



POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Stephen Dodge
CHIEF OF POLICE

Ms. Gillett

Over the past several years a trend has emerged where armed groups of subjects come to neighborhoods in multiple vehicles to steal vehicles and items within vehicles. Instead of forcing entry into cars, which can often times trip alarms risking detection, they simply try the door handles and target vehicles that are unlocked.

This strategy has been very effective resulting in the loss of vehicles, handguns and other items in Sunset Hills and the St. Louis area. The new Tampering ordinance would make the practice of door handle "flipping" illegal even without gaining entry into the vehicle or stealing any items. Under this ordinance officers would be able to detain and arrest subjects who are observed "flipping" door handles. In that regard I believe the new Tampering ordinance would be a helpful tool in deterring and preventing vehicle theft and theft from vehicles.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. P. Dodge", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Stephen P. Dodge
Chief of Police