004, Maryland has experienced a 22% percent reduction in vehicle theft since 2003. In 1999 Maryland had a total of 26,063 vehicle thefts, a decrease of 32% over 1994. Total thefts rose to 36,406 in 2003 representing an increase of 10,339 stolen vehicles. In 2004 we saw a slight decrease of 545 stolen vehicles, or -1.5%. In 2007, thefts had decreased to 28,375, or a - 22% decrease from 2003. In economic terms this decrease is significant. Based on the \$6,700.00 UCR average price of a stolen vehicle, decreases in thefts since 2003 translates to an economic savings of \$53,807,700 to Maryland citizens.

#### 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 by the Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team (RATT), continues to show that 25-30 percent of recovered stolen vehicles had the key in the car at the time of their recovery.

The Prince George's County Police Department Violent Crime Clearinghouse had similar, though even more dramatic findings. Approximately 32 percent of criminal incident reports surveyed mentioned that the key was found in the recovered vehicle. The Montgomery County Police reported similar findings. Thus, the perpetrators often steal a vehicle with little effort.

#### PERPETRATORS

Auto theft can best be understood by the perpetrator's motivations. Thefts can be distributed into three distinct groups. In most cases, vehicles are stolen either for the resale or distribution of parts, for transportation purposes, or for the

commission of other crimes. Of these three factors, the greatest threat to Maryland citizens is the destruction of vehicles for parts. The operation of "chop shops" 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; the destruction of the vehicle is generally not as certain and the large majority are recovered.

During 2007 73% of the motor vehicle thefts were automobiles, 19% were trucks and buses, and eight percent were other motor vehicles. Motor vehicle thefts accounted for 15% of property crime and 12% of the crime index. There were 505.4 thefts per 100,000 population.

The 2007 Maryland UCR provided final arrest statistics for vehicle theft. In comparing 2006 to 2007 data, arrests for vehicle theft decreased from 4,073 in 2006 to 3,353 in 2007. The perpetrators, according to the 2007 UCR, were 86 percent male and 14 percent female; with 30 percent being white, 69 percent African American, and less than 1 percent Asian or American Indian. 41 percent of those arrested for vehicle theft were juveniles.

#### LOCATION OF THEFT

Historical data indicate 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.

#### RECOVERY & VEHICLE THEFT

Often, the location of the recovery provides law enforcement officials with valuable information on the nature of the crime. In rural areas, vehicles are often abandoned in fields. Vehicles left in suburban and urban areas generally are found on the street, as if parked. In 2007, 66 percent of reported stolen

vehicles were recovered. This rather substantial recovery rate suggests that most vehicle theft instances are related either to transportation purposes or to the use of a vehicle to commit other crimes.

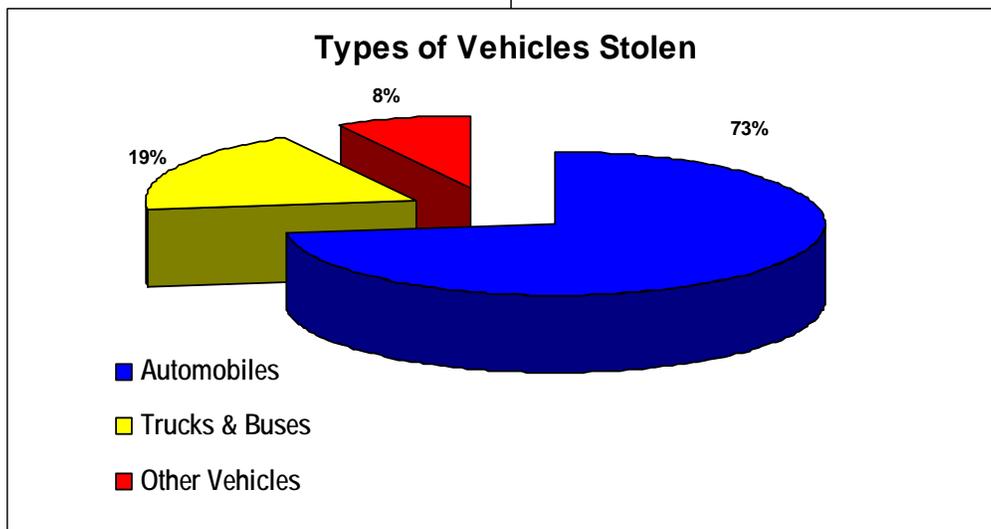
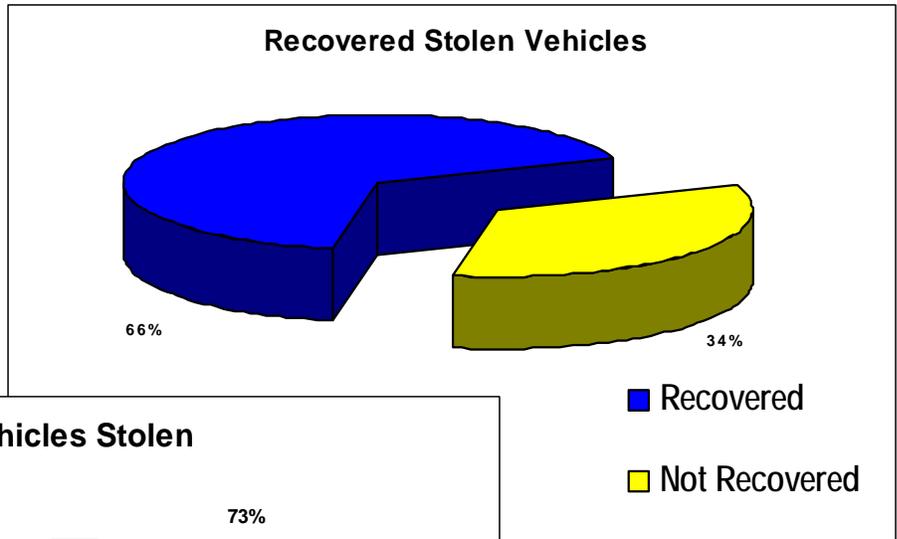
### TYPES OF VEHICLES STOLEN

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 Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, the ten most common vehicles stolen in the area of occurrence.

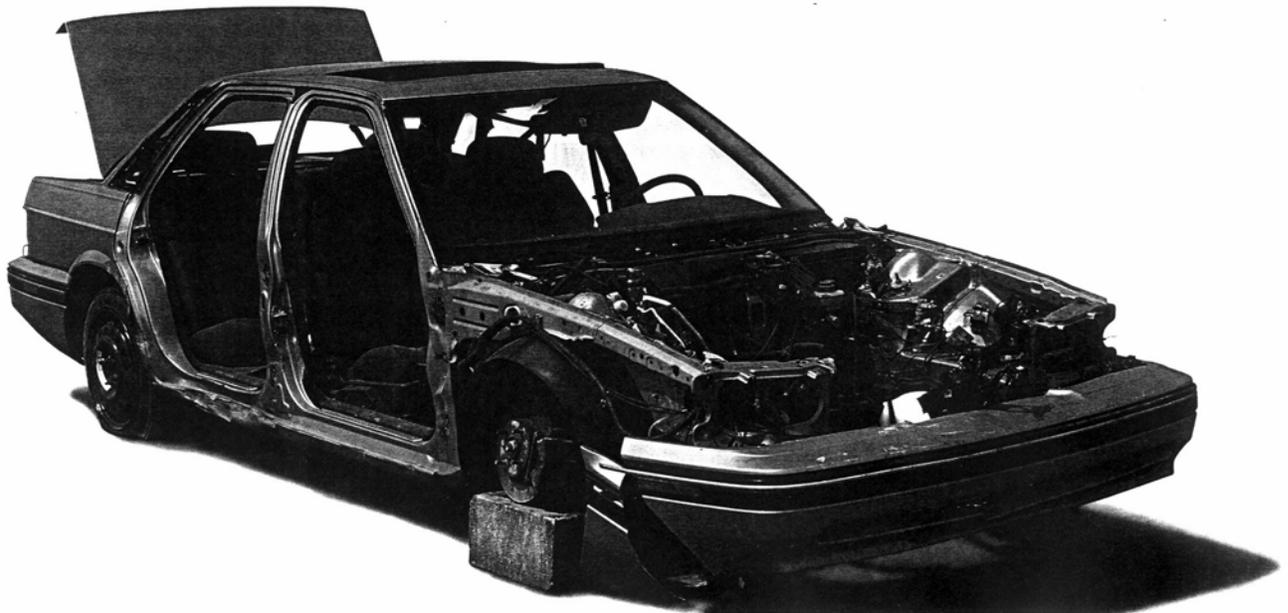
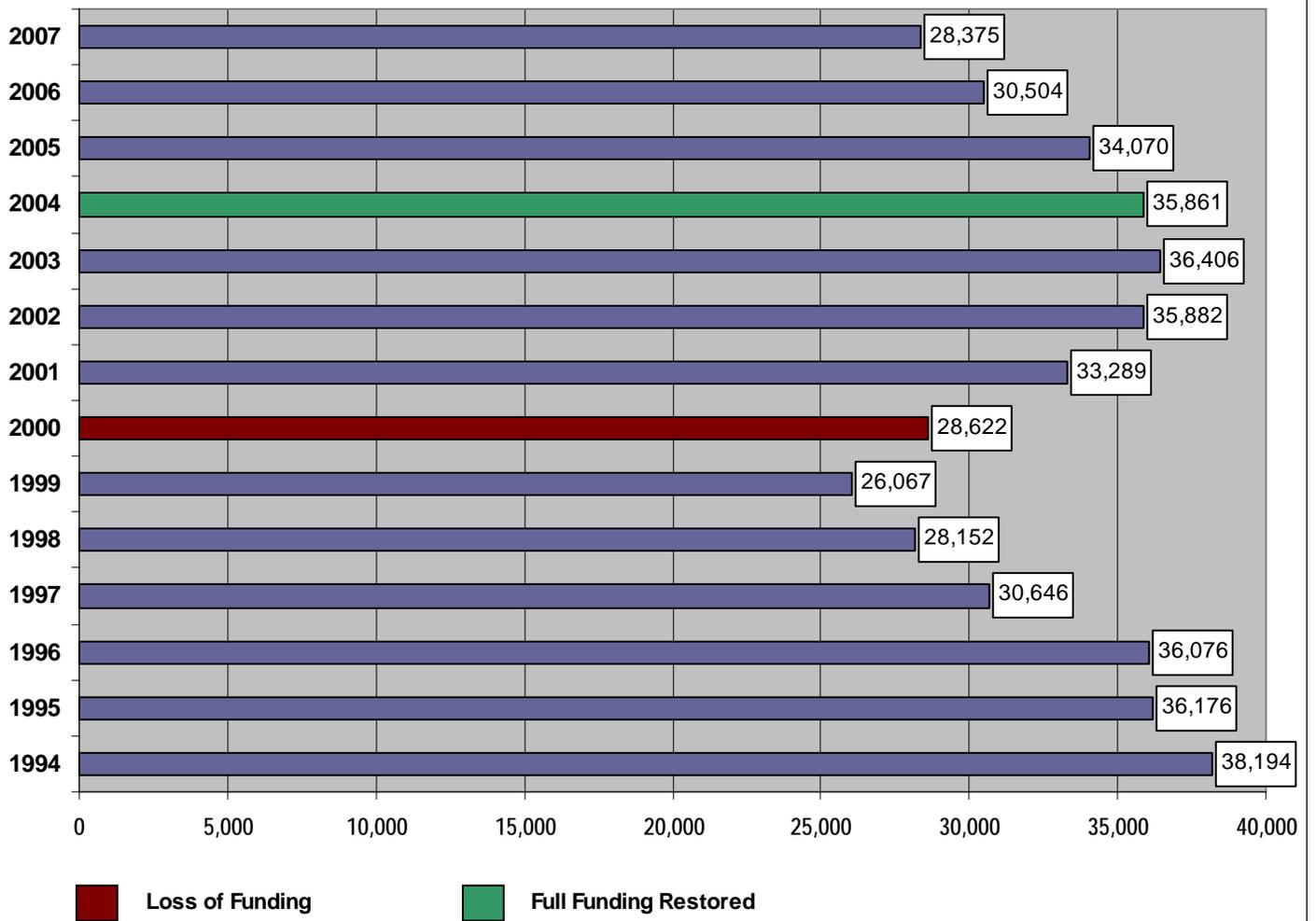
- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Baltimore Metro Area | Washington Metro Area  |
| 1) Dodge Caravan     | 1) Dodge Caravan       |
| 2) Honda Civic       | 2) Honda Accord        |
| 3) Honda Accord      | 3) Dodge Intrepid      |
| 4) Dodge Stratus     | 4) Dodge Stratus       |
| 5) Dodge Neon        | 5) Ford Taurus         |
| 6) Jeep Cherokee     | 6) Dodge Ram           |
| 7) Dodge Intrepid    | 7) Ford Crown Victoria |
| 8) Ford Taurus       | 8) Jeep Cherokee       |
| 9) Plymouth Voyager  | 9) Ply. & Dodge Neon   |
| 10) Toyota Camry     | 10) Dodge Durango      |

### MOTOR VEHICLE ROBBERY

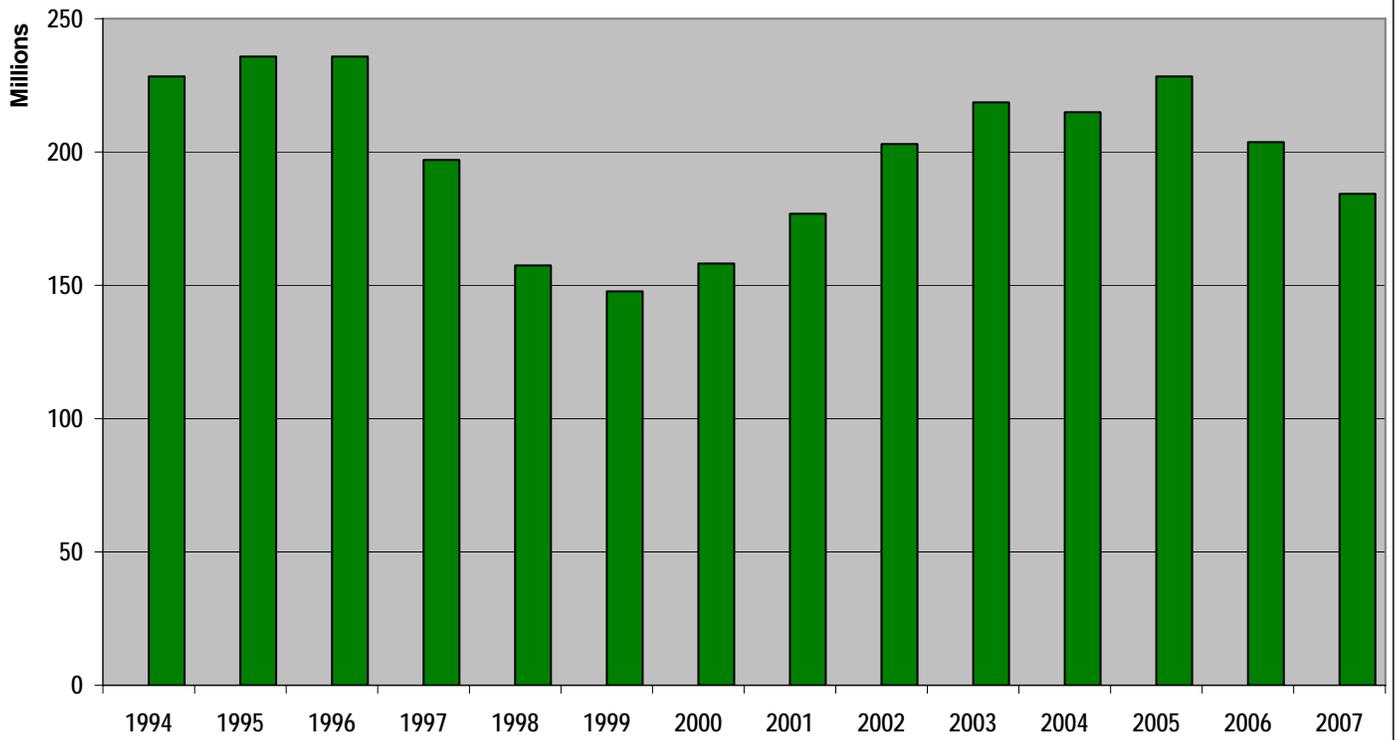
Carjacking, or motor vehicle robbery, decreased in 2007 by 11%. It has previously been hypothesized that, as public awareness programs increase and anti-theft devices become more popular, carjackings would also increase. However, recent data, does not support this hypothesis. From 1994 - 2000 vehicle theft decreased 36% and carjacking decreased 44%. 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. It should be noted that there was a steady increase in motor vehicle robbery which is comparable to the increase in motor vehicle theft. In 2007, vehicle theft decreased 7% and carjacking decreased 11%.



