

January, 2015

Dear Citizens:

The New Year brings a renewed commitment by our entire police force to protect the lives and property of all our citizens. Our number one priority in 2015 continues to be the reduction of crime in Coral Gables. To accomplish this, we are strategically deploying our police presence guided by the collaborative intelligence of the Criminal Investigations Division, the Uniform Patrol Division and the Specialized Enforcement Division.

Yet, there is still much work to be done. And we cannot do this alone.

Coral Gables citizens must stay vigilant and involved in our efforts to protect their wellbeing. As we experienced recently, many crimes of opportunity could have been prevented. During December, an increase in stolen vehicles occurred because spare keys or key fobs were left inside those vehicles.

These thefts could be drastically reduced if people would remove spare keys from inside their vehicles, and remember to lock their car doors, close all windows, and take out valuables inside in plain view. Leaving an unlocked vehicle is an open invitation to opportunist criminals. It only takes a few seconds for a thief to smash a car window and grab whatever is visible.

Another important tip to remember is to remove items from the center console and glove compartment that contain personal information such as your address, vehicle insurance or vehicle registration. That's the first place thieves look not only for valuables, but to access your home and steal your identity. If you see any suspicious activity around your area, please call the Coral Gables Police Department at 305-442-1600. We appreciate any help you can provide to fight crime.

In 2015, let's work together to make Coral Gables a safer place to be. For any comments, issues or suggestions, you can reach me via email at [ehudak@coralgables.com](mailto:ehudak@coralgables.com) or phone at 305-460-5418.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Hudak, Jr.  
Interim Chief of Police  
City of Coral Gables