

STATE OF ARIZONA  
ARIZONA AUTOMOBILE  
THEFT AUTHORITY  
WWW.AZWATCHYOURCAR.COM



NEWS RELEASE  
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For Immediate Release  
February 26, 2013

## PUT THE BRAKES ON AUTO THEFT – JOIN the AATA’s AUTO THEFT PREVENTION & AWARENESS MONTH ACTIVITIES

**PHOENIX** – The AZ. Auto Theft Authority (AATA), in partnership with Arizona law enforcement agencies, kicks off the **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Auto Theft Prevention & Awareness Month with VIN Etching Events hosted by Scottsdale and Yuma Police Departments this week.** Arizona law enforcement agencies will be hosting free events through March to increase awareness about auto theft & burglary prevention. Agencies across the state will be providing services to residents such as Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) etching on window glass and enrollment in the state’s Watch Your Car theft deterrent program.

Overall, Arizona ranks fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) in the nation for vehicle thefts per capita (theft rate per 100,000 population) and ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) for total stolen vehicles. Additionally, the 5-year trend, comparing 2011 stolen vehicle data (theft rate) with that of 2006, showed a 65.5% drop; the 10-year trend, reflects a 68.5% drop.

In 2011, the Phoenix MSA (Metropolitan Statistical Area), which had the dubious distinction of ranking the #1 “Hot Spot” just over ten years ago, plunged down the list to 60<sup>th</sup> place. Tucson, which previously held the #2 spot, fell to #37 during that period; Yuma dropped to #119.

Despite these encouraging numbers, Arizona ranks the #5 state in the U.S. for vehicle theft rate. **Arizonans can do their part to protect their vehicles by participating in the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Statewide Auto Theft Prevention & Awareness Month activities.** Events scheduled to date include:

**Wednesday, February 27, 2013 – 11AM – 5PM**  
Yuma Police Department  
Target Parking lot - 1450 S. Yuma Palms Parkway.

**Thursday, February 28, 2013 – 10AM – 1PM**  
Scottsdale Police Department  
7601 E. McKellips Rd.

**Saturday, March 2, 2013 – 10AM – 1PM**  
Apache Junction Police Department  
1001 N. Idaho Rd. (AJ Parks and Rec bldg. parking lot)

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**Saturday, March 2, 2013 – 10AM – 2PM**

Bullhead City Police Department  
1255 Marina Blvd. (PD parking lot)

**Saturday, March 2, 2013 – 10AM – 2PM**

Camp Verde Marshal's Office  
Bashas parking lot - 650 Finnie Flat Road, Camp Verde

**Saturday, March 2, 2013 – 9AM – 1PM**

El Mirage Police Department  
14405 N. Palm Street  
El Mirage, AZ 85335

\*\*Appointment required - please contact Monica Rios at 623 433-9536.

**Saturday March 2, 2013 – 8:30AM – 11:30AM**

Glendale Police Department  
9380 W. Glendale Ave - Cabela's parking lot

**Saturday, March 2, 2013 – 9AM - 1PM**

Marana Police Department  
9100 N. Silver Bell Road - State Farm parking lot  
Co-hosted by State Farm Insurance Agent, Kurt Larsen

**Wednesday, March 6, 2013 – 4pm – 6pm**

Gilbert Police Department  
75 E. Civic Center Drive - Parking lot

**Friday, March 8, 2013 – 3PM – 6:30PM**

Avondale Police Department  
10000 W. McDowell Rd.  
Avondale, AZ 85392 - Costco parking lot

**Tuesday, March 26, 2013 – 10:00AM – 2:00PM**

Oro Valley Police Department  
Oro Valley Market Place parking lot (SW Corner Tangerine Road)

**Saturday, March 30, 2013 – 12:00 - 3:00PM**

Green Valley Police Department  
Green Valley Sheriff's Auxiliary Headquarters - 601 N. La Canada

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