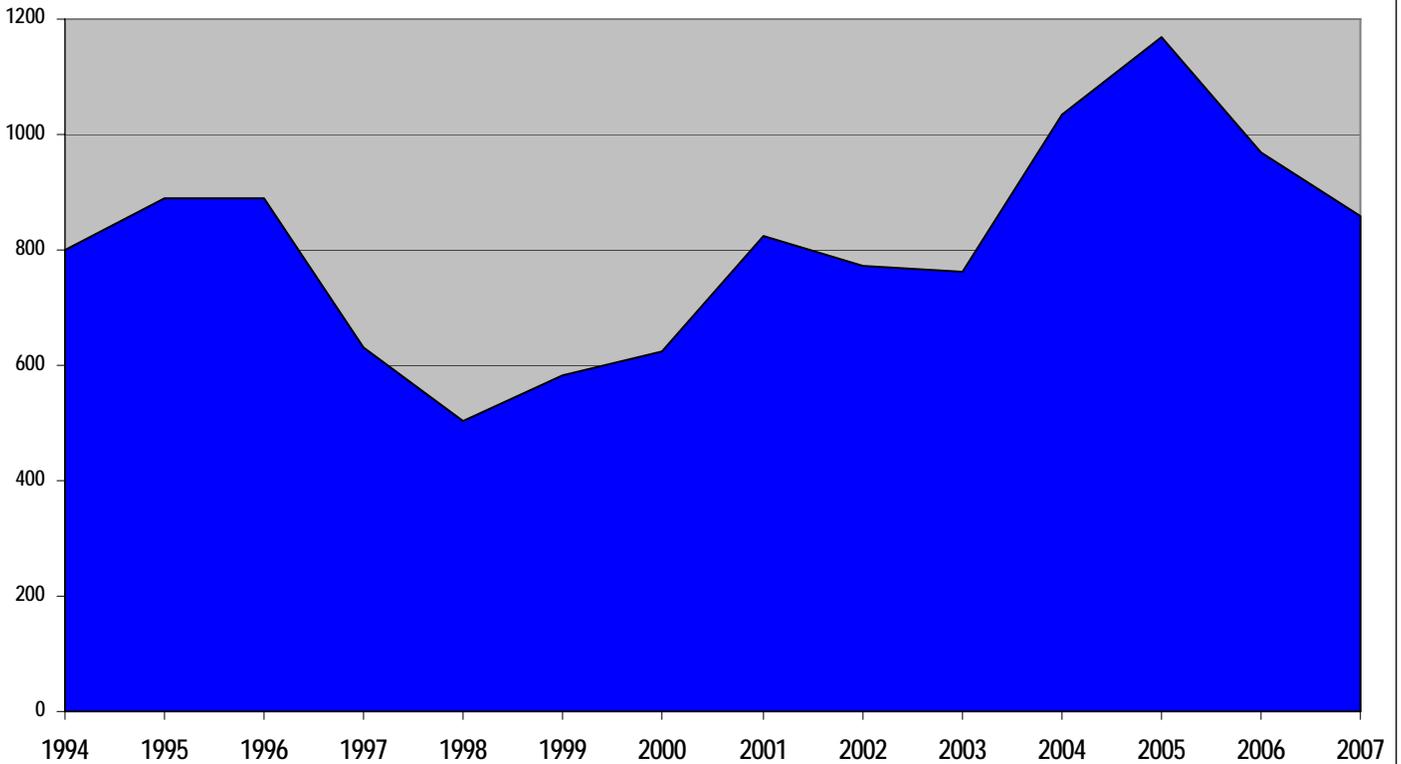
# Maryland Vehicle Theft



### Economic Loss



### Maryland Carjackings



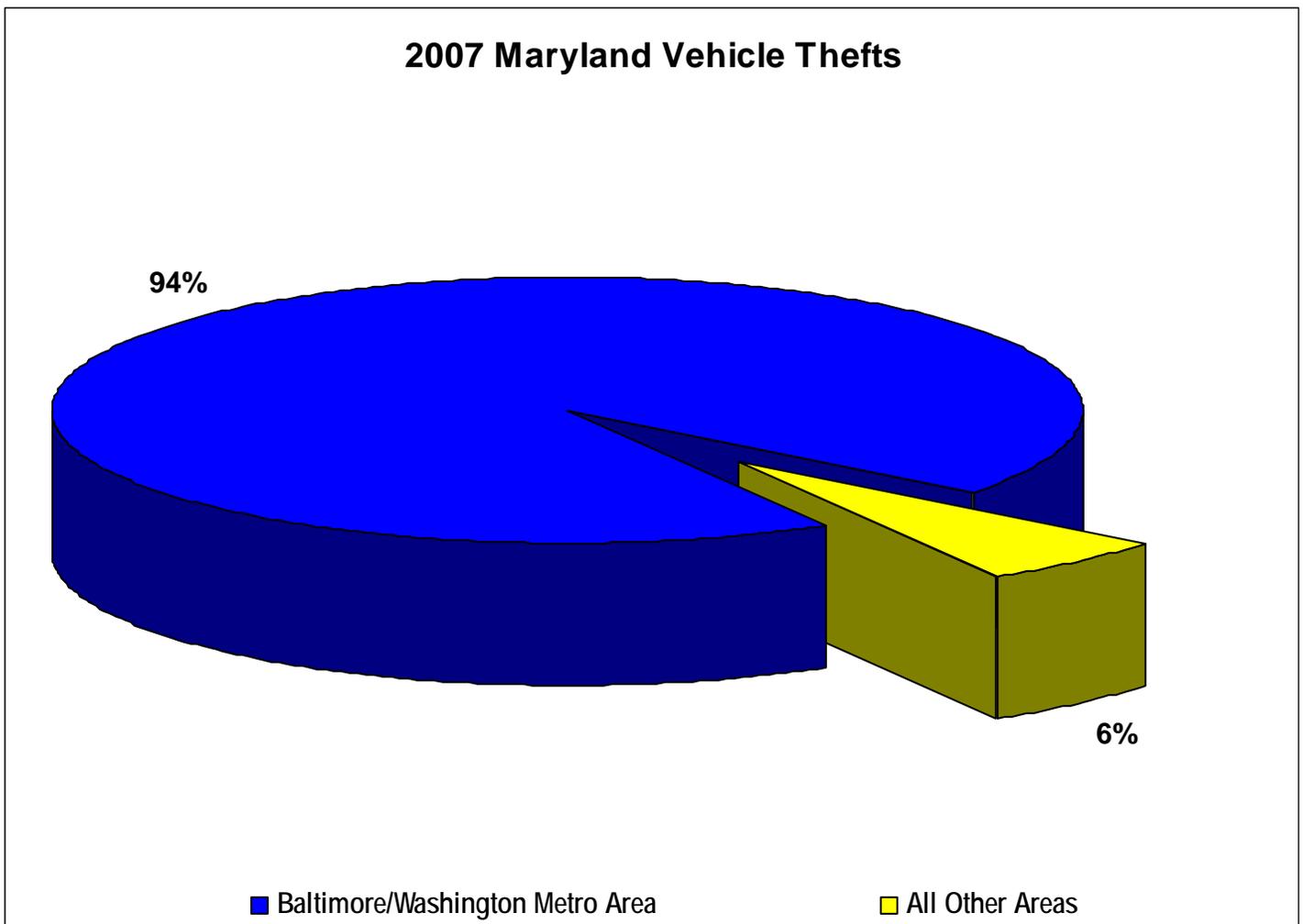
## THE EXTENT OF VEHICLE THEFT

As previously stated, vehicle theft has decreased 22% overall when compared to 2003 data. In the Washington, DC Metropolitan area, vehicle theft decreased 34%. The Baltimore Metropolitan area experienced a four percent decrease in vehicle thefts. The Baltimore Metro area had seen consistent declines in vehicle theft over the past few years. The Washington Metro area has been struggling, over the past several years to maintain a decline. In 2007 there was a decrease of 2,147 stolen vehicles statewide. Prince George's County had a decrease of 1,301 stolen vehicles. Montgomery County had a decrease of 10 vehicles or less than one percent.

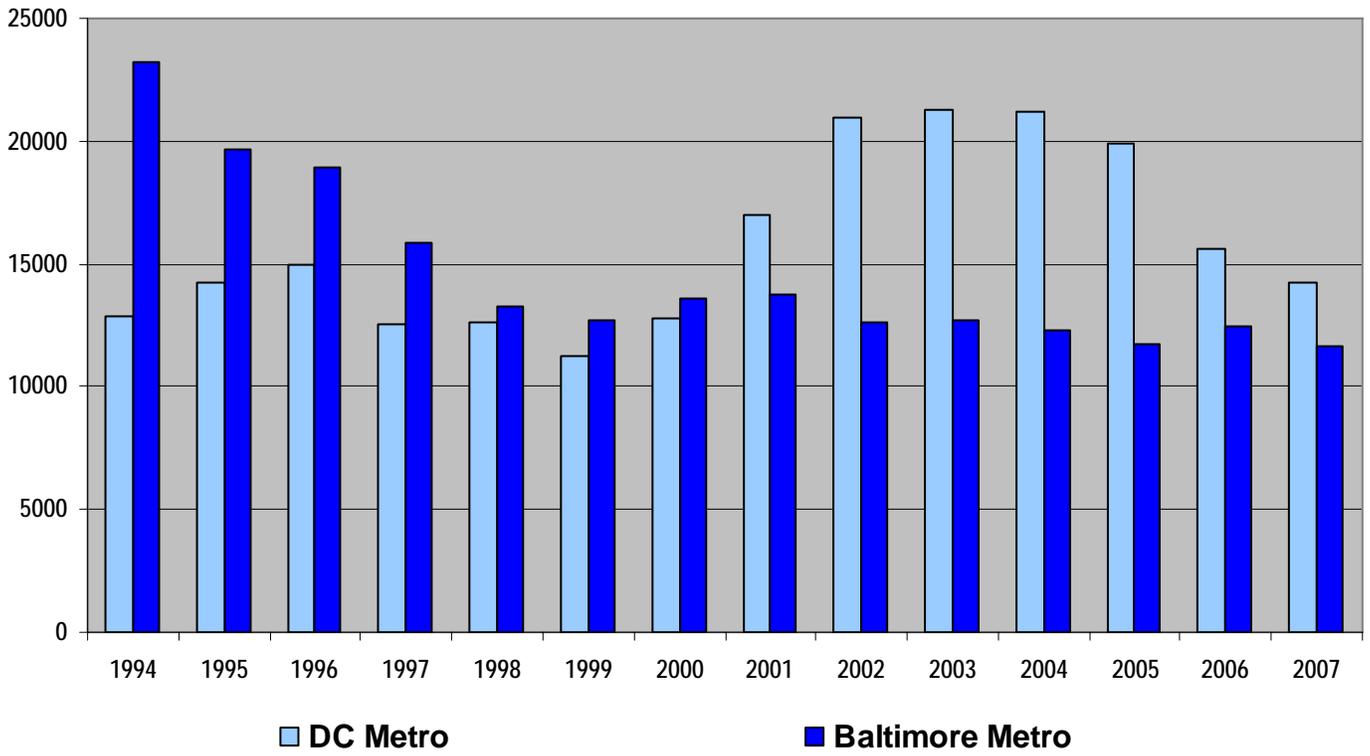
As previously stated, the Baltimore Metro area has seen continued decreases in vehicle theft since 1994. The most dramatic decreases can be seen in Baltimore County, Baltimore City and Howard County. These three regions had decreases of 47,

57 and 52 percent, respectively, since the intervention of the Council in 1994. As part of the Baltimore Metro area, Anne Arundel County has experienced an 8% decrease, while Harford County has remained static. After FY 2001 funding decreases, Harford County discontinued their Vehicle Theft Prevention Program.

