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ABTPA

ANNUAL REPORT

PROTECT IT

ABTPA

AUTO BURGLARY &
THEFT PREVENTION
AUTHORITY

IT'S YOURS

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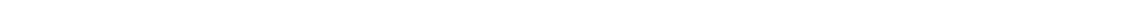


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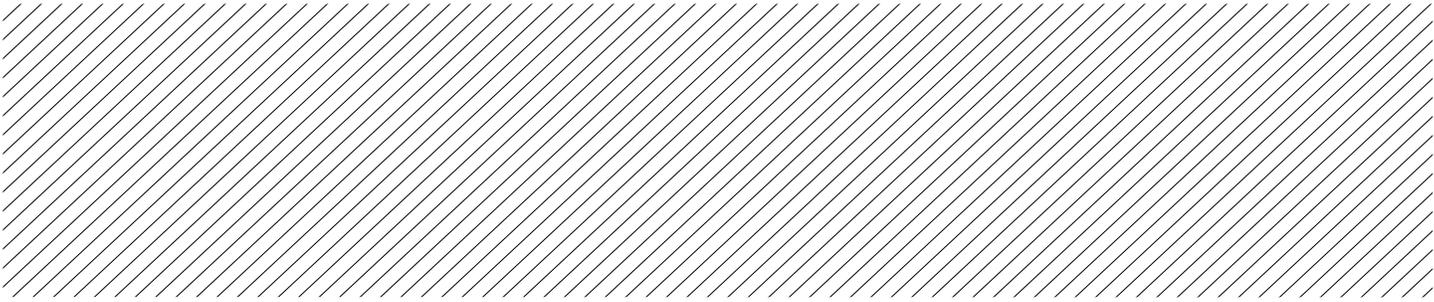
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WELCOME MESSAGE FROM ABTPA CHAIRMAN GARCIA

This Annual Report provides information on the efforts of the Automobile Burglary Theft Prevention Authority and its grantees from Sept. 1, 2012, to Aug. 31, 2013, to reduce auto crime in the state of Texas.

When it comes to auto theft, there are no fictional Mayberry-like towns left in Texas where Andy Griffith alone can buffer the community from crime.

In reality, auto theft is an organized criminal effort, not an individual committing a crime of opportunity. Thieves are riding through parking lots looking to take vehicles in the most accessible of places — gyms, movie theaters, malls, sports venues and even residential driveways.

But there is good news for Texas. The latest data from the Texas Uniform Crime Report shows that stealing vehicles, or auto theft, has decreased 60 percent in Texas since 1991. That's a decline from 163,837 stolen vehicles in 1991 to 64,982 in 2012. Stealing items from inside a vehicle, or auto burglary, decreased by 14.8 percent between 2008 and 2011.

Despite these declines, some Texans are still making serious mistakes that leave them susceptible to criminals. People don't lock their cars. They don't roll the windows all the way up. They don't have an anti-theft devices. In some cases, they leave their cars running when they go into convenience stores.

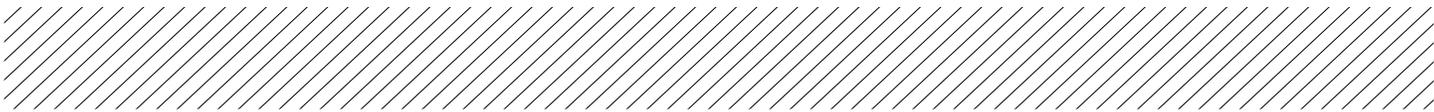
Texans must first understand that their vehicles are valuable possessions. Just as you protect your home and your online identity, you must protect your vehicle. If Texans don't do this, they are relying on their local law enforcement agency to manage the problem. But auto theft prevention needs to be a joint effort between the vehicle owner and law enforcement.

I don't want anyone to be a victim of auto theft. I experienced it myself more than 25 years ago, and I still remember what a true violation of privacy it was. My wife and I were leaving our bowling league when we discovered our vehicle was gone.

Those days were just the beginning of auto theft education. Texas has come a long way since then, but it's been a long road.

Funding had to be identified and put in place by the 72nd Texas Legislature in 1991. That led to the creation of the Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority (ABTPA), a statewide network of auto theft prevention programs, which are administered and operated by local law enforcement agencies. This allowed for the mobilization of special units of auto theft investigators — trained people who now specifically attack the problem and also educate their communities. It also allowed for these auto theft prevention programs to hire additional officers, thus enhancing any special units that existed.

Since its inception, ABTPA has worked with grantees, other law enforcement, and community partners. Together, we have reached the following goals:



NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED	599
AMOUNT OF GRANTS AWARDED	\$252 MILLION
NUMBER OF VEHICLES RECOVERED	1.6 MILLION
ESTIMATED RECOVERED VALUE OF VEHICLES	\$11.6 BILLION

But ABTPA needs community partners, and those partners are the citizens of Texas. We can't do this by ourselves, so join us in our crime-prevention effort.

ABTPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ABTPA STAFF

The ABTPA Board of Directors includes two law enforcement representatives, two consumer representatives, and two insurance industry representatives who are appointed by the governor of Texas. Board members serve staggered six-year terms. The executive director of the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) serves as an ex officio member. Board members are committed both professionally and personally to the program's continued success. Through the guidance and counsel of the Board of Directors, ABTPA has been able to continually reduce the incidence of auto thefts and auto burglaries throughout Texas.

ABTPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chief Carlos Garcia, Chairman
Law Enforcement Representative, Brownsville

Major Wynn Reynolds
Criminal Law Enforcement, DPS, Austin
Representing DPS Director Steven C. McCraw

Ms. Linda Kinney
Consumer Representative, Dripping Springs

Mr. Ken Ross
Insurance Representative, Houston

Mr. Rich Watson
Insurance Representative, Austin

Sgt. Mark H. Wilson
Law Enforcement Representative, Fort Worth

Ms. Margaret "Jerry" Wright
Consumer Representative, El Paso

Ms. Ashley Hunter
Insurance Representative, Austin
(Replaced Rich Watson in May 2013)



ABTPA STAFF

ABTPA's five-member staff, located in Austin, administers and monitors grants to ensure their effectiveness and accountability.

Charles Caldwell
Director

Jan Gregg
Grant Administrator

Rachel Snell
Public Affairs Coordinator

Barbara Matthys
Administrative Assistant

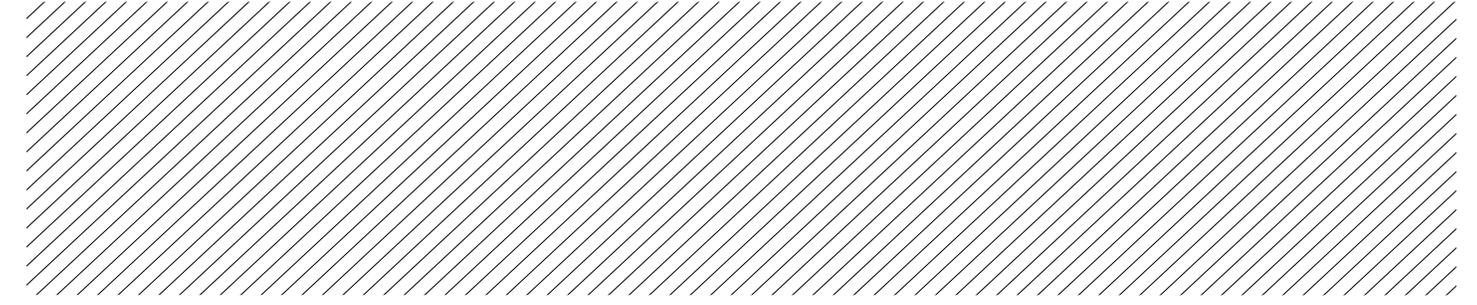
Jennifer Minor
Grant Assistant



ABTPA OVERVIEW

A. HISTORY

The Texas Automobile Theft Prevention Authority (ATPA) was established by the 72nd Texas Legislature in 1991 to create a statewide effort to reduce auto theft. The 80th Legislature amended the ATPA's mission through House Bill 1887 to make auto burglary a priority along with auto theft. The resulting agency, known as the Texas Automobile Burglary and Theft Prevention Authority (ABTPA), is charged with assessing the automobile burglary, automobile theft, and economic automobile theft problems in Texas, and analyzing methods and providing financial support to combat those problems.



In 2011, the 82nd Legislature passed House Bill 1541, relating to the prevention of automobile burglary and theft, with the amendment to Section 10, Article 4413(37), Revised Statutes. The bill:

- Amends Subsection (b) to increase the insurer fee to \$2;
- Adds Subsection (e) to require that 50 percent of fees collected under Subsection (b) be appropriated to the authority has become law in the state of Texas;
- Provides grantees funding to assist with expenses related to the duties associated with investigation and enforcement of automobile burglary crimes, including salaries for officers; and
- Supports extensive statewide auto burglary and theft prevention awareness initiatives to educate Texas drivers.

B. ABTPA ACTIVITIES

ABTPA functions as the lead organization in a statewide network of law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, insurance industry representatives, local tax assessor-collectors, community organizations, and concerned citizen groups. In addition to providing guidance and oversight, the ABTPA awards grant funds to agencies, organizations and concerned parties in an effort to raise public awareness of vehicle theft and burglary. It also implements education and prevention initiatives.

C. ABTPA FUNDING

ABTPA is funded by a legislatively mandated assessment consisting of a \$2 annual fee for each vehicle per insurance policy. The fee is paid by individual policyholders and collected by the insurance companies.

Funded programs are currently located in counties that account for 95 percent of the state's theft problem.

While 92 percent of ABTPA appropriations are expended on grant-related activity, only 8 percent are earmarked for administrative costs, which include:

- ABTPA staff, located in the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles;
- An attorney located in the Office of the Attorney General to provide legal counsel to the ABTPA Policy Board; and
- Staff for the Help End Auto Theft (H.E.A.T.) vehicle registration program, located within DPS.

D. ABTPA COMMITTEES

Insurance Fraud Committee

The Insurance Fraud Committee (IFC) brings together representatives from insurance companies, the office of the Attorney General, the Texas Department of Insurance, and law enforcement agencies that address the growing problem of insurance fraud. The committee identifies goals for addressing issues related to vehicle theft "give-ups" or "walkaways," VIN switches, arson, and insurance fraud.



