January 31, 2020

Dear Resident,

Last week the village experienced several burglaries to motor vehicles. This particular type of crime is occurring across the nation and has surpassed identity theft as the number one crime in the country.

Typically what happens is organized groups of individuals target a specific neighborhood and check for unlocked cars. Once inside the car, they look for garage door openers, items of value, key fobs, and cash.

They can ransack a vehicle in as little at 10-15 seconds. Often times, the offenders arrive in a stolen vehicle and will flee at dangerously high speeds when confronted by police. Making matters worse is that they are often armed.

The sad part is most if not all of the burglaries could have been prevented had the vehicles been locked. Keeping valuables out of plain view also helps prevent the thefts.

National campaigns such as Lock It or Lose It and See Something Say Something help raise awareness. Practicing the 9:00 p.m. routine and checking all doors at that time also help prevent these occurrences.

We are partnering with our neighboring agencies to create an awareness campaign and an aggressive enforcement plan. Together, this strategy should help reduce future crimes.

Fortunately, Orland Hills does not experience much crime. When events happen such as this it can cause some individuals to panic.

The police department will continue to work tirelessly to keep you safe. Working together we can help you protect you.

Respectfully,

Thomas G. Scully
Chief of Police