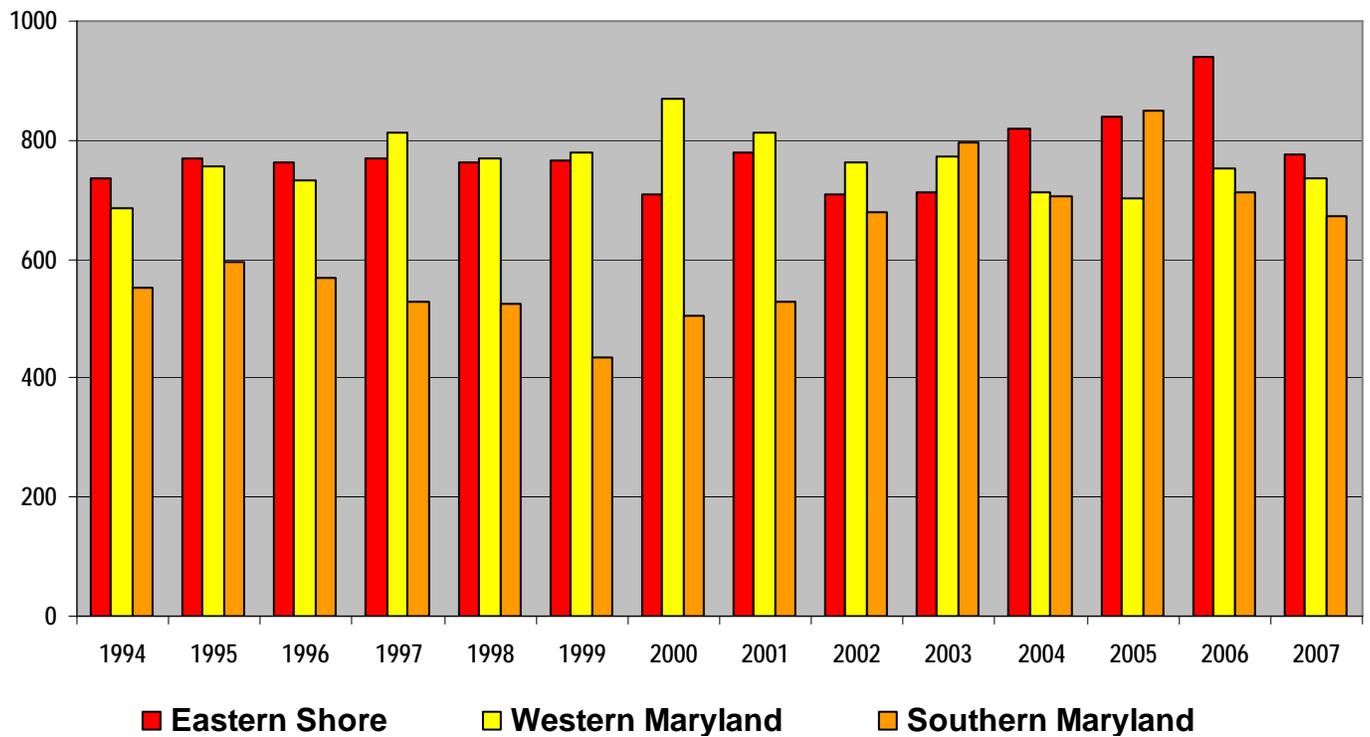
All Non-Urban regions of the state also reflected decreases in vehicle theft. The Western Region (Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, and Washington Counties) reported a decrease of 2.5%. The Eastern Shore Region (Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties) reported a decrease of 17.7%. The Southern Maryland Region (Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties) reported a decrease of 6.0%. This decrease may be associated with the recent intense enforcement and prosecution effort in the Washington Metro Region.



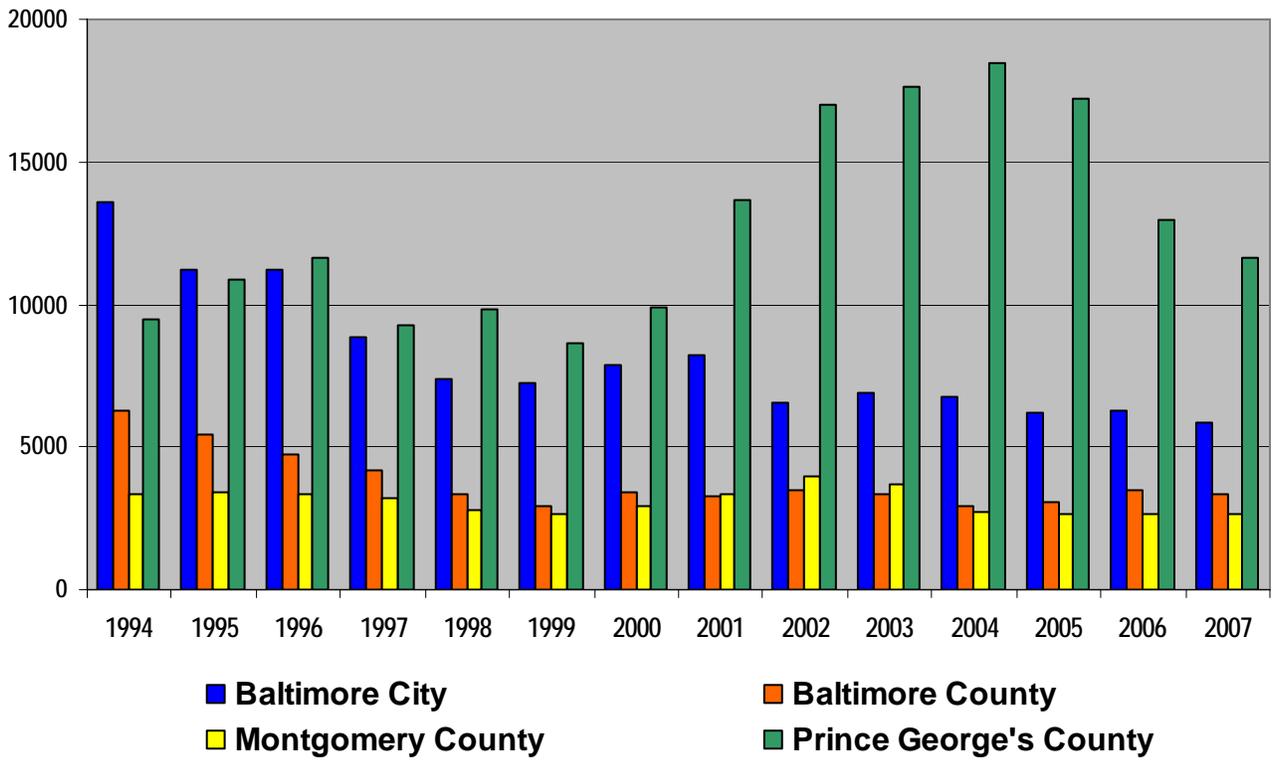
### Urban and Suburban Theft



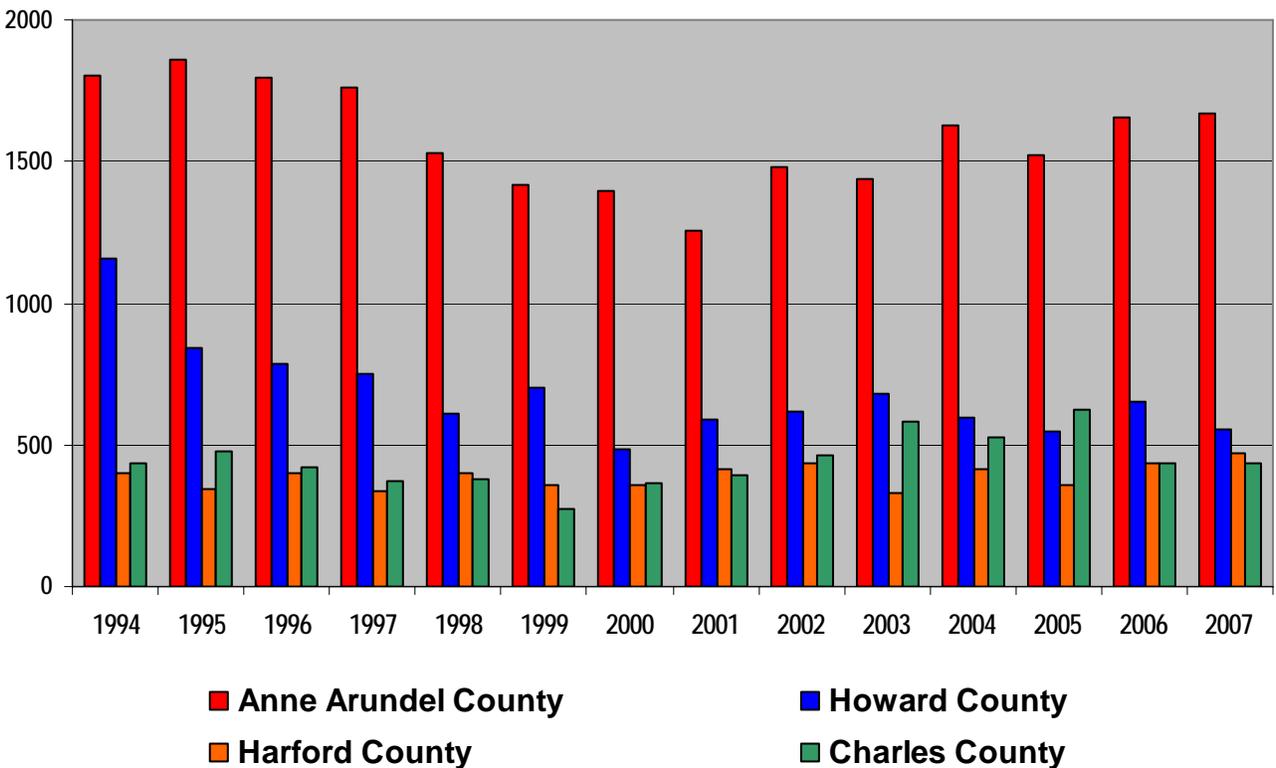
### Non-Urban Theft



### Maryland Jurisdictional Vehicle Theft



### Maryland Jurisdictional Vehicle Theft



## PER CAPITA ANALYSIS

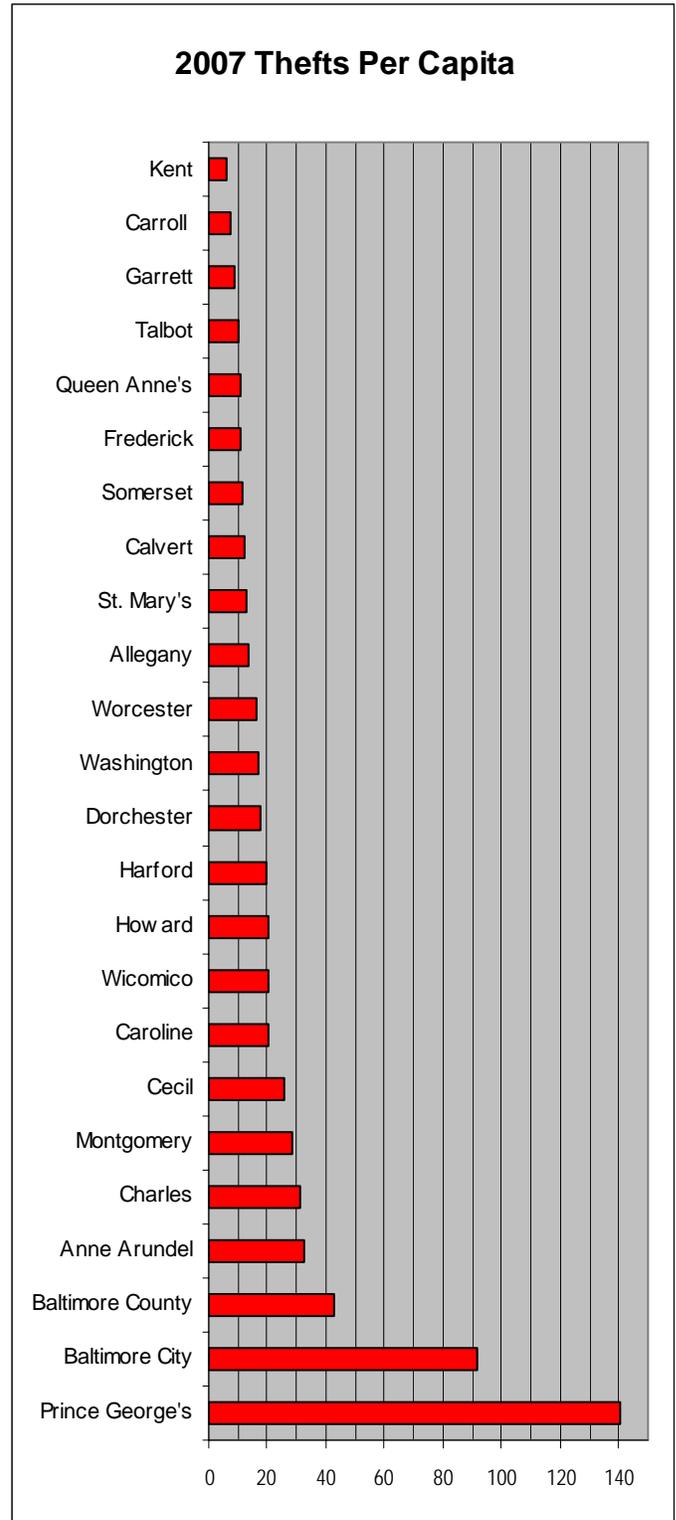
In order to visualize the problem of auto thefts in Maryland, vehicle theft trends should be compared to population figures. In some jurisdictions where auto theft is less common, a modest increase in raw numbers can appear dramatic when expressed as a percentage. Listed below are the rankings of 2007 auto theft numbers as compared to the jurisdiction's population. (The most recent estimated population figures used here were as of 7/1/07.) The theft rate compared to population can be broken down into seven tiers. The first tier includes Prince George's County, which had the highest amount of vehicles stolen when compared to population (140.6 for every ten thousand people). Baltimore City had the second highest number of vehicle thefts when compared to its population with 91.3 for every ten thousand people. The second tier of thefts declines significantly. Baltimore County had 42.6 auto thefts for every ten thousand people. The third tier of thefts includes three counties that border higher theft rate jurisdictions. Montgomery County had 28.8; Charles County reported 31.2 thefts; and Anne Arundel County with 28.2 thefts per ten thousand people. The fourth tier includes Dorchester, Howard, Wicomico and Cecil counties which each had, respectively, per capita rates of 17.7, 20.1, 22.0 and 25.8. The fifth tier of vehicle theft includes Worcester 16.3, Harford 19.5, Washington 16.8, Caroline 20.8 and St. Mary's 12.8, counties. The sixth tier of vehicle theft includes Frederick 11.0, Talbot 10.2, Kent 6.3, Allegany 13.8, Calvert 11.9 and Somerset 11.5. The seventh tier encompasses , Queen Anne's 10.6, Carroll 7.8, and Garrett 8.7. On average, the state of Maryland had 50.5 thefts for every ten thousand citizens.

## COMPARISON WITH OTHER CRIMES

The trends in vehicle theft during 2007 noted here can be compared to other forms of crime. On the whole, crime in Maryland decreased two percent. For 2007, the vehicle theft rate in Maryland has decreased seven percent. Since the Council's first programs were implemented in 1994, the motor vehicle theft rate has declined 34 percent (per 100,000 population.). The most significant declines in crime since 1994 has been motor vehicle theft. The crime rate as a whole has declined 32%, whereas, motor vehicle theft rate has declined 34%.

## CONCLUSION

Vehicle theft continues to be a problem for Maryland,. The most recent data reflects a decrease in thefts, while crime in general also reflects a slight decrease. Research has shown that vehicle thefts are committed in concert with other related crimes. As vehicle thefts decline, the opportunity to commit other related crimes also decreases.



# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

## 2007 ANNUAL 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 vehicle theft prevention

#### PREVENTION / EDUCATION

Statistics estimate that in three out of four cases of auto theft, owners left the doors unlocked. In one out of four cases, 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 automobile 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 auto theft, the Council will dedicate 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.

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

## 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

### EVALUATION OF THE COUNCIL'S IMPACT

Enabling legislation mandated an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council with a report to the Governor and General Assembly by November 1, 1996.

To maintain the highest element of objectivity and credibility, the Council contracted with an independent entity, the University of Baltimore's Schaefer Center for Public Policy, to conduct the evaluation.

The evaluation concluded the following:

- Conclusions are tentative because of the short period of time that the Council-funded programs have been in effect.
- Based on available evidence, the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council and Fund appear to be responsible for a decline in reported vehicle thefts.
- The Program appears to be cost effective.
- Public Awareness/Prevention/Education appear to greatly impact vehicle theft trends.
- Funding for the Vehicle Theft Prevention Council should be continued.

The Council again evaluated the effectiveness of its program in 1999. The 1996 Report was updated by the University of Baltimore Schaefer Center for Public Policy. This Report concluded that there was a definite correlation between Council intervention and declining vehicle theft rates. In fact, analytic data predicted that absent the Council's intervention in 1995, vehicle theft rates would have continued to escalate.

#### ANTI-CAR THEFT COMMITTEE

In 1997 the Council organized the Maryland Anti-Car Theft Committee (A.C.T.) As a public/private partnership between the Council, automobile insurance carriers, and other vehicle related organizations.

The A.C.T. Committee has been formally incorporated in Maryland as a 501(c3) nonprofit tax exempt organization.

The primary function of the A.C.T. Committee is to organize and fund various public awareness /education/prevention programs throughout Maryland, thereby enhancing and broadening the base of the Council's efforts.

The Council continues to partnership with the A.C.T. Committee. A.C.T. is proposing to continue their statewide VIN etching campaign. This is a process where the vehicle's identification number (VIN) is etched into the vehicle's windows. VIN etching is known as an excellent form of vehicle theft\_deterrence and is offered as a "Free Service" by the A.C.T. Committee.

In 2000 A.C.T. expanded its area of responsibility to include the District of Columbia, becoming the MD-DC ACT Committee. The ACT Committee has also provided funding to the Montgomery County Police Centralized Auto Theft Team (CATT) to enhance their capabilities to access stolen car information more rapidly through portable lap top computers. They also partner with the Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team (RATT) and provided funding to assist the startup of the Washington Area Vehicle Enforcement Team, (WAVE) and assist community policing programs in the District of Columbia.

#### "WATCH YOUR CAR"

In October 1997, Maryland was awarded a Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance grant to launch the national "Watch Your Car" program. Maryland was one of the first seven states to be at the forefront of this national vehicle theft prevention program. The "Watch Your Car" initiative allows motor vehicle owners to voluntarily display a reflective decal on their vehicles to alert police that the vehicle is not normally driven between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. If the vehicle is observed being operated during these hours, the owner has consented to having the vehicle stopped by police anywhere in the United States. Police can then ensure that the vehicle is not stolen.

This program is totally voluntary and at no cost to the participants. Similar decal programs throughout the country have proven successful. In the past, however, a lack of uniformity in program hours and decal designs has limited its effectiveness. The national "Watch Your Car" program will remedy these problems; it brings uniformity to the concept. Police officers nationwide will come to recognize and understand the parameters and benefits of the "Watch Your Car" program so that it will not be limited by state and local boundaries.

This program was officially implemented in August of 1998. Currently, there are over 35,000 Maryland motorists registered in the program with 78 law enforcement agencies participating statewide. In 2000, the Council applied for, and received, "Watch Your Car" Supplemental Funding of \$240,000.00. This continued the program through 2003. The Council has since assumed funding responsibilities to continue this valuable program.

### **COUNCIL WEBSITE** [www.mdautotheft.org](http://www.mdautotheft.org)

In furtherance of the Council's progressive actions, a website was developed and went online in January, 2000. The website is directed at providing vehicle theft prevention data and an interactive link to the public and numerous other vehicle theft prevention organizations nationwide. The website received over 70,000 hits during 2007 with 3,141 motorists registering with the "Watch Your Car" Program online.

### **MAJOR CASES** **Council Funded Auto Theft Units**

Vehicle theft permeates other criminal offenses. The following investigations illustrate the extensive use of stolen vehicles in perpetrating other serious criminal offenses and how aggressive auto theft investigations are successful in the apprehension of violent criminal offenders and resolution of violent criminal offenses.

### **Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team (RATT)**

#### ***BAIT DIRT BIKE OPERATIONS***

The Regional Auto Theft Team began dirt bike bait operations in early 2007 in response to the increase theft of dirt bikes and ATV's. The operation is

premised on utilizing similar motorcycles equipped with tracking devices. The motorcycles are placed in high theft locations and monitored by RATT personnel. During 2007, the unit performed 10 days of bait operations throughout the year resulting in 24 arrests.

#### ***NISSAN THEFTS - "JIGGLE KEY"***

In late 2007, there was a trend involving thefts of older Nissan Products in the Pikesville/Northwest District area. Detective Larry Smith, the Unit's Crime Analyst, noticed a trend where Nissan vehicles were being stolen at an alarming rate. He was also able to learn that the vehicles were stolen by use of a "shaved" key (also called a "Jiggle Key"). Detective Smith made everyone aware of this tactical intelligence, and he began to track theft and recovery locations. Using his analysis, he was able to direct the street/trend squads to areas of the Northwest District.

The RATT unit went to work on attacking this trend. During a two week period the unit recovered all 15 vehicles stolen during the trend. The recoveries resulted in 14 arrests (some suspects were charged with multiple cases, along with one search and seizure warrant). The trend subsided after the arrests.

#### ***TOW TRUCK THEFTS***

On 01/18/07 Detectives began investigating the theft of a 2006 International roll back tow truck taken from Beltway International Trucking located at 1800 Sulphur Spring Road 21227. The truck was valued at \$70,000.00. Investigative file #07-I-293.

On 08/21/07 Detectives developed a suspect from the Investigative File of 07-I-293.

Detectives responded to the area of 4919 Seltzer Road and saw the stolen 2007 International Jerr-Dan Rollback CC# 072320360. The suspect entered the vehicle and was followed into Washington D.C. With the assistance of the D.C. Auto theft team (WAVE), detectives were able to stop and arrest the suspect. The suspect declined to talk with investigators.

The investigation led detectives to clear the following cases.

**Case #1:** 08/06/07 stolen from Beltway International located at 1800 Sulphur Spring Road (Pct. 1) 2007 International Jerr-Dan (roll back) Value - \$68,750.00. CC#07-218-0641, Recovered in P.G. County on 08/12/07 at 4919 Seltzer Road

**Case #2:** 08/07/07 stolen from Beltway International located at 1800 Sulphur Spring Road (Pct. 1) 2007 International Jerr-Dan Value - \$66,750.00. CC#07-220-0458, Recovered in P.G. County on 08/12/07 at 4919 Seltzer Road.

**Case #3:** 08/20/07 stolen from Beltway International located at 1800 Sulphur Spring Road (Pct. 1) 2007 International Jerr-Dan Value - \$66,750.00. CC #07-232-0360, Recovered in Washington D.C. on 08/21/07, assisted by D.C. Wave

**Case #4:** 08/20/07 stolen from Beltway International located at 1800 Sulphur Spring Road (Pct. 1) Stolen Maryland tag CC#07-232-0610.

**Case #5:** 08/07/07 stolen from Beltway International located at 1800 Sulphur Spring Road (Pct. 1) Stolen Maryland Temp Tag that was on a 2006 Dodge Ram CC#07-220-0458.

**Case #6:** Victim – Lansing Building Products On 08/20/07 Ignition taken out of leased vehicle while being serviced at Beltway International (Pct. 1), suspects cut fence and entered garage. CC#07-232-0360, Upgraded to a Burglary. During the arrest of the suspect detectives compared an ignition found in the stolen vehicle with the keys of the leased truck and it matched.

**Case #7:** On 08/21/07 recovered 2006 Freightliner Tractor stolen from P.G. County on 08/17/07. Recovered on 08/21/2007 at Beltway International 1800 Sulphur Spring Road (Pct. 1) CC#07-232-0694

On 08/27/07, Detectives made application for a summons or arrest warrant for the suspect. The commissioner issued an arrest Warrant. The suspect was charged with four auto thefts and a 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Burglary CC#07-232-0360.

As of this date, detectives with the assistance of the Prince Georges County Police Department and the D.C. W.A.V.E unit have recovered four stolen tow trucks belonging to Beltway International Trucking, total recovery value \$267,000. The suspect pled guilty at his trial.

### ***STEAL FOR STEEL CASE***

On 05/01/07, Detectives responded to Crazy Rays at 2801 Hawkins Point Road in response to a call that they had a stolen 2005 Ford and a 2000 Dodge Stratus. Upon arrival they confirmed that both of these vehicles were active thefts.

The 2005 Ford Taurus was stolen from Baltimore County, Precinct 1 under CC#07-043-0237 on 02/12/07. The suspect operating as Gotta N Gone Towing scrapped it on 04/25/07. The same suspect scrapped the 2000 Dodge Stratus on 04/13/07 and that was an active theft from Baltimore City under CC# 07-4D3390.

Both these vehicles were recovered and towed to the city yard. Detectives Boyd and Fields also checked the VINs of other vehicles that were scrapped during the month of April by the same suspect and found three more active thefts. Crazy Rays is going to locate the vehicles so we can determine if they are recoverable.

On 05/02/07, Detectives responded to the two addresses listed on the Maryland driver's licenses of the suspects who scrapped the five stolen vehicles at Crazy Rays. One location appeared vacant and the other is occupied but we did not see a tow truck at either location.

On the indemnity agreements submitted by the suspect he lists an address on Shamrock Ave as the address of the towing company, Gotta N Gone. Detectives responded to the area and found that there is no such address on Shamrock Ave. Detectives were able to locate the tow truck that the suspect has been using to scrap the vehicles parked and unoccupied behind a Business on Belair Rd.

On 05/07/07, one of the Detectives investigated five stolen vehicles that were scrapped at Crazy Rays by the suspect during the month of April, 2007. As a result of the investigation detectives

completed a charging document and obtained an arrest warrant that charges the suspect with 5 counts of car theft, 5 counts of theft over \$500.00 and 5 counts of unauthorized use.

On 05/24/07, Detectives opened three new cases against the suspect for scrapping vehicles at United Iron and Metal that were later reported as stolen: CC#07-8E12151, CC#07- 8E00931 and 07-8E00932

On 05/23/07, Detectives responded to Crazy Rays at 2801 Hawkins Point Road and met with a vehicle owner who had his vehicle stolen from the 1600 Blk. Ellamont Street in the Southwest District and had located it at Crazy Rays'. Detectives obtained copies of his vehicle title and the indemnity agreement that was used to sell the vehicle. This vehicle was sold by "Gotta N Gone" towing who is operated by the suspect. Detectives currently have warrants outstanding for the suspect for numerous thefts in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. While at the location they were made aware of two other vehicles that had been purchased from the suspect that were owned by a different victim and had been reported stolen in the Southwest District. Detectives will be following up on all three thefts and obtaining warrants for the suspect in the near future.

On 05/31/07, Detectives upgraded the reports that were filed in the Southwest District for two autos that the owner located at Crazy Rays last week. The vehicles had not been reported stolen but only attempt to locate. These vehicles had also been sold to the location by the suspect from "Gotta N Gone" towing.

Thefts: 8  
Recoveries: 8  
Arrests: 1  
(one more arrest warrant to be obtained)

Trial is pending on the suspect.

### **WASHINGTON AREA VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT TEAM (WAVE)**

#### **RECOVERED STOLEN TAGS / WARRANTS AND ROBBERY SUSPECTS**

On 2/9/07 members of the WAVE Team were

working in the Northeast Washington area when a 1999 Ford Explorer was observed parked and unattended. A check of that registration confirmed that the tags were reported stolen through MPDC on 2/1/07. Further investigation revealed that the vehicle also matched the description of a suspect vehicle that was wanted by Fairfax PD in the robbery of a 7-11. Surveillance was set up on the vehicle and when the occupants returned to it, the vehicle was followed to Kenilworth Avenue and R Street where a stop was conducted. Both of the occupants bailed out of the vehicle on foot and after a short foot chase, both were placed under arrest and transported to CID. Further investigation revealed that the driver had an open warrant for auto theft. Fairfax PD was notified and they responded to take possession of the vehicle for processing and both of the occupants were identified by Fairfax detectives via surveillance video from the 7-11 that was robbed. A starter pistol was also found in a back pack in the rear seat of the vehicle.

#### **STOLEN AUTO ARREST AND GUN RECOVERY**

On 3/27/07, a stolen 2007 Chrysler 300 was observed at Sheriff Road and Eastern Avenue. This vehicle had been reported stolen on 3/21/07 in PG. Co. The vehicle was stopped and the driver was arrested. He was found in possession of a 38 caliber revolver, 3.4 grams of crack cocaine, two (2) ski masks, gloves and six (6) rounds of additional 38 caliber ammunition. \$24,995 (new MSRP).

#### **CARJACKED VEHICLE ARREST**

On April 26 the WAVE team monitored a MPD radio report of an armed carjacking that had just occurred involving a 06 Chevy Impala. The vehicle was found at the 4800 block of Sheriff RD NE Washington, D.C. Upon being stopped, the suspect abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot. With the efforts of all the Wave members, the suspect was arrested. The follow-up is being handled by the MPD robbery taskforce. The vehicle is valued at \$17,230.

#### **ROBBERY VEHICLE ARREST**

On 10/04/07 members of the WAVE Team were working in the P.G. County Police District 3, when a dispatcher broadcasted a lookout for a 2007 Honda Accord, tan in color wanted in an attempted

bank robbery. Later in the day the vehicle was observed on Brooks drive at Marlboro Pike, District Heights Md. The vehicle was followed to the 4900 block of Easy Place, S.E., where the driver pulled to the curb. The vehicle was blocked in. The occupants were stopped without incident. Search of the vehicle, revealed a large manila envelope. Inside the envelope was a computer circuit board with an aerosol can tape to it. Also in the envelope was a computer generated letter stating that the device was a remote control bomb. The letter continued to ask for all of the \$100's and \$50's or he would detonate the bomb. The suspect was arrested, the FBI is investigating and further information is forthcoming.