Grantee Advisory Committee

The Grantee Advisory Committee (GAC) considers matters of concern to both grantees and the ABTPA, and leverages the experience, knowledge and insight of law enforcement professionals with regard to the auto theft problem. In 2009, the GAC established three subcommittees:

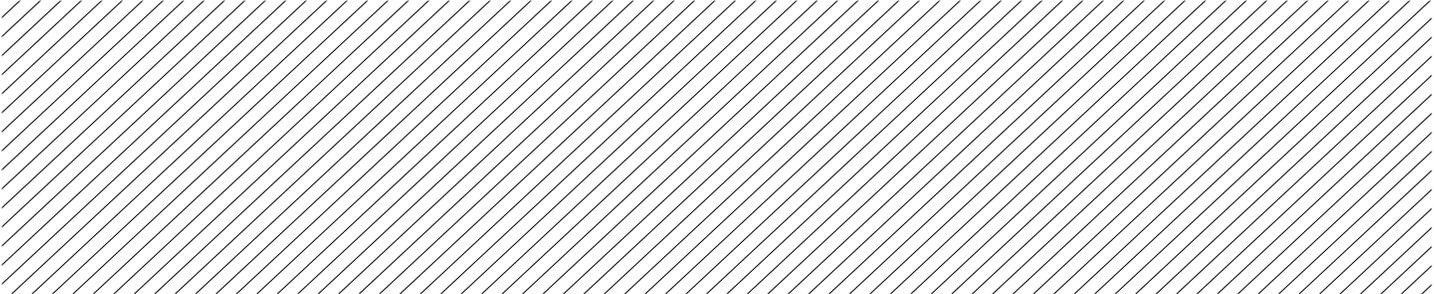
Legislative Subcommittee – Reviews legislative issues and provides recommendations to the ABTPA staff on the most efficient approach to those issues from the grantees’ perspective; informs ABTPA grantees about the progress, status, needs, and results of legislation affecting the programs; and assists ABTPA staff in gathering information on the legislative effects of grant projects.

Communications Subcommittee – Focuses on improving communications between ABTPA staff, the board and industry partners about auto theft and burglary initiatives; assists with identifying new and better ways to advertise various ABTPA events and activities; and provides input and guidance to ABTPA staff on grantee communication and feedback when requested.

Operations Subcommittee – Provides guidance about the effect of changes to administrative requirements and rules on the grant programs; assists with the development or implementation of new legislation or grant requirements (if necessary); reviews the needs and operational changes for ABTPA grantees in regards to funding, jurisdictional changes or administrative changes for agencies involved in grant programs; and advises ABTPA staff about the effects of administrative changes on grant projects staff before the changes become effective.

Border Solutions Committee

The Border Solutions Committee (BSC) is a binational committee comprised of local, state, and federal representatives from the United States and Mexico. The BSC was established by the Texas ABTPA in 1992 to foster communication with the four Mexican states that border Texas. It’s goal is to reduce the number of stolen vehicles on both sides of the border.



FISCAL REPORT FOR FY 2013

GRANT FUNDING ANALYSIS PER CATEGORY

LAW ENFORCEMENT DETENTION/APPREHENSION	\$10,746,516
PROSECUTION/ADJUDICATION/ CONVICTION	\$0
PREVENTION: ANTITHEFT DEVICES/ VEHICLE REGISTRATION PROGRAMS	\$0
REDUCING SALE OF STOLEN VEHICLE OR PARTS	\$2,814,251
PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION	\$239,233
TOTAL	\$13,800,000

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

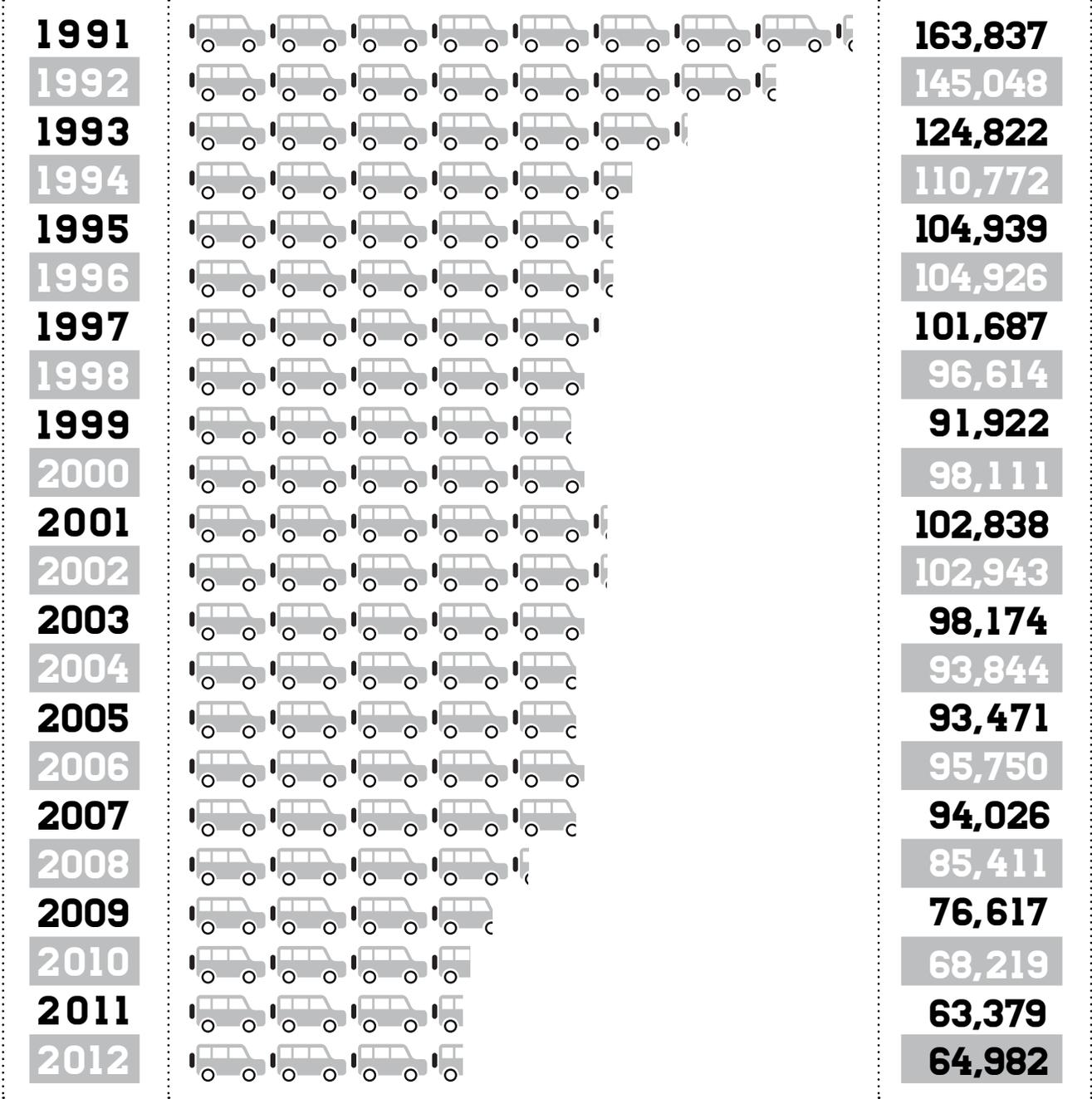
ALLOCATION	\$14,911,870
TOTAL	\$14,911,870

