2013 Vehicle Theft Award of Merit

Sponsored by Carfax, Inc., LoJack Corporation, OnStar, 3M Traffic Safety Systems Division, and The IACP Vehicle Theft Committee

The problem is that a motor vehicle was stolen every 44.1 seconds in the United States in 2011. That amounts to more than 715,000 motor vehicles, a decrease of 3.3 percent over 2010; the total loss-value equated to $13.75 per each man, woman, and child in this country!

One solution is developing an agency strategy, implementing it, sharing it, and vying at the same time for the Vehicle Theft Award of Merit, which was created for all law enforcement agencies, task forces, councils, community partnerships, and other theft prevention alliances* worldwide to showcase the results of their Calendar Year 2012 theft prevention and/or enforcement programs. Agencies—both large and small—have an equal chance of winning; entries are judged on initiative, on use of available resources, and on overall results. Now share with your counterparts—through this competition—how your agency successfully has curbed vehicle theft in your jurisdiction!

FIVE awards will be presented, with ONE agency being chosen from each of the following categories:

- Category 1: 1—75 personnel
- Category 2: 76—250 personnel
- Category 3: 251—1,000 personnel
- Category 4: 1,001+ personnel
- Category 5: Multi-agency task forces

A second solution is to recognize an individual law enforcement officer who made during the Calendar Year 2012 an outstanding contribution to vehicle theft prevention and/or enforcement.

Guidelines

- No 2012 Vehicle Theft Award of Merit winner may compete in 2013.
- Each application will address activities that occurred only during the Calendar Year 2012, i.e., between January 1, 2012, and December 31, 2012. However, it may refer to past years solely to demonstrate program or individual success(es).
- Each agency-nominating application will be organized into four categories corresponding to the four criteria against which each program will be judged; will not exceed ten, double-spaced pages; and will be limited to one, 1½” three-ring binder.
- Each officer-nominating application will not exceed three, double-spaced pages; and will be limited to one, 1” three-ring binder. An agency may nominate only one outstanding officer, but it still may submit an agency application.
- One copy of each application will be submitted/postmarked on or before Monday, May 13, 2013.
- Failure to adhere to any of the above guidelines will result in disqualification of the application.

* For simplicity’s sake, the term “agency” is used hereinafter to refer collectively to “all law enforcement agencies, task forces, councils, community partnerships, and other theft prevention alliances.”
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## Agency Criteria

1. **Successful Program Efforts (25 points):** For the Calendar Year 2012, describe your agency’s
   - educational, enforcement, and/or legislative efforts aimed at reducing vehicle thefts
   - new programs implemented to reduce vehicle thefts
   - policy initiatives/guidelines on vehicle theft prevention

   Attach copies of proposed legislation and policies/guidelines.

2. **Successful Awareness, Education, and Community Partnerships (40 Points):**
   - public awareness activities to reduce vehicle theft and other vehicle-related crimes
   - educational events to reduce vehicle theft and other vehicle-related crimes
   - community partnerships to reduce vehicle theft and other vehicle-related crimes

   Include color photographs of public awareness events related to vehicle theft prevention, as well as brochures, media articles, posters, publications, etc.

   OR

3. **Successful Vehicle Theft Investigation, Fraud Detection, and Apprehension (40 points):**
   - For the Calendar Year 2012, describe your agency’s vehicle theft enforcement programs. Highlight any cooperative effort with any other law enforcement agency; any innovative approach to combat auto theft rings, chop-shops, carjackings, etc.; any problem-solving technique; and/or any special campaign.

4. **Successful Theft Reductions and Recoveries (25 Points)**
   - State clearly the results of your agency’s program for the Calendar Year 2012, i.e., the effectiveness of enforcement and/or public awareness efforts on vehicle theft crimes. Include changes in vehicle theft rates and in stolen vehicle recoveries; an application may refer to past years solely to demonstrate program success(es).

5. **Presentation of Application (10 Points):** Each application will be judged relative to its adherence to the stated guidelines, as well as to the extent to which it answers the following questions:
   - How well is the application organized?
   - Does it follow the criteria outline?
   - Is the data clear and understandable? Do graphs and/or tables depict vehicle theft statistics or trends?
   - Was there extra attention and time taken to prepare the application?
   - Is all the information provided, and is it creatively presented?
Individual Criterion

Nominee:  

Nominee’s Address:  

City/State/Zip Code:  

Briefly, but clearly describe Nominee’s 2012 outstanding educational, enforcement, and/or legislative contribution(s) aimed at reducing vehicle thefts and other vehicle-related crimes. Demonstrate the effectiveness of Nominee’s contribution(s).

Include material that documents Nominee’s contribution(s).
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Official Application Form

Agency: ____________________________

Agency Head: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

City/State/Zip Code: ____________________________

Contact Person: ____________________________ Telephone: (     ) -

E-Mail: ____________________________ Facsimile: (     ) -

Category:  □ 1: 1 – 75  □ 2: 76 – 250  □ 3: 251 – 1,000  □ 4: 1,001+
            □ 5: Multi-Agency Task Force  □ 6: Individual Officer

Judging Process

Each Vehicle Theft Award of Merit application will be judged by members of the Vehicle Theft Committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Judges will use a point system to ensure that the maximum number of points is awarded to each agency application.

Presentation of Awards

One representative from each winning agency, as well as the law enforcement officer recognized for outstanding contribution(s), will be invited to attend the Annual IACP Conference where the Vehicle Theft Award of Merit is presented. Travel expenses to the Annual Conference, the cost of one registration, and three nights' stay at a designated hotel are provided to the winner of each category.

Send all completed applications by Monday, May 13, 2013, to

Richard J. Ashton
International Association of Chiefs of Police
Vehicle Theft Award of Merit
515 North Washington Street
Alexandria, VA  22314-2357

Got questions? Contact Richard J. Ashton, IACP, 1 (800) 843-4227 x276 or ashtonr@theiacp.org
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**Program Oversight**

Colonel Michael D. Edmonson, Deputy Secretary and Superintendent of State Police
Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections, Public Safety Services
and
IACP Board Member with Oversight of Vehicle Theft Committee

Chief Troy L. Abney
Nevada Highway Patrol
and
Chair, IACP’s Vehicle Theft Committee

Richard J. Ashton
Staff Liaison to Vehicle Theft Committee
International Association of Chiefs of Police

**IACP Vehicle Theft Committee Members**

Deputy Commissioner Lawrence G. Beechey, Ontario Provincial Police
Captain Bruce P. Campbell, Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force
Commissioner Joseph A. Farrow, California Highway Patrol
Deputy Director Christopher T. McDonold, Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council