***RECOVERED CARJACKED VEHICLE  
ARREST***

On 5/10/07 members of the WAVE Team were working in the South East Washington area when a 2000 Audi A6 was observed parked unattended. A check of that registration confirmed that the tags were reported stolen through Prince George's County on 5/08/07. A check of the VIN revealed that the vehicle was also reported as a car-jacked vehicle through MPDC on 5/10/07. Surveillance was set up on that vehicle until it became occupied and the driver fled the scene in the vehicle. The vehicle was followed to the area of Pacer Dr. and Pacer Ct. where a stop was conducted and the driver was placed under arrest. Further investigation revealed that the driver had 2 open warrants through Prince George's County for 1st degree assault and theft over \$500. He also had an open warrant through Charles County for theft. The vehicle was impounded by MPDC for processing and had an estimated value of \$12,785.

***RECOVERED CARJACKED VEHICLE  
ARREST***

On 8/15/07 members of the WAVE Team were working in the North East Washington area when a 2007 Dodge Charger was observed. A check of that registration confirmed that the vehicle was reported as a car-jacked vehicle through Prince George's County on 8/12/07. Before a stop could be conducted the driver attempted to flee the scene, striking a citizens vehicle and causing moderate damage. The driver (Victor Donnell Byrd 8/25/87) of the car-jacked vehicle fled on foot, and after a short foot chase was placed under arrest. The

vehicle was taken to the ID Bay for processing and the driver was transported to CID. The value of the vehicle is \$22,430.

***RECOVERED VEHICLE/GUN  
(USED IN ROBBERY)***

On 09/03/2007 WAVE members were working in the 7th District in Washington D.C. A stolen 2007 Pontiac was observed at 500 block of Savannah Street SE. Surveillance was established and shortly the vehicle became occupied by four subjects. The vehicle was stopped 1200 block of Alabama Ave NE and the occupants were arrested. One of the subjects was found to be armed with a .38 cal revolver. The vehicle was reported stolen on 09-03-2007 in the course of a robbery in PG County on 09/03/2007. The vehicle is valued at \$20,700.

***FUGITIVE ARREST***

On 10/01/07 members of the WAVE Team were working in the 7th District area in Washington D.C. A broadcast from P.G. County District 4 was made in reference to a black Acura and an occupant was wanted for Armed Robbery. WAVE members then observed the listed vehicle entering the District of Columbia via 23rd Parkway. The vehicle was lost for a short time. An area canvass found the vehicle parked in the rear parking lot of 1820 Trenton Street, S.E. Surveillance was established. A short time later a black male fitting the description approached the vehicle. As he attempted to leave on foot a stop was initiated. A show up was conducted with the victim and the suspect was positively identified as the robber. The suspect was arrested as a fugitive and a warrant was issued through P.G. County for his arrest.

***FUGITIVE ARREST***

On 11/01/07 members of the WAVE Team were working in the Suitland area when a 2007 Toyota Tundra was observed. A check of that registration was negative but a check of the VIN confirmed that the vehicle was reported stolen the vehicle was later observed in the 3800 block of Regency Parkway where a stop was made and the driver was placed under arrest. Further investigation revealed that the arrested also had an open warrant for attempt 1st degree murder. The vehicle was recovered and has an estimated value of \$26,820

**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY  
AUTO THEFT TEAM**

***CASES 07-733042 and 07-733044***

On 08-07-07 the Anne Arundel County Auto Theft Unit was notified by Western District officers about two stolen vehicles located behind a shopping center in Laurel. The two vehicles were a Dodge Neon and a Dodge pick-up. Both vehicles were parked behind the store and were running. The five suspects had left the vehicles on foot and were in the area of the shopping center. The suspects were spotted by a loss prevention officer attempting to breaking into another vehicle and were seen driving through the parking lot in the possible stolen vehicles parked behind the Shopping Center.

A Detective responded to the area and with the assistance of uniformed officers arrested the five subjects as they attempted to walk away from the area. The suspects were two adult males and three juvenile males. The Detective responded to the possible stolen vehicles and found a 2003, Dodge Dakota and a 1998, Dodge Neon. Both vehicles had their ignitions popped, door locks broken and windows broken. The vehicles were processed and suitable latent fingerprints were recovered. A check of the vehicles through NCIC found that they had not yet been reported stolen. The Detectives was able to contact the owners of the vehicles and found that their vehicles had been stolen from the New Carrolton Train Station in Prince Georges County while they were at work.

The Detective interviewed the suspects. All but one admitted to being in the stolen vehicles. One of the adult suspects admitted to stealing the vehicles at the train station and admitted to thefts of other vehicles in Prince Georges County. All five suspects were charged. The Detective contacted the WAVE Unit (Washington Area Vehicle Enforcement) and advised them of the other thefts and where another stolen vehicle could be located at the train station.

***CASES 07-721412, 07-720935, and 07-720992***

During the month of June the Anne Arundel County Police Department's Auto Theft Unit received information about a metal recycler who was operating in Anne Arundel County stealing

vehicles and selling them to area tow companies. The suspect claimed he was the owner of the aforementioned vehicles. The tow companies would then sell the stolen vehicles to area scrap yards. The suspect who was stealing the vehicles had a lengthy record for thefts and motor vehicle theft. The investigation revealed that the suspect would drive around the County on weekends looking for older inoperable vehicles to sell to the tow companies.

On 05-23-07 the suspect went to a property located in Odenton and took four vehicles. The owner of those vehicles a mechanic later reported the vehicles stolen. The Detective found that one of the stolen vehicles was scraped at a recycling center in Baltimore. The vehicle was towed to the recycling center by a Baltimore based tow company. A second stolen vehicle was located at the tow company's lot. The Detective interviewed the owner of the tow company who had paperwork showing that he purchased the vehicles for scrap from the suspect. He paid the suspect \$100.00 for each vehicle. He was then presented with a photographic line-up. The tow company owner identified the suspect as the person that sold him the two vehicles.

On 05-23-07 a citizen reported his 1988 Pontiac stolen from his property located in Severn. A witness to that theft observed a white male in the area asking about the vehicle. He later saw a red tow truck remove the vehicle from the property. The Detective was able to find that the vehicle was scraped at a metal recycler in Baltimore. The Detective was able to locate the owner of the tow truck who advised that the suspect contacted him.

He stated that he paid the suspect \$100.00 for the vehicle. The owner had documentation for the purchase and was able to identify the suspect from a photographic line-up.

On 05-26-07 a citizen reported his 1996, Nissan truck taken from a friend's farm located in Millersville. The Detective discovered that the vehicle was scraped at metal recycler in Baltimore. The Detective located the individual who sold the vehicle to the recycler. The Detective located the individual and found that he bought the vehicle from the suspect. The individual had a bill of sale

for the vehicle and also identified the suspect from a photographic line-up. The Detective charged the suspect with six counts of motor vehicle theft, unauthorized use, and theft over \$500.00. The suspect was also charged with theft scheme over \$500.00 and four counts of theft under \$100.00.

**CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE  
AUTO THEFT UNIT**

***PINEFIELD PROJECT***

In September of 2007 the Pinefield neighborhood located in north Waldorf, Charles County Maryland, was victimized by a sudden increase in motor vehicle thefts. During a 45 day period, there was a large number of motor vehicle breaking and entering seven of which were motor vehicles stolen from the neighborhood. In most instances, the vehicles were ransacked and then keys were located inside. The vehicles were of differing makes and models. Along with motor vehicle thefts, the neighborhood was also experiencing a rash of property thefts from vehicles. The Charles County Sheriffs Office Auto theft Unit was assigned the task to investigate all vehicle incidents occurring in the neighborhood.

A lead was developed from a stolen cellular phone from one of the vehicles. The lead came from a US Army recruiter. Further investigation lead to the identity of Anthony Miller as a person of interest. Contact was made with Anthony Miller and he was subsequently interviewed. During the interview, Anthony Miller admitted to participating in the theft of seven motor vehicles from the Pinefield neighborhood. Additionally, he admitted to committing approximately seventy breaking and entering to motor vehicles in the Waldorf area. All involved vehicles were recovered, several of which suffered damage from motor vehicle accidents. In April of 2008, Miller plead guilty to these incidents.

***EXPORTS TO AFRICA***

In February of 2008 car dealerships in Waldorf, Charles County Maryland, were targeted by car thieves. During a one month period, three separate dealerships had vehicles stolen from their lots. The suspect description and modus operandi were consistent during all these incidents. Hours of viewing video surveillance footage from these

dealerships and from other business in Charles County lead detectives to identify the suspect involved in these auto thefts and in other major theft incidents. The suspect was later learned to have been involved in a previous international auto theft ring. The suspect had been arrested from his involvement in this ring and was convicted. This organized international auto theft ring orchestrated high dollar vehicle thefts from dealerships in Maryland. Once an established number of vehicles were obtained, these vehicles would be shipped out of the country to Africa. Since his release from prison, the suspect has continued this behavior and is believed to be involved in an auto theft ring that shares similar characteristics to his previous involvements. The investigation into these incidents is continuing. Additionally, Maryland State Police Detectives have been brought on board with the investigation.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE  
CENTRALIZED AUTO THEFT SECTION**

***EXPORTS TO AFRICA***

On May 21, 2007, DARCARS Toyota in Silver Spring, Maryland discovered that fourteen vehicles were stolen from their new car inventory lot and contacted Detective John Shaw. He and other members of the Montgomery County Police Centralized Auto Theft Section initiated a multi-jurisdictional investigation, which ultimately uncovered an international conspiracy in which large numbers of vehicles were stolen from the U.S. Mid-Atlantic region and exported to West African nations over the last several years.

Within days of initiating the investigation, Det. Shaw utilized contacts within the DC metro area auto theft units and identified several suspects, who were later determined to be responsible for the theft of at least 37 vehicles, with an estimated value of \$880,000. Over the next five months, Det. Shaw coordinated with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies from MD, VA, DC, NJ, and NY to bring the Maryland investigation to the charging and prosecution phase. During this time, Det. Shaw's investigation merged with a New Jersey State Police (NJSP) investigation, whereby they were investigating some of the same suspects who were shipping stolen vehicles at the Port of Newark. Det. Shaw coordinated with NJSP, which

culminated with NJSP making arrests in July 2007. The NJSP investigation netted seventy-two stolen vehicles from four states, with an approximate value of \$2.55 million.

Det. Shaw, with the assistance of other members of his investigative unit, furthered the Maryland investigation by obtaining and executing six search warrants related to the case in four different Maryland jurisdictions and one in California. In order to further the case, extensive foot, vehicular, and aerial surveillance was conducted. Tracking of the suspect's movement was conducted through the use of GPS tracking, video surveillance from the Delaware Memorial Bridge, and coordinated video surveillance by the NJSP. In order to conduct link analysis of the suspects, vehicles, and associated businesses, Det. Shaw created databases related to sixty-five linked persons of interest, sixty-four related vehicles, and twelve affiliated businesses. These, along with other investigative techniques, resulted in criminal charges being filed by DC metro investigators and NJSP against eleven DC metro area suspects directly involved in the theft and exportation of stolen vehicles.

Ultimately, the commitment and diligence of the Montgomery County Police Centralized Auto Theft Section directly led to the end of this professional theft ring and the theft of additional vehicles.

### ***GYM THIEVES***

In the fall of 2007, a series of auto thefts occurred, where the suspects went into local Gyms or fitness centers, and would take wallets/car keys that they would find in the locker rooms. The suspects would then drive away in the victims car and use there credit cards at multiple stores. The Montgomery County Police Centralized Auto Theft Section obtained the video surveillance tapes from several incidents and based on the video, two suspects (who were previously known) were developed. Investigation led to warrants being obtained for John Morse and William Gunn, who both have lengthy criminal records, charging them with the theft of 6 vehicles and dozens of credit card/fraud related charges. Unfortunately for them, one of the vehicles they decided to take had Onstar and this vehicle was located. Several officers were able to respond to this vehicle and both suspects were arrested in one of the stolen vehicles and they had

property from another stolen vehicle on them. Both subjects plead guilty in Circuit Court and William Gunn plead to a 5 year sentence and John Morse plead to a 4 year sentence.

### ***LATIN LOCOS***

During the summer and fall of 2007, a series of auto thefts occurred where the suspects would break into several cars in selected neighborhoods throughout Montgomery County and they would search through vehicles, steal property and look for any keys. These vehicles would be broken into over night and the subjects would search through cars until they found a key for the vehicle and then drive off with one or two vehicles at a time. These subjects went out to Prince Georges County and Frederick County committing the same type of crime. Through several arrests, fingerprint identification and statements, several subjects from a criminal street gang known as the "Latin Locos" were developed. A majority of these subjects were juveniles and the subjects involved in the thefts comprised of about 20. These subjects would take mostly newer vehicles varying from Lexus, Acura, BMW, Chevrolet, Toyota, and basically anything nice that they could get a key for. In all they have been charged or suspected of stealing approximately 50 vehicles. In December, the criminal activity due to this group was minimized since most of the involved suspects were incarcerated in juvenile group homes, detention facilities or were on home detention and unable to steal vehicles any longer.

### **MARYLAND STATE POLICE AUTO THEFT TEAM**

#### ***RECOVERY OF STOLEN CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT***

On August 7, 2007 the US Marshals Fugitive Task Force received information from agents in Virginia that a subject wanted for violation of federal probation could be located near Muirkurk Road, Beltsville, Prince George's County, MD. The subject should also be in possession of a stolen Semi-tractor. The task force went to 7100 Muirkurk Road and shortly thereafter the wanted subject drove to up to the location. The task force made the arrest without incident. Statements made by the subject revealed that there was a gun in the utility truck he was driving. Consent was obtained and a

search of the truck revealed a .380 semi-auto handgun in a computer style bag. The subject is a convicted felon and had done nine years in the federal penitentiary. As they went around the building to where the subject was currently living in a camper, the task force located a stolen semi-tractor. The subject indicated to the task force that he had information and wanted to cooperate. TFC Pietanza, MSP Auto Theft Unit responded to assist with the case.

A representative for the company that owns the property was contacted and permission was granted to check the buildings and vehicles on the property. TFC Pietanza checked the vehicles at the location and it revealed the following stolen vehicles:

- ◆ 2000 Sterling tractor, stolen from Virginia
- ◆ 2000 Sterling Truck boom crane - entered stolen by MSP Easton
- ◆ 2002 Coachman camper trailer - entered by the Howard County Police
- ◆ 2007 Kraftsman tandem utility trailer stolen from PA
- ◆ 2007 Haulmark enclosed trailer stolen from PG County
- ◆ 2005 Equipment Trailer with public VIN's removed
- ◆ 1980 Sum flat bed trailer
- ◆ 2005 Sunbelt Rental generator

The approximate value of the stolen vehicles was \$295,000.00. The suspect was later charged with 15 counts of auto theft related crimes. The ATF has since obtained an indictment for the suspect pertaining to the gun charge. The suspect has remained incarcerated since he was arrested on August 7, 2007. TFC Pietanza continues to delve into this suspect's past to see if other crimes can be linked to him.