EXPENDITURES FOR YEAR END*

ABTPA GRANTS	\$13,727,531
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$651,345
OFFICE OPERATIONS	\$66,938
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE COST	\$280,198
TOTAL	\$14,726,012

*Expenditures for Year End to included Accounts Payables for professional services, office operations and grant expenditures outstanding.

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT COMPARISONS BY YEAR

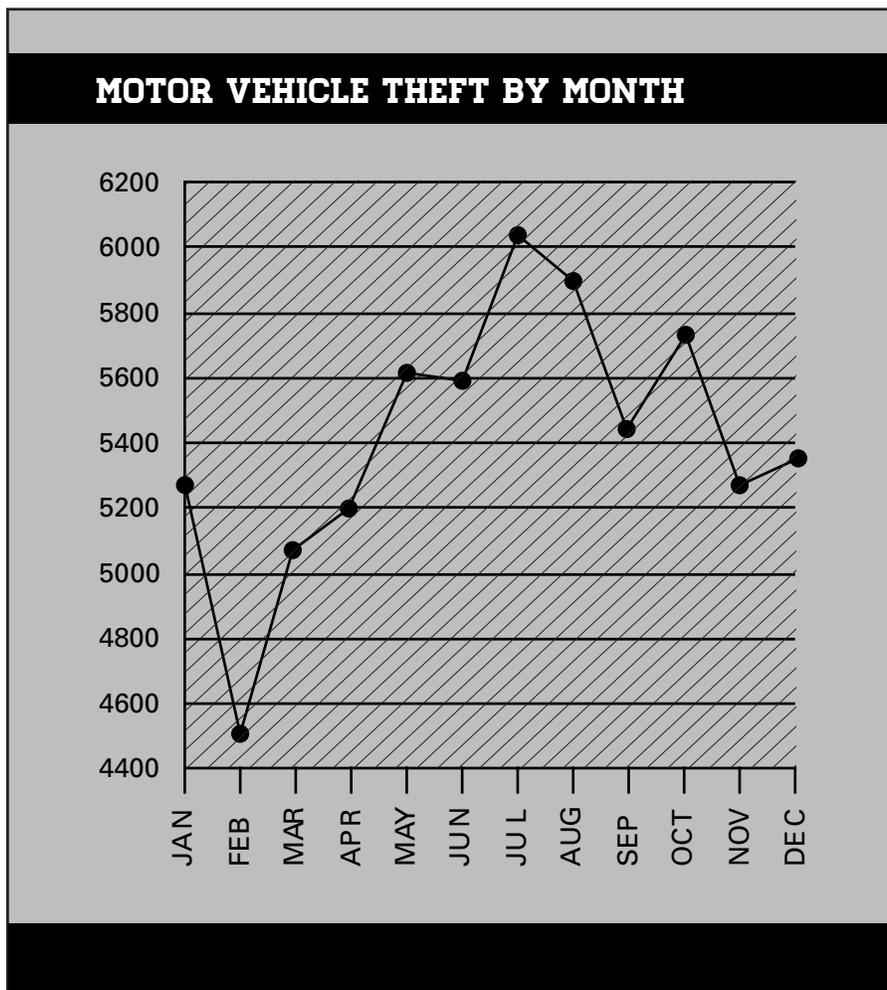


 1 vehicle equals 20,000

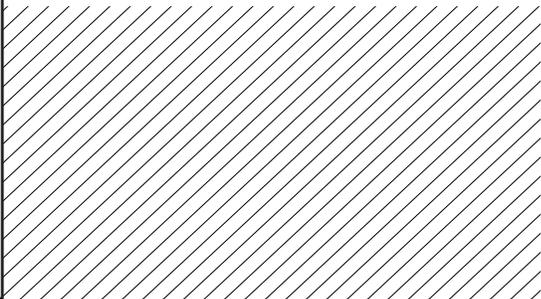
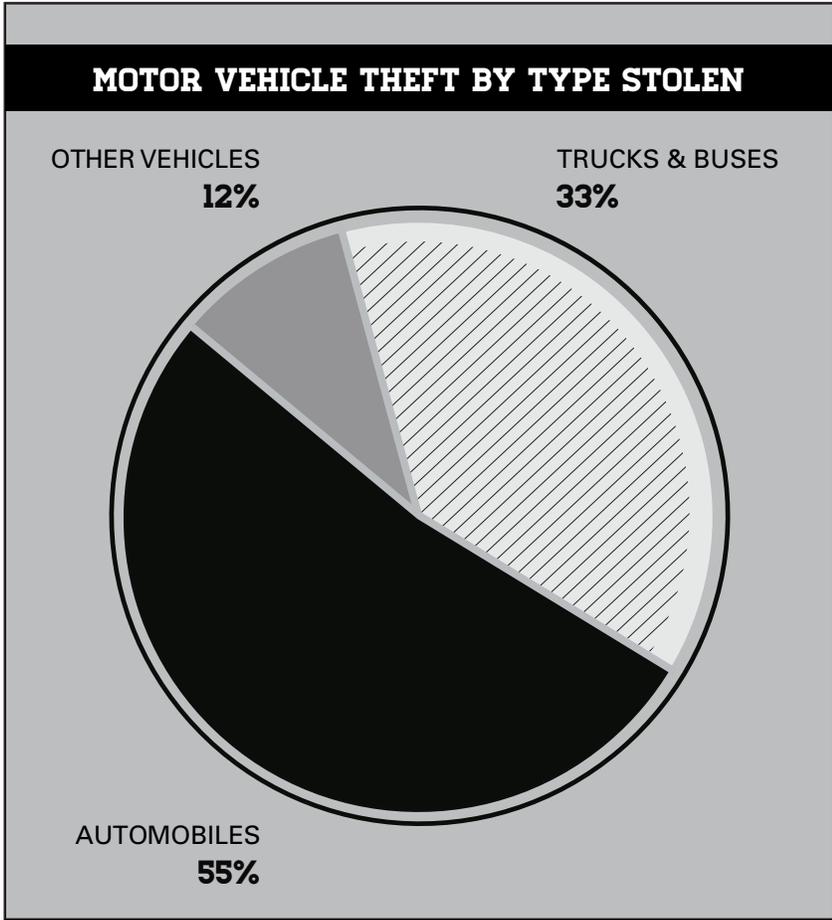
Source: 2012 Crime in Texas – Index Crime Analysis

2012 MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

Below are 2012 statistics for motor vehicle theft in Texas. A motor vehicle is defined as a self-propelled vehicle that travels on the ground (but not on rails). Specifically excluded from this category are motorboats, construction equipment, airplanes, and farming equipment.



