

COLORADO AUTOMOBILE THEFT
PREVENTION AUTHORITY

CATPA

2009

ANNUAL REPORT

MISSION STATEMENT

“To deter and reduce vehicle theft and insurance fraud through a statewide cooperative effort of generating funds to support law enforcement, prosecution and public awareness through a partnership between industry and state government.”

This mission is supported by Colorado Revised Statute 43-5-12.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary.	2
Success and Facts	3
Grant Awards	5
Grantee and Task Force Map	6
Auto Theft Prevention Tips	8
Media Coverage.	9

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Colorado Auto Theft Investigators Association, a non-profit professional organization of Law Enforcement and Insurance Investigators proposed legislation that was introduced by State Legislator, Betty Boyd. On April 22, 2003 legislation passed into law and established the Colorado Automobile Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA). Initial funding for the CATPA program was donated by State Farm Insurance, Progressive Insurance, Liberty Mutual, Country Insurance and National Equipment Register. In 2004, The CATPA Board was established, comprised of representatives from the Colorado Department of Public Safety, Colorado Department of Revenue, Insurance Industry in Colorado, Law Enforcement, a representative of the statewide association of District Attorneys and a representative of the public or consumer group. In 2008, the Colorado legislature amended the CATPA statute to require insurance companies to fund CATPA with a one dollar per insured vehicle annual assessment. In 2009, the first fees were collected on January 1st. The CATPA Board awarded over \$4 million in grant funds on June 1, 2009 and December 15, 2009.



Front row: Janet Cammack - State Farm Insurance, Eva Wilson - First Judicial District Attorney's Office, Chief Kevin Paletta - Lakewood Police Department, Tonia Rumer - Colorado Farm Bureau, Lieutenant Colonel Hernandez-Colorado State Patrol

Back row : Lori Collins Malcolm - CATPA Director, Matt Cook - CATPA Chair-Department of Revenue, Linda Tacinas - American Family Insurance, Carole Walker-Rocky Mountain Insurance Association, Jerry Cole - CATPA Vice Chair - LoJack Corporation, John Levi - Geico Insurance and Sheriff Dave Weaver-Douglas County Sheriff's Office

PROVEN SUCCESS & FACTS

Several of the auto theft task forces already existed thanks to previous CATPA funding from 2003 through 2008. These task forces have proven success at reducing auto theft. These accomplishments since the program was initiated in 2003 are recorded through statistical collection based on number of automobile thefts and recovery value.

- In 2003, Colorado ranked 9th as the most likely state to have a vehicle stolen.
- In 2003, 22,669 vehicles were stolen in Colorado.
- In 2004, there was a 13% increase in motor vehicle theft. Motor vehicle thefts accounted for 38% of the major offenses reported. In 2004, the CATPA Board concluded the first grant cycle by awarding over \$500,000 in grants.
- In 2005, automobile theft offenses climbed to an all time high. The number of thefts in 2005 was 559.5 compared to the national rate of 416.7. The estimated value of the vehicles reported stolen was a total of \$156,269,495. With just six months of grant awards for theft

operations, 153 stolen vehicles were recovered worth nearly \$1.8 million. The Task Forces had arrested 86 adults and six juveniles.

- In 2006, the grants awarded began to take effect with Task Forces in operation, education programs being provided to the public, and the development of partnerships between agencies. The presence of a focused grant initiative lead to the first reduction of automobile theft in Colorado. A 20% decrease was recorded from 2005 to 2006 while the nationwide auto thefts only decreased 3.4%.
- In 2007, grant funding provided directly to the cause has provided a steady decline of automobile theft and other associated crimes. Voluntary contributions from Insurance Companies in the amount of \$797,000 were awarded in grants. The grants resulted in 368 felony arrests with \$11,313,933 value in recovered vehicles.
- In 2008, Colorado was ranked 23rd among states for automobile thefts.