#### ***INTERNATIONAL AUTO THEFT SCHEME***

In November of 2007 the Auto Theft Unit was notified by troopers from the Bel Air Barrack of a burglary that occurred at a car dealership in Harford County wherein the two culprits were identified by investigators. These subjects provided information on a large theft scheme

involving the exporting of automobiles to Africa.

An investigation was initiated into these allegations which led to a storage facility in Prince George's County. It was determined that a subject had rented several different bays at this facility. A search and seizure warrant was executed at the storage facility which revealed six stolen automobiles. While conducting surveillance at this facility, troopers from the Auto Theft Unit and Bel Air Barrack Criminal Investigation Section observed the subject who had rented the bays walking onto the premises. He attempted to flee but was apprehended a short distance away. He was identified through a photograph as the renter though his true identity was not determined. Prior to questioning, this subject feigned an injury and was taken to a local hospital for treatment.



While at the hospital the subject made good his escape following an assault on a trooper. He was captured within hours and faced charges from the MSP Homicide Unit regarding his assault/escape. He was placed in the Prince George's County Detention Center.

The Auto Theft Unit continued their investigation into the exportation of stolen automobiles which led to the recovery of six additional stolen vehicles at the Port of New Jersey. These vehicles had been placed in storage containers that were destined for Africa. Our investigators continue to work closely with officers in Pennsylvania and New Jersey to ensure that every lead is exhausted.

The ATU investigators were also able to link this suspect with a 2006 crime spree involving the theft of \$300,000 in treasury checks that was investigated by the United States Department of the Treasury. While they did have video surveillance of their suspect, they were unable to positively identify him due to his use of many false identities. A warrant had been issued but remained open until this investigation exposed their suspect.

## HOWARD COUNTY POLICE AUTO THEFT UNIT

One of the cases investigated by the Unit involved a suspect using a fraudulent check, from "Company A", to purchase 19 vehicles from the Baltimore Washington Auto Exchange. The suspect then transported the vehicles to the Pennsylvania Auto Dealers Exchange (PADE). There he represented himself as a dealer for "Company A" and placed the cars for sale through the auction. He then went to another part of the building and represented himself as a dealer for "Company B" and said he wanted to buy the vehicles. He again wrote a fraudulent check this time to PADE for the vehicles and then picked up payment for the selling of the cars under "Company A" and the vehicles for "Company B". For good measure, while he was loading up the vehicles he stole an additional Chevrolet Equinox. As the investigation went on detectives learned that the cars had been loaded into shipping containers in the Port of Baltimore for export to Africa. Agents from ICE were notified and the shipment held until further investigation could be completed. In all, the Auto Theft Unit recovered 16 of the vehicles with an approximate value of \$160,000.00 and arrest warrants issued by Howard County. This investigation brought other issues to light and the suspect is currently being sought by the FBI, ICE and the Howard County Police; it is believed that he has fled the country.

A second large investigation completed by members of ATU was completed early in the year. Again, the Baltimore Washington Auto Exchange reported that several high end vehicles had been stolen from their lot. The investigation revealed that the suspects had used fraudulent gate passes to enter and remove the vehicles from the lot. Investigators were able to locate these passes and submit them for processing. The prints on the passes came back to an individual with a minor criminal history. Arrest warrants were issued for her and in a post arrest interview she said that her current boyfriend and his father had participated in the theft. The boyfriend was later arrested and interviewed. Neither of the two suspects was willing to provide the location of the third suspect. After a lengthy investigation, detectives found that he was currently under a doctor's care in a hospital in Baltimore. When the detectives went to the hospital they found the father and the other two

suspects. A short time later the father passed away. The two remaining suspects were found guilty of the theft and two of the three cars valued at over \$40,000.00 each were recovered.

The last case I will bring to your attention was one that involved motor vehicle theft, credit card theft, identity theft, destruction of property, theft from auto, and arson, 07-60111. This case revolves around a vehicle that was set on fire, it had not yet been reported stolen but, detectives were able to determine the identity of the vehicle through confidential means and spoke with the owner. It was at that time detectives learned it had been stolen. A second stolen vehicle was recovered by detectives during normal area checks. There had been modifications done to the vehicle by the suspects in an attempt to conceal its identity. ATU was able to process this car and obtained many latent prints of the suspects. ATU was able to link these suspects to the ones that set the first vehicle on fire. Credit cards were stolen from both these vehicles and from several breaking and enterings committed in the Clarksville area. These cards were used at various commercial establishments in and around Howard County. Video in one of the places showed the suspects operating the second stolen car. As a result of the investigation detectives were able to close out:

07-60084 Stolen Vehicle and Arson,  
07-63844 Breaking and Entering,  
07-64448 Breaking and Entering & Vehicle Theft,  
07-63743 Identity theft, Fraud, Theft,  
07-64047 Breaking and Entering.  
07-82163 Vehicle Theft

An often forgotten component of the Auto Theft Unit is the Theft Prevention aspect. During this calendar year:

255 cars were registered for the  
Watch Your Car Program  
242 had their VIN etched in the  
glass of their vehicle  
388 Clubs were distributed  
1,267 letters were mailed to Honda owners in  
Howard County asking them to  
take precautions with their vehicle.  
113 MVA mistakes were rectified to allow  
vehicle owners to register their vehicles.  
23 Officers were trained in the use of Lojack.

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## VEHICLE THEFT

### Jurisdictions Receiving Council Assistance

\*1994 vs. 1999, 200 vs. 2003, 2004, 2005 & 2006 & 2007

	1994	1999	+ %	2004	+ %	2005	+ %	2006	+ %	2007	+ %
Baltimore County	6,289	2,953	-53%	2,936	-53%	3,046	-52%	3,454	-45%	3,363	-47%
Baltimore City	13,603	7,255	-47%	6,731	-51%	6,232	-55%	6,276	-54%	5,821	-57%
Anne Arundel Co.	1,806	1,418	-22%	1,631	-10%	1,524	-16%	1,654	-8%	1,667	-8%
Charles County	435	272	-37%	524	20%	627	45%	435	0%	438	.69%
Harford County	403	359	-11%	413	-.5%	359	-11%	437	8%	467	16%
Howard County	1,157	704	-39%	598	-48%	544	-53%	655	-53%	551	-54%
Montgomery Co.	3,370	2,667	-21%	2,730	-19%	2,671	-21%	2,640	-21%	2,630	-22%
Prince George's County	9,477	8,619	-10%	18,482	95%	17,242	82%	12,941	37%	11,643	23%
TOTAL	36,540	24,247	-34%	34,405	-6%	32,245	-7%	28,492	-22%	26,582	-27%
% of Total Thefts Statewide	96%	93%		95%		94%		94%		94%	
STATE-WIDE	38,194	26,067	-32%	35,858	-6%	34,070	-5%	30,504	-20%	28,375	-26%

### VEHICLE THEFT RATES

(Stolen Vehicles Per 100,000

Registered Vehicles-Statewide)

<b>*1994</b>	<b>1061</b>	
<b>1999</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>-40%</b>
<b>2000</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>-36%</b>
<b>2003</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>-20%</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>-25%</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>-29%</b>
<b>2006</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>-39%</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>-44%</b>

### VEHICLE THEFT RATES

(Stolen Vehicles Per 100,000

Pop.-Statewide)

<b>*1994</b>	<b>763</b>	
<b>1999</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>-36%</b>
<b>2000</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>-29%</b>
<b>2003</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>-13%</b>
<b>2004</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>-15%</b>
<b>2005</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>-19%</b>
<b>2006</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>-29%</b>
<b>2007</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>-34%</b>

Source: MD UCR 1994 – 2007

\* 1994 vs. succeeding years

[Appendix A]

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL TASK FORCE OPERATIONS Baltimore Regional Auto Theft Team (R.A.T.T.) Vehicle Theft Statistics

	<u>1994</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Baltimore County	6,289	3,199	3,418	3,297	3,491	3,341	2,936	3046	3,454	3,363
Baltimore City	13,603	7,258	7,871	8,199	6,574	6,874	6,731	6232	6,276	5,821
TOTAL	19,898	10,457	11,289	11,496	10,065	10,215	9,667	9,278	9,730	9,184

### Regional Auto Theft Team Accomplishments

	<u>1995</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Adults Arrested	376	877	1,053	914	933	845	923	871	848	768	10,085
Juveniles Arrested	311	84	155	188	271	189	135	154	134	124	2,423
Total Arrests	687	961	1,208	1102	1104	1034	1058	1025	982	892	12,508
Recovered Vehicles	342	707	902	816	864	753	827	959	1250	1,203	10,258
UCR*	2.562264	5.296844	6.757784	6.560640	6.946560	6.054120	6.675544	6.235500	10.050000	9.720360	77.458208

\*\$ in Millions based on \$6,500.00 average value)

#### Other Statistical Accomplishments:

- 228 arrests for carjacking since inception.
- 115 arrests for handgun possession since inception.
- 119 arrests for breaking and entering since inception.
- 80 arrests for robbery since inception.
- 13 arrests for murder since inception.
- 8 arrests for rape since inception.
- 53 arrests for attempted murder since inception.
- 245 charged with possession or distribution of CDS since inception.
- 8 men arrested for kidnaping.
- 41 arrests for insurance fraud.
- 2 arrests for counterfeiting.

#### Juvenile Repeat Offender Program (7/04)

- 110 offenders identified.
- 30 juvenile warrants filed
- 12 juveniles waived.

#### Business Inspection/Chop Shop Operations

- 700 business inspections conducted

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## WASHINGTON AREA VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE Unit Accomplishments Since Creation in April 2000

<u>General Statistics:</u>	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Total
Subjects Arrested:	156	371	521	650	546	662	612	383	3,951
Stolen Vehicles Recovered:	164	349	404	560	523	579	1,278	872	4,729
Stolen Tags Recovered:	49	42	46	55	92	153	187	95	719
Firearms Seized:	9	18	18	34	20	31	10	11	151
Amount of Heroin Seized (g):	20.0	31.0	38.0	34.0	23.0	44.6	2.5	0	193.1
Amount of Cocaine Seized (g):	104.3	204.2	187.7	209.0	161.9	236.6	33.9	30.4	1,168.0
Amount of Marijuana Seized (g):	37.6	262.8	207.7	1,872.7	410.9	361.4	17.3	127.4	3,297.4
Felony Warrants Served:	9	24	36	58	39	81	41	21	309
Misdemeanor Warrants Served:	22	34	59	22	27	26	29	26	245
Carjacked Vehicles Recovered w/Arrest:	4	20	14	48	25	39	58	43	251
Total Value of Vehicles Recovered (\$):	2,048,275	4,623,453	4,980,981	6,569,356	6,308,979	6,988,897	13,317,738	9,314,738	53,701,528

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## SUMMARY OF GRANT RECIPIENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008

### Law Enforcement

#### **Aberdeen Police Department Aberdeen, Maryland Auto Theft Initiatives**

Purchase of a License Plate Reader to be deployed in Harford County.

**FY 2008 Award: \$14,000**

#### **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 and purchase of Tag Reader.

**FY 2008 Award: \$42,000**

#### **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 2008 Award: \$75,000**

#### **Baltimore County Police Department**

##### **Auto Theft Reduction Through Crime Analysis**

Identifies geographic areas with the highest rate of frequency of vehicle thefts to establish specific vehicle theft prevention programs and to evaluate the use of vehicle theft prevention devices.

#### **Baltimore County Police Dept. 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.

**FY 2008 Award: \$450,000**

*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 2008 Award: \$70,000**

#### **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 2008 Award: \$110,000**

#### **Department of Maryland State Police**

##### **B/W Metro Patrol Auto Theft Technology**

Purchase of two License Plate Readers to be deployed in the Washington/Baltimore high vehicle theft areas.

**FY 2008 Award: \$44,000**

#### **Harford County Sheriff's Office Auto Theft Initiative**

Purchase of a License Plate Reader to be deployed in Harford County.

**FY 2008 Award: \$23,000**

#### **Howard County Dept. 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 2008 Award: \$125,000**

#### **Industry Merged with Police Against Car Theft (IMPACT) Auto Theft Training**

A consortium of insurance companies and law enforcement agencies that provide vehicle theft training from patrol, entry level, through advanced and certification on a statewide basis. The MD-DC Anti-Car Theft Committee (Auto Insurance Carriers) provide a 50% match.

**FY 2008 Award: \$5,000**

#### **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. This grant also provides for a Montgomery County Prosecutor's Office to directly assist police efforts.

**FY 2008 Award: \$226,630**

#### **Prince George's County Police Department**

##### **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, public information campaign directed at empowering the role of citizens through the ALockit & Pocket@ Community Prevention Program and enhanced cooperation with prosecutor.

**FY 2008 Award: \$310,000**

#### **St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention and Suspect Apprehension**

Purchase of a License Plate Reader to be deployed in St. Mary's County and surrounding jurisdictions.

**FY 2008 Award: \$12,000**

## 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 2008 Award: \$40,000**

### **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 2008 Award: \$125,000**

### **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 2008 Award: \$220,000**

## Juvenile

### **Community Conferencing Center Building Community Conferencing as an Effective Intervention for Juvenile Theft**

Unique community justice intervention that includes victims, offenders, and their respective supporters in deciding how to best resolve the incident. Project targets young people who steal cars for the first time. Community conferencing helps offenders to understand the impact of their behavior which has shown to decrease the likelihood that it will happen again.

**FY 2008 Award: \$50,000**

### **Take Charge Juvenile Diversion Program, Inc.**

#### **Proposed Pilot Vehicle Theft Reduction Program For Youth in Prince George's County Maryland**

Target juvenile vehicle theft offenders in Prince George's County with intense intervention, utilizing peers, youth, parents and citizens to get involved to prevent vehicle theft.

**FY 2008 Award: \$160,000**

## 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 2008 Award: \$22,000**

### **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 2008 Award: \$25,000**

### **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 2008 Award: \$10,000**

## Public Awareness

### **MD/DC/DE Broadcasters' Association**

#### **Statewide Outreach Media Campaign**

The creation, recording, dissemination, and broadcast of vehicle theft prevention radio messages statewide.

