

## **STORAGE DEVICES**

- The storage device you choose must provide a level of protection adequate to prevent unauthorized persons from accessing your firearm.
- The determination of what is “adequate protection” is a matter of judgement on the part of the firearm owner.
- If you choose to leave a firearm in your vehicle, it is highly recommended to have it secured in a lock box/safe/vault mounted inside your trunk or in the vehicle that is NOT in plain site.
- **REMINDER** It is unlawful to store, transport, or abandon an unsecured firearm in a place where children are likely to be and can obtain access to the firearm. A child is a person younger than 17 years of age.

## **Emergency 9-1-1 Police Non-Emergency 713-884-3131**

*For General Information, Contact  
Your Local Police Station*

*or*

*Contact Community Affairs at  
713-308-3200*

*For more information, visit  
[www.houstonpolice.org](http://www.houstonpolice.org)*

**ATF  
888-930-9275**

### **As a firearms owner:**

- You should report the theft or loss of your firearm within 48 hours of discovery to your local law enforcement and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

# **Theft of Firearm from Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Tips**



*Keep* **Houston  
SAFE**



**The Houston Police Department wants to remind owners of firearms that one of the *TOP* items burglars target is GUNS—both in homes and in parked vehicles. By practicing safety measures, owners can keep their firearms from getting into the wrong hands.**

As Thefts of Firearms/Guns from Vehicles Surge, residents are urged to leave their weapons at home. Cars were not designed to be gun safes.

The Houston Police Department *highly discourages* gun owners from leaving or keeping weapons in their vehicles. If you must carry your weapon and leave in a vehicle

- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Always secure your weapon out of plain site prior to arriving at your destination.

- Always make sure the vehicle is locked. Many “car break-ins” involve vehicles that were left unlocked. Thieves will routinely check door handles looking for easy targets.
- Ensure all windows are rolled up.
- Never leave ANY item in plain site encouraging thieves to break into your vehicle. (Thieves do not know what may be concealed in a laptop bag, package or gym bag. Although you may know there is nothing of value inside a bag, a thief does not.)
- Install an auto theft deterrent such as a car alarm.
- Never walk away from your vehicle with a empty holster on your hip indicating a firearm was left in the car.
- **DO NOT** jeopardize your safety, the safety of your family or the safety of someone else for convenience.



## **SAFE STORAGE**

- Safe storage applies to where the firearm is at all times—whether inside your house or inside your vehicle. It is more than hiding your gun. It is a constant responsibility and can be the difference between life and death.
- Safe storage of a firearm is securing the firearm in a locked object.
- It is also the responsibility of the owner to restrict access from unauthorized persons at all times 24-hours a day, seven-days a week.