- In 2008, The Colorado legislature amended the CATPA statute to include insurance companies to fund CATPA with a one dollar per insured vehicle annual assessment.
- In 2009, the first fees were collected on January 1st. The CATPA Board awarded over \$2 million in grant funds on June 1, 2009. The significant accomplishment was the solicitation and award of grant funds to establish full-time Task Forces in Colorado, update equipment to current technology necessary to meet the needs of law enforcement, provide training statewide to insurance investigators, law enforcement and prosecutors and develop a public awareness on automobile theft.
- Spring 2009 CATPA grant funds have bolstered ongoing efforts and generated new multi-jurisdictional collaboration statewide.

Current Auto Theft Statistics

Preliminary 2008 crime data released by the FBI in January indicates that 2008 will post a nation-wide decline in vehicle theft when final numbers are released in the fall. If the preliminary figure of -12.6% holds, it will be the largest single year percent drop in thefts since 1999. In 2008, 12,740 motor vehicle thefts were reported according to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, 2007 down 22.1%. Using the FBI's average valuation of \$6,755 per stolen vehicle, this amounts to an estimated \$86 million in losses during 2008.

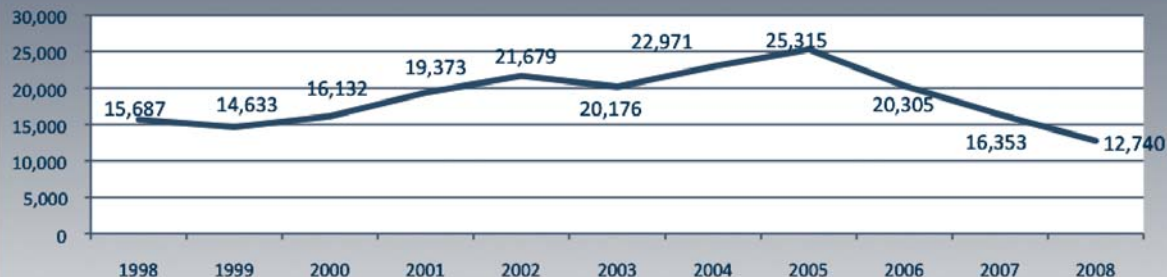
The National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) reports that 2008 marked the nation's fifth consecutive year of declining vehicle thefts in the United States.

By Donna Leinwand, USA TODAY

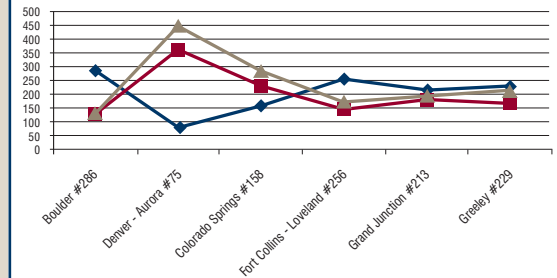
Reported vehicle theft has fallen to a 20-year low even as the number of vehicles on the road has doubled, as manufacturers install sophisticated anti-theft technology in cars and police target organized car-theft rings.

(Find full article at www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-10-18-vehicle-thefts_N.htm)

Motor Vehicle Thefts in Colorado as reported by the CBI



Number of Vehicle Thefts per 100,000 People



City Ranked out of Study of 361 Metropolitan Statistical Areas for Number of Vehicle Thefts (with #1 ranked as most thefts)

2008 Auto Theft Rate per 100,000 people

2007 Auto Theft Rate per 100,000 people

Each year, the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) studies Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs), or major metropolitan areas to compare the number of vehicle thefts per 100,000 people.

