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Governor Proclaims August “Watch Your Car Month”

ABTPA Urges Texans to Protect Themselves from Auto Burglary and Theft

(AUSTIN, Texas – August 30, 2018) With the end of the summer being historically one of the riskiest seasons for vehicle burglary and theft, Texas Governor Greg Abbott declared August “Watch Your Car Month” to remind Texans they can take steps to protect their vehicles. The proclamation notes Texans experience nearly one billion dollars in losses every year due to motor vehicle burglary and theft.

“I applaud the governor for bringing more attention to the risk of auto theft and the simple steps people can take to reduce the chance their car gets stolen,” said Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority (ABTPA) Chairman and Port of Brownsville Chief of Police Carlos L. Garcia.

ABTPA offers the following steps Texans can take to reduce their chances of becoming a victim of burglary or theft:

- Always lock your vehicle and take your keys.
- Never leave your car unattended while it is running.
- Park in a well-lit area.
- Take valuables with you when you are not in your vehicle or keep them out of sight.
- Give parking attendants the ignition key only.
- Install an anti-theft device.

“Many car thieves are lazy and look for easy targets,” said ABTPA Board Member and Galveston County Sheriff’s Office Lieutenant Tommy Hansen. “Throughout the year, but especially during ‘Watch Your Car Month,’ it’s best to get into the habit of doing those simple things to make sure you are not an easy target.”

For more information about “Watch Your Car Month” and how to protect yourself, visit ABTPA online at <http://www.txdmv.gov/motorists/consumer-protection/auto-theft-prevention>.



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