



Evansville Police Department

15 NW Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Evansville, Indiana 47708

TX: 812-436-7896 – TDD: 812-436-7975 – FAX: 812-435-6175 – EMAIL: info@evansvillepolice.com

News Release

09/30/2024

Please Keep Vehicles Locked and Store Firearms Safely and Securely

SUMMARY

Detectives with the Evansville Police Department Street Crimes Unit conducted an audit of 212 reports from 2023 regarding firearm thefts. The audit included reports from both the city of Evansville and Vanderburgh County. Of the 212 reported thefts of firearms, 111 were stolen from a vehicle. The audit confirmed that over half of the firearms stolen in 2023 were taken from vehicles.

In 2024 there have been 117 firearm thefts and 57% of stolen firearms have been taken from unlocked vehicles. Stolen firearms can, and have been, used to commit violent crimes in our city. Stolen firearms have also dangerously ended up in the possession of juveniles.

The Evansville Police Department would like to remind all vehicle owners, and especially gun owners, to keep your vehicles locked and store your firearms safely and securely.

Like many cities we have groups or individuals that will travel from neighborhood to neighborhood simply trying vehicle door handles until they find a vehicle that has been left unlocked. This theft of opportunity can lead to valuables, or even dangerous weapons, falling into the hands of criminals.

The Evansville Police Department would also like to remind all gun owners that it is imperative to keep up to date records on each firearm you own. The firearms make, model, and serial number must be recorded and is essential information for law enforcement if the firearm is stolen.

Please always lock your vehicles, don't keep valuables in your vehicle, and store your firearms safely and responsibly. Thank you for partnering with us to help keep our city safe and secure.



in partnership with the community