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## Public information release

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### **Minneapolis Police Quickly Recover Stolen Vehicle with 4-Year-Old Child Inside**

February 14, 2025 (MINNEAPOLIS) Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara said today that officers quickly located a stolen vehicle with a 4-year-old child inside - safely reuniting the child with their mother.

Preliminary reports indicate that at approximately 2:08 p.m., a vehicle with two children inside was left running on the 5500 block of 37th Avenue South. An unknown adult man approached the vehicle, removed a 6-year-old child, and then drove away with the 4-year-old still inside.

Multiple officers focused their efforts, immediately responded, and launched a search for the vehicle. Within 25 minutes, officers located the stolen car, still running, in the 4500 block of 42nd Ave S. The child was found unharmed inside, and officers facilitated a heartfelt reunion between the child and their mother. The stolen vehicle was also returned.

The suspect was gone when police arrived. There have been no arrests.

The Minneapolis Police Department strongly urges all drivers to never, for any reason, leave a running vehicle unattended with keys or fobs inside. At all times, keys and fobs should be removed from an unattended vehicle. In 2024 approximately 16% of the 6500+ stolen vehicles were taken with the keys or fobs.

"This incident was a frightening ordeal for the mother, who likely regretted leaving her vehicle running the moment it happened," said Chief O'Hara. "I am sure she never intended to endanger the safety of her children. Crimes of opportunity unfold in mere seconds. We urge everyone to stay vigilant, no matter how busy life gets and take every precaution to protect themselves from becoming a victim."

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