Source: 2012 Crime in Texas – Index Crime Analysis



FAST FACTS

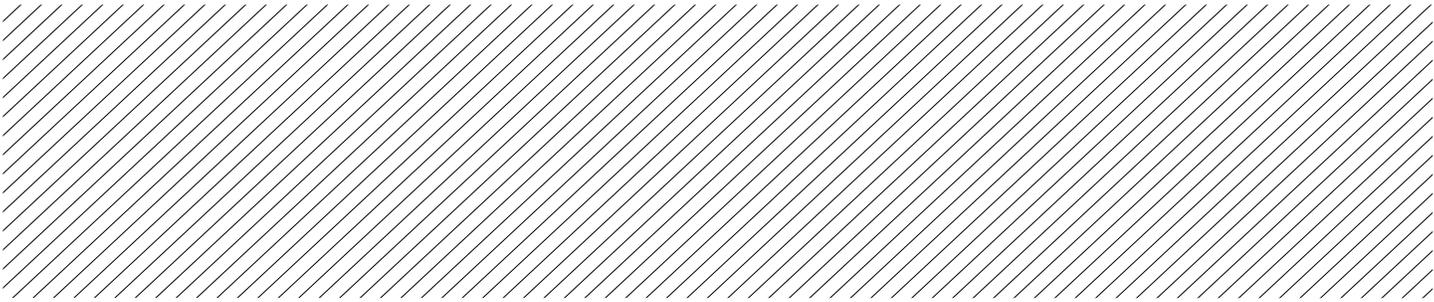
Motor vehicle theft victims suffered losses totaling **\$620,004,702** – a **0.2%** decrease when compared to 2011.

Statewide, Texas law enforcement agencies were successful in clearing or solving by arrest **12%** of all motor vehicle thefts that were reported.

98% of the motor vehicles reported stolen were recovered.

Texas law enforcement agencies arrested 4,191 persons for motor vehicle theft – a **5.3%** increase when compared to 2011.

Source: 2012 Crime in Texas – Index Crime Analysis



TOP 10 MOST STOLEN VEHICLES IN TEXAS

2012

1) Ford pickup	.....
2) Chevrolet pickup	.....
3) Dodge pickup	.....
4) Honda Civic	.....
5) Chevrolet Tahoe	.....
6) Honda Accord	.....
7) GMC pickup	.....
8) Chevrolet Impala	.....
9) Toyota Camry	.....
10) Ford Taurus	.....