2008 Colorado Quick Facts

- 12,740 Motor Vehicle Thefts
- Approx. \$6,755 per Stolen Vehicle
- Approx. \$86 Million in Losses Annually
- Over 11 years - 205,000 cars stolen totaling approx. \$1.4 Billion in losses
- 2003 – 2008 decrease of 9,959 in vehicle thefts totaling approx. \$67 Million

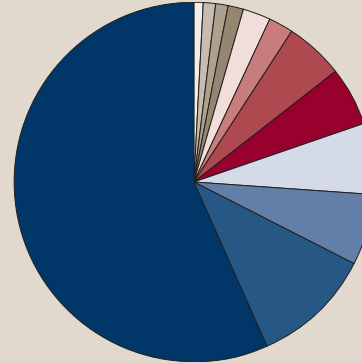
GRANT AWARDS

Grants are awarded two times a year. A completed application form needs to be submitted to CATPA by the applicant. Deadline for application is a set date occurring in late fall and early spring. Grant awards will be based on an evaluation of all proposals by the CATPA Board Members. The evaluation includes a scoring process on the merits of the grant application and the grantee presentations. Scores are based on the ability of the applicant to define the criteria of the “project description” in writing and by presentation. These criteria are defined in Colorado State Statute 45-2-112 and identified in the CATPA application under “project description”.
www.csp.state.co.us/CATPAprog.html

Quick Reference Stats:

- 2007-2008 22.1% decline
- #1 Stolen Car is the 1995 Honda Accord
- Counties in order of most stolen vehicles –Denver/Aurora, Pueblo, Colorado Springs, Grant Junction, Greeley, Fort Collins and Boulder.
- 43 Partners participating in CATPA

Grant Awards 2009



	Metropolitan Auto Theft Task Force \$2,232,440
	Denver Metropolitan Auto Theft Team \$420,386
	Attorney General Auto Theft Prosecution Initiative \$256,068
	Western Colorado Auto Theft Task Force \$245,039
	Southern Colorado Motor Vehicle Theft Task Force \$216,042
	South Area Auto Theft Task Force \$199,220
	Regional Auto Theft Team of N. Colorado \$96,400
	Commerce City / Thornton / Adams County Auto Theft Prevention \$92,975
	IAATI Conference 2009 \$49,650
	Multi-Jurisdiction Project to Reduce Automobile Theft \$47,604
	Operation Southwestern Auto Theft Prevention \$45,975
	Project Einstein Colorado Auto Theft Investigator Training \$26,175

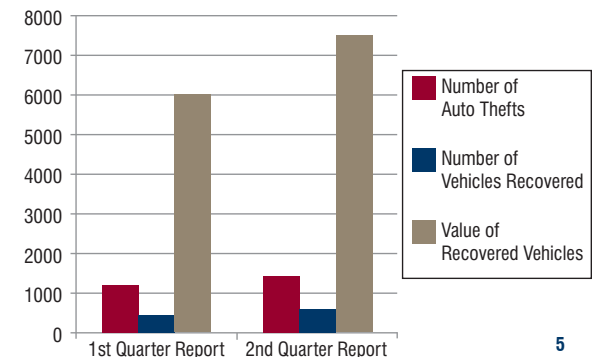
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The CATPA 2009 Grant Award program funded \$4 million dollars. There are 43 participating partners and eight Auto Theft Task Forces throughout Colorado.