**FY 2008 Award: \$90,000**

### **Vehicle Theft Prevention Council Public Awareness Campaign**

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 2008 Award: \$98,000**

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL – 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## GRANT AWARD ANALYSIS BY JURISDICTION - FISCAL YEARS 2006, 2007, AND 2008

	FISCAL YEAR 2006 \$1,875,859.00 AWARDED	FISCAL YEAR 2007 \$2,060,000.00 AWARDED	FISCAL YEAR 2008 \$2,334,630.00 AWARDED
<b>ANNE ARUNDEL</b>			
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$85,000.00	\$63,000.00	\$75,000.00
ANNAPOLIS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$28,000.00	\$27,000.00	\$42,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$113,000.00</b>	<b>\$90,000.00</b>	<b>\$117,000.00</b>
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	6.0%	4.8%	5.0%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	11.1%	11.1%	11.1%
<b>BALTIMORE CITY</b>			
BALTIMORE CITY STATE'S ATTORNEY	\$43,234.00	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
COMMUNITY CONFENCING CENTER	\$20,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$50,000.00
NORTHWEST CITIZENS PATROL GROUP <sup>1</sup>	\$63,234.00	\$20,000.00	\$250,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$126,468.00</b>	<b>\$210,000.00</b>	<b>\$115,000.00</b>
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	4.0%	10.0%	4.9%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	19.0%	20.0%	20.0%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%
<b>BALTIMORE COUNTY <sup>2</sup></b>			
MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$430,000.00	\$440,000.00	\$450,000.00
BALTIMORE COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY	\$120,000.00	\$115,000.00	\$125,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$550,000.00</b>	<b>\$555,000.00</b>	<b>\$575,000.00</b>
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	30.0%	27.0%	24.6%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	9.0%	11.0%	11.0%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	14.4%	14.4%	14.4%
<b>CHARLES COUNTY</b>			
CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$ 95,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	5.0%	3.4%	3.0%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	1.4%	1.4%	1.4%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%
<b>HARFORD COUNTY</b>			
ABERDEEN POLICE DEPARTMENT			\$14,000.00
HARFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE			\$23,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$37,000.00</b>
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED			1.5%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS			1.4%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES			2.7%

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL – 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## GRANT AWARD ANALYSIS BY JURISDICTION - FISCAL YEARS 2006, 2007, AND 2008

	FISCAL YEAR 2006 AWARDED	FISCAL YEAR 2007 AWARDED	FISCAL YEAR 20008 AWARDED
<b>HOWARD COUNTY</b>			
HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$1,875,859.00	\$2,060,000.00	\$2,334,630.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	7.0%	5.8%	5.3%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	5.2%	5.2%	5.2%
<b>MONTGOMERY COUNTY</b>			
MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$160,660.00	\$205,000.00	\$226,630.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	9.0%	10.0%	9.7%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	7.8%	8.7%	8.7%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	15.9%	15.9%	15.9%
<b>PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY</b>			
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT	\$60,000.00	\$355,000.00	\$310,000.00
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY S/A OFFICE	\$125,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$220,000.00
OLDE MILL FOUNDATION	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00
TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR LIFE JUVENILE DIVERSION PROG. INC.	\$140,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$160,000.00
TOTAL	\$328,000.00	\$660,000.00	\$700,000.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	18.0%	32.0%	30.0%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS	50.0%	42.4%	42.4%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES	13.4%	13.4%	13.4%
<b>ST. MARY'S COUNTY</b>			
ST. MARY' COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE			\$12,000.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED			0.5%
% OF VEHICLE THEFTS			1.4%
% OF REGISTERED VEHICLES			2.7%
<b>MARYLAND STATE AGENCIES</b>			
MARYLAND STATE POLICE - Auto Theft Unit	\$145,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$110,000.00
MARYLAND STATE POLICE - Field Operations Bureau	\$5,600.00		\$44,000.00
MARYLAND STATE POLICE - S.T.A.T.E Team	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$22,000.00
MD COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION INSTITUTE	\$130,000.00		\$98,000.00
VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL (PUBLIC AWARENESS COMMITTEE)			
TOTAL	\$300,600.00	\$140,000.00	\$274,000.00
% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED	16.0%	7.0%	11.7%

**MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL – 2007 ANNUAL REPORT**  
**GRANT AWARD ANALYSIS BY JURISDICTION - FISCAL YEARS 2006, 2007, AND 2008**

	FISCAL YEAR 2006 \$1,875,859.00 AWARDED	FISCAL YEAR 2007 \$2,060,000.00 AWARDED	FISCAL YEAR 2008 \$2,334,630.00 AWARDED
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
MD/DC/DE BROADCASTERS' ASSOCIATION	\$110,000.00		\$90,000.00
INDUSTRY MERGED WITH POLICE AGAINST CAR THEFT (IMPACT)	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$130,000.00</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$95,000.00</b>
<b>% OF GRANT MONIES AWARDED</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

<sup>1</sup> GRANT MONIES AWARDED TO COMMUNITY VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTIONS PROGRAMS IN BALTIMORE CITY.

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

**MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL  
2007 ANNUAL REPORT**

**VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL FISCAL SUMMARY**  
**Fiscal Year 2007 (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008)**

<b>Funding Available</b>	<b>\$2,500,000</b>
<b>Grant Awards</b>	<b>\$2,346,000</b>
<b>Administrative Costs (Projected)</b>	<b>\$140,000</b>
<b>Total Disbursement (Projected)</b>	<b>\$2,486,630</b>
<b>Balance (Projected)</b>	<b>\$13,370</b>

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## PERCENTAGES BY JURISDICTION FOR 2007

JURISDICTION	Registered Vehicles* As of 12/07	% of Total Registered Vehicles	Total 2006 Vehicle Theft	Jurisdiction's % of Total Thefts in the State	% of Registered Vehicles Stolen
ALLEGANY	65,016	1.4%	83	.29%	.13%
ANNE ARUNDEL	514,044	10.9%	1,667	5.8%	.32%
BALTIMORE	669,374	14.1%	3,363	11.8%	.50%
CALVERT	89,373	1.8%	105	.37%	.12%
CAROLINE	39,125	.82%	66	.23%	.17%
CARROLL	174,264	3.6%	133	.47%	.08%
CECIL	92,143	1.9%	256	.90%	.28%
CHARLES	133,935	2.8%	438	1.5%	.33%
DORCHESTER	32,978	.69%	55	.19%	.17%
FREDERICK	221,219	4.6%	247	.87%	.11%
GARRETT	32,590	.69%	26	.09%	.08%
HARFORD	230,771	4.8%	467	1.7%	.20%
HOWARD	243,795	5.1%	551	1.94%	.23%
KENT	22,398	.47%	12	.04%	.05%
MONTGOMERY	726,610	15.3%	2,630	9.3%	.36%
PRINCE GEORGE'S	623,488	13.1%	11,643	41%	1.9%
QUEEN ANNE'S	51,937	1.0%	49	.17%	.09%
ST. MARY'S	102,012	2.1%	128	.45%	.13%
SOMERSET	20,219	.43%	29	.10%	.14%
TALBOT	42,314	.9%	37	.13%	.09%
WASHINGTON	136,430	2.9%	239	.84%	.18%
WICOMICO	92,825	2.0%	191	.67%	.21%
WORCESTER	58,539	1.2%	80	.28%	.14%
BALTIMORE CITY	339,961	7.2%	5,821	20.5%	1.7%
GRAND TOTALS	4,755,360	100%	28,375	100	.60%

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL – 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

## MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFTS 1994, 1999, 2002 - 2007

COUNTY	1994	1999	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	94-99		99-00		02-03		03-04		04-05		05-06		06-07		94-07		
									% Change																
ALLEGANY	75	78	89	93	55	57	83	92	10%	57.60%	3.00%	-40.00%	0.00%	0.00%	46%	11%	22%								
ANNE ARUNDEL	1,806	1,418	1,484	1,441	1,631	1,524	1,654	1,667	-22%	-1.40%	-3.00%	13.00%	-6.50%	9%	1%	-8%									
BALTIMORE CITY	13,603	7,255	6,572	6,874	6,731	6,232	6,276	5,821	-47%	8.40%	-4.00%	-2.00%	-7.40%	0.70%	-3%	-45%									
BALTIMORE COUNTY	6,289	2,953	3,491	3,341	2,936	3,046	3,454	3,363	-53%	15.70%	-7.00%	-12.00%	3.50%	13%	-7%	-57%									
CALVERT	48	89	82	83	74	86	102	105	85%	-17.90%	0.00%	-10.00%	16.00%	19%	3%	100%									
CAROLINE	38	65	48	77	77	51	44	66	71%	-30.70%	38.00%	0.00%	-33.70%	-14%	50%	74%									
CARROLL	169	165	135	143	151	170	127	133	-2%	-13.90%	5.00%	5.00%	11.90%	-25%	5%	-21%									
CECIL	160	153	195	200	264	278	310	256	-4%	26.80%	3.00%	32.00%	5.30%	12%	-17%	60%									
CHARLES	435	272	464	585	524	627	435	438	-38%	34.20%	26.00%	-11.00%	19.60%	-31%	1%	0.69%									
DORCHESTER	47	53	79	74	92	77	89	55	13%	-18.90%	-6.00%	24.00%	-16.30%	16%	-38%	17%									
FREDERICK	258	252	263	240	221	197	222	247	-2%	5.20%	-9.00%	-8.00%	-10.80%	13%	10%	-4%									
GARRETT	32	25	22	22	16	19	22	26	-22%	28.00%	0.00%	-18.00%	18.70%	16%	18%	-19%									
HARFORD	403	359	438	330	413	359	437	467	-11%	-0.50%	-24.00%	25.00%	-13.00%	22%	7%	16%									
HOWARD	1,157	704	619	682	598	544	655	551	-39%	-20.90%	10.00%	-12.00%	-9.00%	20%	-16%	-52%									
KENT	17	17	20	21	29	24	17	12	0	-24%	0.00%	38.00%	-17.20%	-29%	-29%	-29%									
MONTGOMERY	3,370	2,667	3,958	3,676	2,730	2,671	2,640	2,630	-21%	8.90%	-7.00%	-25.00%	-2.10%	-2%	-0.38%	-22%									
PRINCE GEORGE'S	9,477	8,619	16,991	17,628	18,482	17,242	12,941	11,643	-9%	15.00%	4.00%	5.00%	-6.70%	-25%	-11%	23%									
QUEEN ANNES	39	61	36	37	20	48	46	49	56%	-9.80%	0.00%	-45.00%	15.00%	-4%	7%	26%									
SAINT MARY'S	70	75	133	127	107	142	177	128	7%	-9.30%	-4.00%	-16.00%	27.10%	25%	-28%	83%									
SOMERSET	29	36	24	39	26	27	37	29	24%	-5.60%	62.00%	-33.00%	0.00%	37%	-22%	0%									
TALBOT	54	43	15	27	36	26	35	27	-17%	-16.20%	80.00%	33.00%	-27.70%	35%	6%	-32%									
WASHINGTON	152	258	253	273	270	261	300	239	67%	19.00%	8.00%	-1.00%	-3.30%	15%	-20%	57%									
WICOMICO	231	218	198	144	185	205	255	191	-6%	11.50%	-27.00%	28.00%	9.75%	24%	-26%	-17%									
WORCESTER	121	120	93	93	92	101	106	80	0	-20.00%	0.00%	0.00%	9.00%	5%	-25%	-34%									
STATEWIDE	114	112	180	156	98	56	40	50	-1%	97.30%	-13.00%	-37.00%	-42.80%	-29%	25%	-56%									
MARYLAND	38,194	26,067	35,882	36,406	35,858	34,070	30,504	28,375	-32%	9.80%	-1.00%	-1.50%	-5.00%	-10%											

Jurisdictions receiving Vehicle Theft Prevention Council assistance.