Source: TxDPS MVT19 Report

2012 BURGLARY OF A MOTOR VEHICLE STATISTICS

A. Total Burglary of Motor Vehicle (BMV) Offenses

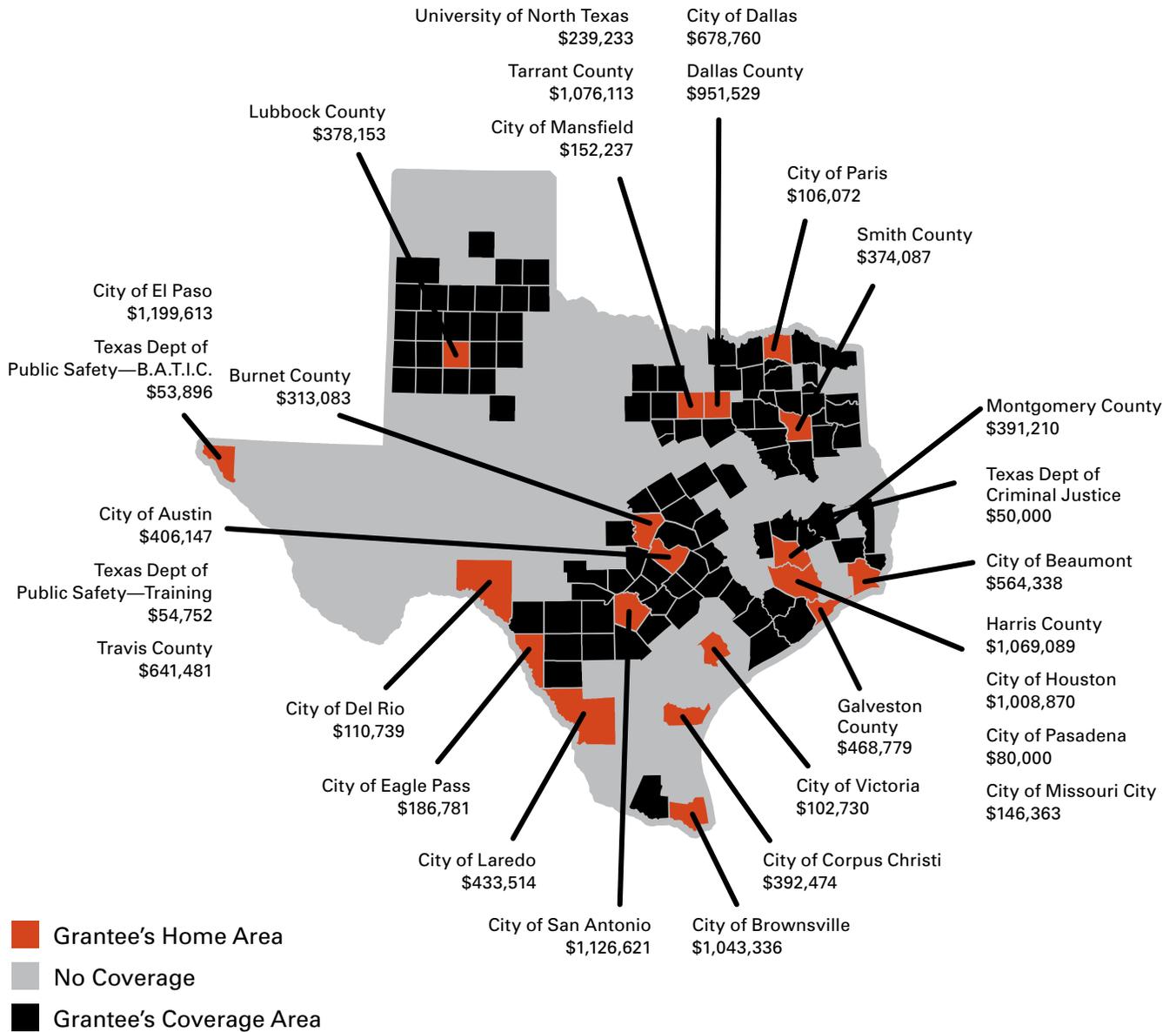
THEFT FROM MV	167,276
MV PARTS	53,747
TOTAL	221,023
REGISTERED VEHICLES	22,057,698
POPULATION	25,674,681

B. Total Value of BMV Items Stolen

THEFT FROM MV	\$152,245,606
MV PARTS	\$47,081,594
TOTAL	\$199,327,200

In 2012, statewide BMV decreased by **16 percent** from 2010. There were **221,023** thefts from motor vehicles — including motor vehicle parts — in Texas, accounting for an economic loss totaling **\$199,327,200**.

FY 2013 ABTPA GRANTEES MAP



ABTPA TASK FORCE FUNCTIONS

The ABTPA funded 29 task forces in FY 2013. This included 25 Law Enforcement, Detection and Apprehension grants; three Reducing Sale of Stolen Vehicle or Parts grants; one Antitheft Devices/ Vehicle Registration Programs grant; and one Public Awareness and Education grant.

A. LAW ENFORCEMENT, DETECTION AND APPREHENSION

Grantees in this category conduct proactive patrols to search for and recover stolen vehicles; use investigative methods to detect auto burglary, auto theft, and fraud, provide detection training, and establish and enhance information-gathering systems.

