



- ◆ Do not leave valuables or packages on the seats or in plain view. Please place all packages in the trunk.
- ◆ If you must place items in the trunk and if applicable, disable the trunk release from inside the vehicle.
- ◆ Park in well lit areas, never park in isolated or dark areas of any parking lot.
- ◆ Always make sure your vehicle is secured (windows up, doors locked, and, if applicable, alarm engaged).
- ◆ Never leave the vehicle running while unattended, even if your doors are locked.
- ◆ Do not leave vehicle keys in the trunk of the vehicle while loading or unloading.
- ◆ Place cellular phones, GPS units, and other electronics out of sight.
- ◆ Secure briefcases and coats in the trunk.

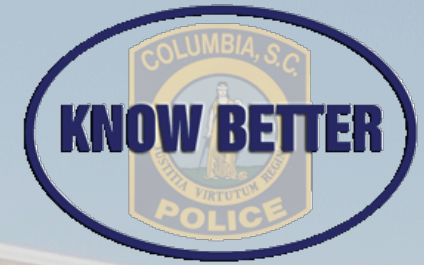
Things you've told yourself  
and regretted later.

- ◆ It will be OK for the night.
- ◆ I'll leave it running, I'm just picking up some milk.
- ◆ I'll get it later!
- ◆ Nobody wants an old bag.
- ◆ I'll just run to the car and put it in the trunk.



How can it help?

No valuables to be seen!  
No valuables to be taken!



Columbia Police  
Department  
Crime Prevention Unit

I Knew  
Better!



*Don't be a Victim!*

803-545-3553

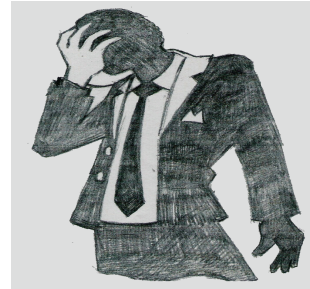
# What is “Know Better” and how can it help?

---

In the past few years, the City of Columbia has experienced over 3,500 Auto Breakings and Auto Thefts. This is shocking, isn't it? As you know, auto breakings and auto thefts are crimes of opportunity. As a means to address these crimes, the Columbia Police Department is launching a program called “Know Better”.

“Know Better” is a new Crime Prevention program established by the Columbia Police Department that is aimed at reducing auto breakings and auto theft crimes by 50% within the next four years. We “Know Better” than to think that we can do this alone, but, with this new program and the collaborative efforts of the community organizations, local businesses and schools, we will accomplish our goal.

## Our Symbol



A recent victim angry with himself, because, he “Knew Better” than to leave his laptop visible in the back seat of his vehicle or to have parked in a dark secluded area.

This symbol will be used as a constant reminder to never leave anything visible or valuable in your vehicle or to park where you know it's not safe. What may seem not valuable to you may be very valuable to others.

## Shocking Facts

Our citizens left over a million dollars worth of valuables in their vehicles that were stolen in Auto Breakings.

Many of our citizens lost their vehicle, because they left their cars running.

## Shocking!!!!

## Isn't it?

## “ Know Better”

---

City of Columbia  
Police Department  
Crime Prevention Unit  
#1 Justice Sq.  
Columbia South Carolina 29201

Phone: 803-545-3555  
Fax: 803-733-8365  
Website: [www.columbiapd.net](http://www.columbiapd.net)