



# Safety Alert Bulletin

## San Diego Community College Police

Mesa College has been recently experiencing an increase of Auto Thefts (vehicle make-**Honda**) in the parking structure and other parking lots on campus. Since the beginning of the Spring Semester there have been three vehicles stolen.

### *What can you do?*

Here are some tips to help protect your vehicle from being stolen and you from becoming a victim of auto theft:

- **Make sure your anti-theft device is working.** If your car is equipped with an anti-theft device or alarm system, make sure all features and functions are working properly. You can take the car to a dealership or your mechanic to have it tested.
- **Install a physical lock on your steering wheel.** You can purchase reinforced steel bars and large clamps that lock your steering wheel into place when you're not driving. These will eliminate the chance that a thief can drive off with your vehicle.
- **Park in a well-lit, high traffic parking area whenever possible.** Avoid dimly lit parking ramps, or parking your car far away from a building late at night. Thieves are much less likely to approach you when your car is visible and there are lots of people around. If you plan to be on campus for a long period of time, check on your vehicle.
- **Take the keys out of the ignition whenever you leave the vehicle.** Many people make the mistake of leaving their keys in the ignition when they're running a quick errand, but it takes just seconds for a thief to slide into your driver's seat and flee with your vehicle.
- **Also don't forget to remove electronic devices as soon as you leave your vehicle.** Take the time to remove your iPod player, removable CD player, cell phone charger with phone, and other electronic devices that may attract thieves. If you cannot remove your CD player or radio, consider buying a cover that will hide the electronic interface on your dashboard.

*You can make a difference by reporting suspicious persons / activity on campus by calling on your cell phone **619-388-6405** or using the call boxes located throughout campus, the college parking garage and parking lots.*

**For more safety information go to the College Police website at <http://police.sdccd.edu/>**