City of Austin's Auto Burglary and Theft Interdiction Project
City of Beaumont's Southeast Auto Theft Task Force
City of Corpus Christi's Corpus Christi Auto Theft Prevention Grant
Burnet County's Heart of Texas Auto Theft Task Force
Dallas County's North Texas Auto Theft Task Force
Galveston County's Auto Crimes Task Force
Harris County's Auto Theft Division
Lubbock County's South Plains Auto Theft Task Force
City of Mansfield's Tri-County Auto Burglary and Theft Prevention Task Force
City of Missouri City's Automobile Burglary and Theft Task Force
Montgomery County's Motor Vehicle Theft-Salvage, and Vehicle Arson Reduction Program
City of Paris's Northeast Texas Automobile Theft Task Force
City of Pasadena's Auto Crimes Prevention Program
Smith County East Texas Auto Theft Task Force
Tarrant County Regional Auto Crimes Task Force
Texas Department of Criminal Justice
Texas Department of Public Safety – Motor Vehicle Theft Service
Travis County Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force
The City of Victoria's Law Enforcement Detection and Apprehension Program



FY 2013

Number of Auto Thefts	22,791
Vehicle Theft, Unauthorized Use, Tampering with ID, Insurance Fraud, Title Fraud, and Other Arrests	1,412
Vehicle Theft, Unauthorized Use, Tampering with ID, Insurance Fraud, Title Fraud, and Other Fraud Cases Filed	1,159
Number of Stolen Vehicles Recovered	9,014
Estimated Value of Stolen Vehicles Recovered	\$94,325,784
Number of Salvage Yard Inspections Performed	351
Number of Burglary of Motor Vehicles (BMV)	77,071
Number of BMV Arrests	815
Number of BMV Cases Filed	607

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B. LAW ENFORCEMENT, DETECTION, AND APPREHENSION – BORDER ENFORCEMENT

In addition to helping achieve ABTPA's general mission, these grantees are an instrumental part of Homeland Security. They protect our border and prevent stolen vehicles from crossing it.

- City of Brownsville's South Texas Auto Theft Enforcement Task Force**
- City of Del Rio's Auto Theft Prevention and Recovery Unit**
- City of Eagle Pass Auto Theft Recovery and Highway Interdiction Unit**
- City of El Paso Auto Theft Prevention Task Force**
- City of Laredo Auto Theft Task Force**
- Texas Department of Public Safety – Border Auto Theft Information Center**



FY 2013

Number of Auto Thefts	1,974
Vehicle Theft, Unauthorized Use, Tampering with ID, Insurance Fraud, Title Fraud, and Other Arrests	504
Vehicle Theft, Unauthorized Use, Tampering with ID, Insurance Fraud, Title Fraud, and Other Fraud Cases Filed	647
Number of Stolen Vehicles Recovered	2,311
Estimated Value of Stolen Vehicles Recovered	\$29,897,154
Number of Salvage Yard Inspections Performed	112
Number of Burglary of Motor Vehicles (BMV)	9,640
Number of BMV Arrests	585
Number of BMV Cases Filed	2,036

C. REDUCING SALE OF STOLEN VEHICLE OR PARTS

These grantees conduct salvage yard, repair shop, and scrap metal inspections for stolen vehicles or parts. They also educate the public on how VIN etchings may reduce auto burglary and theft and make vehicles identifiable if stolen.

- City of Dallas Commercial Auto Theft Interdiction Squad**
- City of Houston Auto Crimes Task Force**
- City of San Antonio Regional Auto Crimes Team (ReACT)**



FY 2013

Number of Auto Thefts	26,967
Vehicle Theft, Unauthorized Use, Tampering with ID, Insurance Fraud, Title Fraud, and Other Arrests	447
Vehicle Theft, Unauthorized Use, Tampering with ID, Insurance Fraud, Title Fraud, and Other Fraud Cases Filed	880
Number of Stolen Vehicles Recovered	1,453
Estimated Value of Stolen Vehicles Recovered	\$19,383,324
Number of Salvage Yard Inspections Performed	90
Number of Burglary of Motor Vehicles (BMV)	48,535
Number of BMV Arrests	14
Number of BMV Cases Filed	30

D. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

The function of this grantee is to educate task forces and citizens about auto theft and burglary prevention efforts in their localities, and to provide tips to citizens on how to avoid becoming auto theft and burglary victims.

University of North Texas – Reduce Auto Theft in Texas (R.A.T.T.)

Training, Exhibits, Presentations and Public Awareness Events	88
Literature Pieces and Promo Items	272,026
1-800-CAR-WATCH Hotline Calls	736
Mail-out Pieces	8,005

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

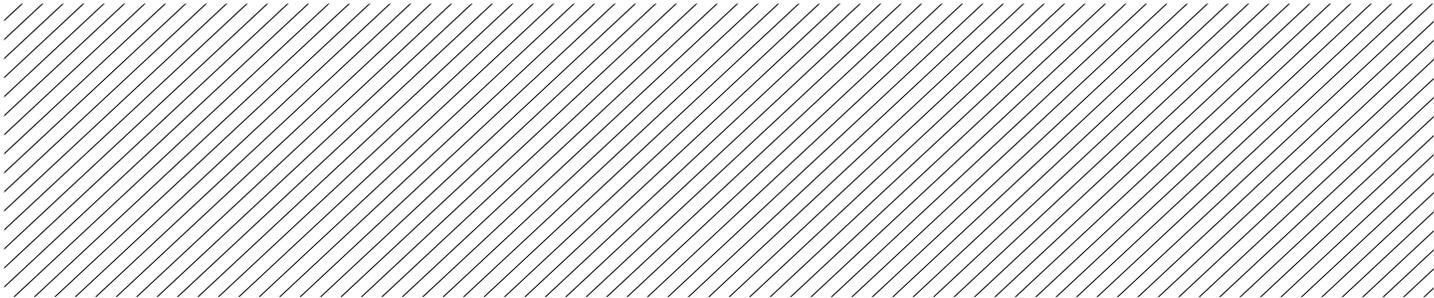
Texas drivers also must be educated about how they can protect themselves from becoming auto crime victims. Throughout the last year, ABTPA and its grantees have increased public awareness about preventing auto theft and burglary through radio, TV, newspaper, outdoor billboard, Internet, and cinema public service announcements. ABTPA has also informed people via presentations, media interviews, VIN etchings, H.E.A.T. registration drives, special events, and partnerships.