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

## NATIONAL VEHICLE THEFT TOTALS 1994, 1999-2006

	2006	Totals	2005	Totals	2004	Totals	2003	Totals	2002	Totals	2001	Totals	2000	Totals	1999	Totals	1994	Totals
1	CA	243,693	CA	257,543	CA	252,604	CA	241,326	CA	222,364	CA	204,033	CA	182,035	CA	168,480	CA	308,205
2	TX	95,429	TX	93,423	TX	94,077	TX	98,204	TX	102,680	TX	102,667	TX	93,161	FL	93,191	NY	128,873
3	FL	76,437	FL	75,303	FL	78,325	FL	81,563	FL	88,516	FL	89,917	FL	89,181	TX	92,037	FL	127,186
4	AZ	54,849	AZ	54,905	AZ	55,306	AZ	56,997	AZ	57,668	MI	53,607	IL	56,143	NY	58,261	TX	110,753
5	MI	50,017	WA	49,287	MI	50,555	MI	53,736	MI	49,723	AZ	52,203	MI	55,724	MI	56,800	IL	66,218
6	WA	45,899	MI	48,223	GA	44,238	NY	45,217	NY	47,366	IL	48,784	NY	54,231	IL	52,114	MI	62,304
7	GA	43,163	GA	44,477	WA	43,233	GA	43,371	IL	44,857	NY	48,287	AZ	43,204	GA	40,120	PA	54,153
8	IL	37,641	OH	41,379	NY	41,002	IL	41,764	OH	42,767	OH	42,229	OH	39,026	PA	39,234	NJ	52,164
9	OH	37,425	IL	39,385	OH	40,853	OH	40,996	WA	40,493	WA	39,077	GA	38,702	OH	39,192	OH	47,413
10	NY	32,134	NY	35,736	IL	40,355	WA	40,619	GA	38,036	GA	37,589	PA	36,325	AZ	38,247	AZ	43,467
11	MD	30,522	MD	34,070	MD	35,858	MD	36,405	NJ	35,739	NJ	37,708	WA	35,018	NJ	35,357	MA	42,348
12	NC	30,126	PA	29,394	PA	30,969	NJ	34,568	MD	34,020	PA	35,713	NJ	34,151	WA	33,807	GA	39,312
13	PA	29,540	NC	28,466	NJ	30,306	PA	33,442	PA	32,817	MD	32,025	MD	28,573	MA	25,628	MD	38,197
14	NV	26,961	NJ	27,683	NC	26,988	MO	28,659	MO	27,878	TN	28,272	TN	27,530	NC	25,577	TN	28,994
15	MO	25,433	NV	26,931	MO	25,893	NC	26,892	MA	26,588	MO	28,014	MA	25,876	MD	25,447	WA	28,743
16	NJ	24,724	CO	26,101	TN	24,749	TN	26,410	TN	26,541	MA	27,828	NC	25,266	TN	25,255	MO	27,038
17	TN	22,593	MO	25,699	CO	24,063	MA	25,506	NC	24,866	NC	24,647	MO	24,695	MO	22,984	LA	26,219
18	IN	21,866	TN	25,078	NV	22,635	CO	22,699	CO	23,183	LA	21,687	LA	21,270	LA	21,695	IN	25,011
19	CO	20,795	IN	21,744	MA	22,053	NV	20,838	IN	20,287	IN	21,499	IN	21,090	IN	20,290	OR	21,764
20	MA	17,961	OR	19,262	IN	21,091	IN	20,768	LA	20,186	CO	20,994	VA	17,813	VA	17,953	NC	21,342
21	SC	16,402	MA	18,880	LA	19,714	LA	19,882	VA	18,478	VA	18,842	CO	16,961	CO	14,795	CT	20,167
22	LA	15,640	SC	16,358	OR	18,535	OR	18,989	NV	17,486	MN	15,031	SC	15,207	SC	14,445	WI	18,321
23	AL	14,840	VA	15,972	VA	17,411	VA	17,914	SC	16,867	OR	14,842	WI	14,636	WI	13,819	VA	18,289
24	VA	14,814	LA	14,389	SC	15,637	SC	15,762	OR	16,524	SC	14,760	OR	13,932	OR	13,633	OK	15,461
25	OR	14,460	MN	14,281	AL	14,024	AL	14,957	AL	13,890	WI	14,722	MN	13,432	MS	13,532	CO	14,365
26	WI	14,031	OK	13,900	MN	13,518	MN	13,759	MN	13,842	NV	14,702	NV	13,172	MN	13,275	MN	14,355
27	MN	13,379	AL	13,140	OK	12,957	OK	12,958	WI	13,458	PR	12,643	CT	13,099	AL	13,134	AL	14,000
28	OK	13,358	WI	12,546	WI	11,374	WI	12,320	PR	12,935	AL	12,619	PR	12,976	NV	13,094	SC	13,184
29	CT	10,390	CT	10,418	CT	11,025	PR	12,211	OK	12,772	OK	12,569	AL	12,809	OK	12,132	NV	11,065
30	KY	9,243	KS	9,322	KY	8,772	CT	11,026	CT	11,572	CT	12,378	OK	12,348	CT	11,297	MS	10,810
31	NM	9,225	PR	9,299	HI	8,620	DC	9,903	HI	9,910	MS	9,473	KY	9,274	KY	8,631	KY	8,558
32	KS	8,703	HI	9,135	KS	8,435	HI	9,651	DC	9,599	KY	9,344	NM	7,341	NM	8,126	KS	8,383
33	MS	8,347	KY	8,796	DC	8,408	KY	9,366	MS	9,523	KS	7,985	MS	6,968	UT	7,382	NM	8,350
34	UT	8,299	UT	8,493	NM	7,902	MS	8,949	KY	8,750	DC	7,670	AR	6,932	AR	6,664	DC	8,261
35	HI	7,763	NM	7,993	MS	7,879	KS	7,777	UT	7,722	AR	7,320	DC	6,600	DC	6,652	AR	7,726
36	AR	7,463	DC	7,720	UT	7,651	UT	7,764	NM	7,437	NM	7,137	KS	6,496	KS	6,048	HI	6,383
37	DC	7,321	MS	7,492	AR	6,491	NM	7,256	KS	7,212	HI	6,743	UT	6,461	NE	5,440	NE	6,236
38	NE	5,038	AR	7,284	IA	5,404	NE	6,124	AR	6,813	UT	6,513	HI	6,114	IA	5,135	UT	5,689
39	IA	5,006	NE	5,567	NE	5,287	AR	6,010	NE	6,409	NE	6,490	IA	5,374	HI	4,660	RI	5,183
40	WV	3,921	IA	5,475	RI	4,078	IA	5,601	IA	5,823	IA	5,505	NE	5,230	RI	4,032	IA	5,096
41	RI	3,582	RI	4,398	WV	3,739	RI	4,387	RI	4,876	RI	5,043	RI	4,665	WV	3,762	AK	3,275
42	DE	2,816	WV	3,816	ID	2,724	WV	3,524	WV	3,898	WV	3,216	WV	3,315	DE	3,043	WV	3,274
43	AK	2,529	ID	2,884	AK	2,240	DE	2,880	DE	3,057	DE	2,779	DE	3,151	AK	2,658	DE	2,945
44	ID	2,429	AK	2,595	DE	2,147	ID	2,609	ID	2,627	AK	2,618	AK	2,350	ID	1,898	MT	2,450
45	MT	1,748	DE	2,349	NH	1,942	AK	2,448	AK	2,471	ID	2,389	NH	2,148	MT	1,896	NH	2,302
46	NH	1,422	MT	1,971	MT	1,618	NH	1,917	NH	1,944	NH	2,140	ID	2,086	ME	1,694	ID	2,210
47	ME	1,340	ME	1,348	ME	1,303	MT	1,906	MT	1,783	MT	1,821	MT	1,956	NH	1,354	ME	1,776
48	ND	1,012	NH	1,337	ND	906	ME	1,456	ME	1,429	ME	1,671	ME	1,322	ND	1,036	ND	964
49	WY	776	ND	1,057	SD	846	ND	1,078	ND	1,018	ND	1,086	ND	986	VT	912	SD	872
50	SD	718	SD	841	WY	799	SD	874	SD	819	SD	815	VT	809	SD	861	VT	862
51	VT	586	WY	739	VT	575	WY	798	VT	769	VT	758	SD	798	WY	596	WY	771
52			VT	641			VT	646	WY	743	WY	696	WY	573			PR	

# MARYLAND VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL

## NATIONAL VEHICLE THEFT RATE PER 100,000 RESIDENTS

2006	Rate	2005	Rate	2004	Rate	2003	Rate	2002	Rate	2001	Rate	2000	Rate	1999	Rate	1994	Rate
DC	1402.3	DC	1402.3	DC	1519.0	DC	1757.8	DC	1681.4	DC	1341.3	DC	1153.7	DC	1281.7	DC	1449.3
NV	1115.2	NV	1115.2	NV	969.5	AZ	1021.3	AZ	1056.9	AZ	983.6	AZ	842.1	AZ	800.5	AZ	1066.7
AZ	924.4	AZ	924.4	AZ	962.9	NV	929.8	NV	804.5	NV	698.1	NV	659.2	NV	723.8	CA	980.6
WA	783.9	WA	783.9	CA	703.8	HI	767.4	HI	796.0	WA	652.6	WA	594.1	FL	616.7	FL	911.5
HI	716.4	HI	716.4	WA	696.9	CA	680.1	WA	667.2	MD	595.8	MI	560.7	WA	587.3	MD	763.0
CA	712.8	CA	712.8	HI	682.6	WA	662.5	CA	633.2	CA	591.4	FL	558.0	MI	575.8	NV	759.4
MD	608.4	MD	608.4	MD	645.2	MD	660.8	MD	623.3	HI	550.7	MD	539.5	GA	515.2	NY	709.3
CO	559.5	CO	559.5	CO	522.9	OR	533.5	FL	529.6	FL	548.4	CA	537.4	CA	508.3	OR	705.2
OR	529.0	OR	529.0	OR	515.6	MI	533.1	CO	514.4	MI	536.6	HI	504.6	LA	496.2	MA	701.0
GA	490.2	GA	490.2	GA	501.0	MO	502.4	MI	494.7	MO	497.6	TN	483.9	MD	492.0	NJ	660.0
MI	476.5	MI	476.5	MI	499.9	GA	499.4	MO	491.5	TN	492.5	LA	475.9	MS	488.7	MI	656.1
MO	443.1	MO	443.1	FL	450.2	CO	498.8	TX	471.4	LA	485.7	GA	472.8	NM	467.0	CT	615.8
FL	423.3	FL	423.3	MO	450.0	FL	479.2	OR	469.4	TX	481.4	IL	452.1	TN	460.5	LA	607.6
TN	420.6	TN	420.6	LA	436.6	TN	452.1	TN	457.8	RI	476.2	TX	446.8	TX	459.2	TX	602.6
NM	414.5	NM	414.5	TN	419.4	TX	444.0	RI	455.8	CO	475.2	RI	445.0	NJ	434.2	IL	563.5
TX	408.7	TX	408.7	TX	418.3	LA	442.2	LA	450.3	GA	448.3	MO	441.4	IL	429.7	TN	560.3
RI	408.7	RI	408.7	NM	415.2	RI	407.7	GA	444.3	NJ	444.4	MA	407.6	AK	429.4	GA	557.2
OK	391.8	OK	391.8	RI	377.4	MJ	400.2	NJ	416.0	MA	436.2	OR	407.2	MO	420.3	HI	541.4
AK	391.0	AK	391.0	SC	372.5	MA	396.5	MA	413.6	OR	427.4	NJ	405.9	MA	415.0	AK	540.4
SC	384.4	SC	384.4	OK	367.7	NM	387.1	SC	410.7	AK	412.4	NM	403.6	OR	411.1	RI	519.9
OH	360.9	OH	360.9	OH	356.5	SC	380.1	NM	400.0	IL	390.8	DE	402.1	RI	406.9	MO	512.3
IN	346.7	IN	346.7	NJ	348.4	AK	377.3	AK	383.8	NM	390.2	CO	394.3	DE	403.6	NM	504.8
UT	343.9	UT	343.9	MA	343.7	OK	369.0	DE	378.6	NE	378.8	CT	384.6	HI	393.2	WA	500.5
KS	339.6	KS	339.6	IN	338.1	OH	358.5	OH	375.5	OH	371.3	SC	379.0	SC	371.7	OK	474.6
NC	327.8	NC	327.8	UT	320.3	DE	352.3	NE	370.6	OK	363.3	AK	374.8	CO	364.8	PA	449.3
LA	318.1	LA	318.1	IL	317.4	NE	352.1	OK	365.6	SC	363.3	OK	357.8	OK	361.3	IN	434.8
NJ	317.5	NJ	317.5	NC	316.0	IN	335.2	IL	356.0	CT	361.4	IN	346.8	OH	348.2	OH	427.1
NE	316.5	NE	316.5	CT	314.7	AL	332.3	PR	335.2	IN	351.6	OH	343.7	UT	346.6	DE	417.1
IL	308.6	IL	308.6	AL	309.6	UT	330.2	CT	334.4	DE	349.0	PR	340.7	IN	341.4	MS	405.0
CT	296.8	CT	296.8	KS	308.4	IL	330.1	UT	333.4	MS	331.5	NC	313.9	NC	334.3	CO	392.9
MA	295.1	MA	295.1	NE	302.6	NC	319.9	MS	331.6	PR	329.3	NE	305.6	PA	327.1	NE	384.2
AL	288.3	AL	288.3	MS	271.4	CT	316.5	IN	329.4	MN	302.3	PA	295.8	NE	326.5	WI	360.5
DE	278.5	DE	278.5	MN	265.0	PR	314.8	AL	309.6	NC	301.1	UT	289.3	NY	320.2	SC	359.8
MN	278.2	MN	278.2	DE	258.6	MS	310.6	NC	298.9	KS	296.3	AL	288.0	AL	300.5	AL	331.8
AR	262.1	AR	262.1	PA	249.6	KS	285.6	MN	275.8	PA	290.7	NY	285.8	MN	278.0	KS	328.2
MS	256.5	MS	256.5	AR	235.8	MN	272.0	PA	266.0	UT	286.9	MN	273.0	WI	263.2	AR	315.0
PR	237.7	PR	237.7	VA	233.4	PA	270.4	KS	265.5	AL	282.7	WI	272.9	AR	261.2	MN	314.3
PA	236.5	PA	236.5	NY	213.3	VA	242.5	VA	253.3	WI	272.5	AR	259.3	VA	261.2	NC	301.9
WI	226.6	WI	226.6	KY	211.6	NY	235.6	AR	251.4	AR	271.9	VA	251.6	CT	244.2	UT	298.2
VA	211.1	VA	211.1	WI	205.5	KY	227.5	WI	247.3	VA	262.1	MS	245.0	KS	227.9	MT	286.2
KY	210.8	KY	210.8	WV	206.0	WI	225.1	NY	247.2	NY	254.0	KS	241.6	KY	217.9	VA	279.1
MT	210.7	MT	210.7	ID	195.5	AR	220.5	WV	216.3	KY	229.8	KY	229.5	MT	214.7	KY	223.6
WV	210.0	WV	210.0	IA	182.9	MT	207.7	KY	213.8	MT	201.3	MT	216.8	WV	208.2	NH	202.5
ID	201.8	ID	201.8	MT	174.6	WV	194.7	IA	198.3	IA	188.3	IA	183.6	IA	179.0	ID	195.1
NY	185.6	NY	185.6	WY	157.7	ID	190.9	MT	196.1	ID	180.8	WV	183.3	ND	163.4	IA	180.1
IA	184.6	IA	184.6	NH	149.4	IA	190.2	ID	195.9	WV	178.5	NH	173.8	VT	153.2	WV	179.7
ND	166.0	ND	166.0	ND	142.8	ND	170.1	ND	160.5	ND	171.2	ID	161.2	ID	151.6	WY	162.0
WY	145.1	WY	145.1	SD	109.7	WY	159.2	NH	152.5	NH	170.0	ND	153.5	ME	135.2	ND	151.1
SD	108.4	SD	108.4	ME	98.9	NH	148.9	WY	149.0	WY	140.8	VT	132.9	WY	124.2	VT	148.6
VT	102.9	VT	102.9	VT	92.5	SD	114.4	VT	124.7	ME	129.9	WY	116.0	SD	117.5	ME	143.2
NH	102.1	NH	102.1	AK	34.8	ME	111.5	ME	110.4	VT	123.6	SD	105.7	NH	112.7	SD	120.9
ME	102.0	ME	102.0			VT	104.3	SD	107.6	SD	107.7	ME	103.7				



# VEHICLE THEFT FACTS AND TIPS

## Did you know?

- ◆ In 2007 there were 28,375 motor vehicles stolen in Maryland.
- ◆ A vehicle theft occurs every twenty-one minutes in Maryland.
- ◆ In approximately 25 percent of the vehicles stolen, keys were left in the vehicles.
- ◆ It is estimated that 70 percent of the vehicles stolen were not locked.
- ◆ Recent surveys reflect that an anti-theft device was used in less than 5 percent of stolen vehicles.
- ◆ 4,073 individuals were arrested for vehicle theft in 2007.
- ◆ Juveniles represented 41 percent of the arrests.
- ◆ Approximately 25 to 40 percent of the cost of comprehensive auto insurance is due to auto theft.

## Protect yourself and your car!

- ◆ You hold the key! Lock your car and take the key.
- ◆ Use anti-theft devices such as alarms, kill switches, steering wheel and brake locking devices, or recovery systems.
- ◆ Park in well lighted and heavily traveled areas.
- ◆ Park with wheels turned toward the curb.
- ◆ Lock vehicle doors upon entering.
- ◆ Do not hide spare keys in or under the vehicle, they can be easily found.
- ◆ Never leave vehicle registration card, driver's license, or any type of owner identification in the glove box.
- ◆ Don't leave valuables in sight within the car...

**MARYLAND**



**"Watch Your Car"  
Program**

...and, Join the Maryland  
"Watch Your Car" Program

[www.MDAutoTheft.org](http://www.MDAutoTheft.org)

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

**Lock your car.**

**Take the key.**

**Use an anti-theft device.**

**Participate in the Maryland  
“Watch Your Car” Program.**



**MARYLAND**

**Vehicle Theft Prevention Council**

**1125 National Highway**

**LaVale, MD 21502**

**1-800-96-THEFT**

**[www.MDAutoTheft.org](http://www.MDAutoTheft.org)**