ABTPA has two public awareness campaigns and social media efforts that remind citizens to prevent auto theft, to take their keys, and to prevent auto burglary.

A. 'WATCH YOUR CAR' CAMPAIGN

"Watch Your Car" is a statewide, multimedia public awareness campaign consisting of television and radio public service announcements, billboards, brochures, promotional giveaways, posters, static displays, mobile vehicle displays, and annual reports. It also includes a statewide auto theft awareness hotline, 800-CAR-WATCH, through which callers may obtain theft prevention information packets, information on the Texas H.E.A.T. program, statistics, and information. "Watch Your Car" materials and services are made available to grantees, crime prevention officers and organizations for distribution to citizens in order to reinforce the public's awareness concerning vehicle crimes.





B. 'THINK LIKE A THIEF' CAMPAIGN

Based on statewide research (conducted in 2012 to determine Texans' awareness of auto crime and behaviors relating to prevention), the "Think Like a Thief" campaign educates Texans on the truth about auto crime through compelling visuals and messages in order to elevate concern about auto crime and to correct common misperceptions. The campaign aims to grab the attention of its primary audience, and helps raise awareness that auto crime is a reality and a threat to all Texans.



C. SOCIAL MEDIA



ABTPA's Facebook page keeps fans and visitors up to date on ABTPA events, meetings, and conferences. It also provides links to PSA videos, news clips, and task force news stories. Visitors can go there to see photos from ABTPA and task force events, share auto burglary and auto theft prevention tips, and create a community for those interested in preventing auto crime.



ABTPA's Twitter account, **TxAutoBurgTheft**, provides an outlet for ABTPA to share timely information on events, auto crimes cases, and news as it happens. Twitter directly connects ABTPA with an audience that is interested in the agency and preventing auto burglary and auto theft.

HELP END AUTO THEFT (H.E.A.T.)

Texas H.E.A.T. (Help End Auto Theft) is a voluntary statewide vehicle registration program designed as a theft deterrent. Vehicle owners can sign an agreement with a participating law enforcement agency to stop the owner's vehicle anywhere in Texas during the 1-5 a.m. time period to verify ownership. Owners can grant additional authority to have their vehicle stopped at any time if it is being driven from Texas into Mexico.

Vehicle owners may register their vehicles at most Texas law enforcement agencies. Vehicle owners may also register for H.E.A.T. online at www.txdps.state.tx.us or by calling 800-CAR-WATCH for a mail order form.



2013 ABTPA AWARD WINNERS

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THE STEVE DAVENPORT AWARD for law enforcement personnel is presented to task force members who go above and beyond every day to make a difference.

2013 WINNER – Detective Mike Morton – Travis County Sheriff's Combined Auto Theft Task Force

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THE STAR AWARD for civilian personnel is presented to task force members who go above and beyond every day to make a difference.

2013 WINNER – Arcelia Elizondo – City of Laredo Auto Theft Task Force (accepted by Jose Villarreal)

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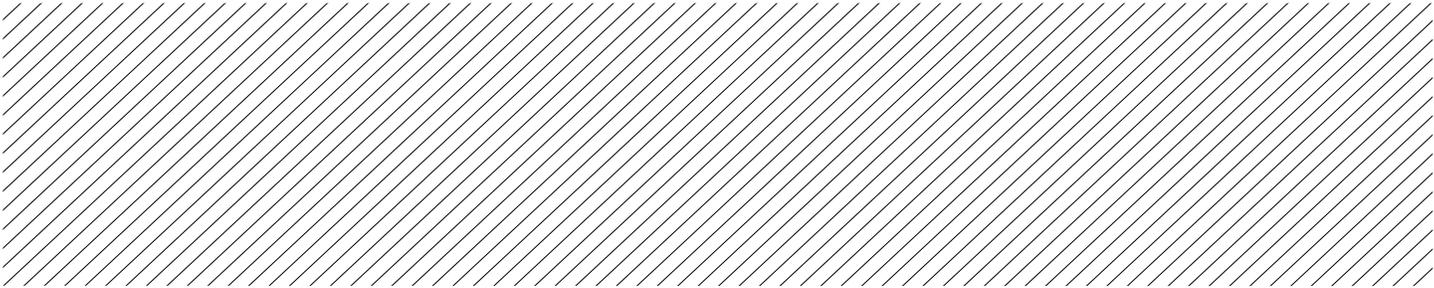
THE 2013 ABTPA TASK FORCE AWARD

is given to those who demonstrate outstanding service and dedication in fulfilling the mission and vision of the ABTPA.

2013 WINNER –
City of Austin, Auto Theft Interdiction Project

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THE ABTPA GRANTEE PUBLIC AWARENESS AWARD

is presented to a member of an ABTPA grant project who significantly surpassed his or her stated public awareness goals during the previous grant year, or created an innovative and successful initiative to raise awareness about vehicle crimes, prevention of those crimes, and the Texas ABTPA.

2013 WINNER – Officer Steve Plummer – City of El Paso Auto Theft Prevention Task Force (accepted by Ernie Arredondo)

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