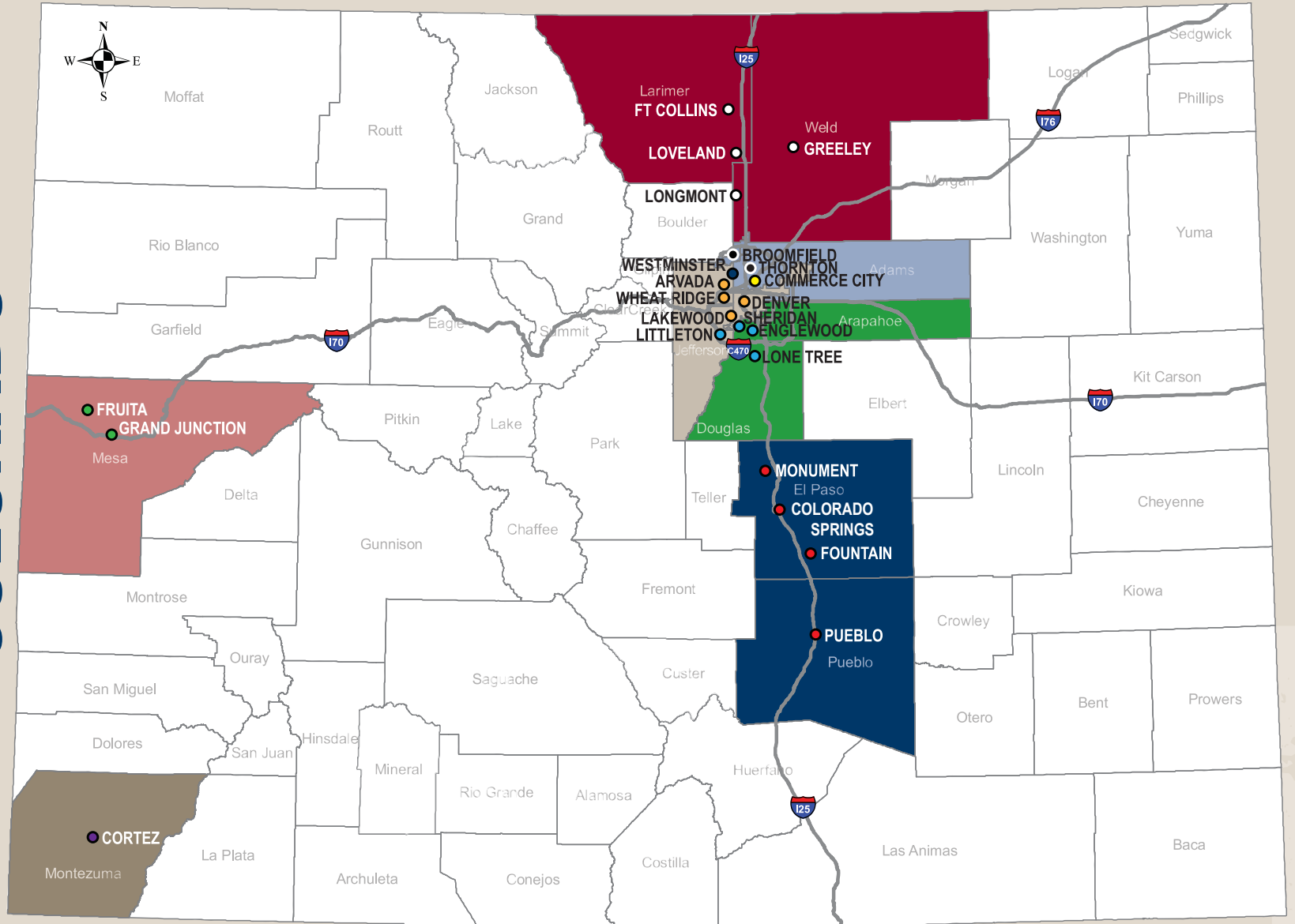
Grants provided Funding to:

- Establish the 1st full-time Task Force
- Seven part-time Task Forces geographically distributed from Montezuma to Fort Collins
- Purchase of proven high technology equipment including Automobile License Plate Readers, GPS and Bait Cars
- Staffing for Education
- Scholarships for Training

Grant Statistics



COLORADO



43 PARTICIPATING PARTNERS IN THE PROGRAM

Attorney General's Auto Theft

Prosecution Initiative
Colorado Department of Law-Office
of the Attorney General
29 Agencies throughout Colorado

CATI - IAATI Conference 2009 and Project EINSTEIN Training

Colorado Auto Theft Investigators (CATI)
29 Agencies throughout Colorado

Commerce City/Thornton/Adams County Auto Theft Prevention Program

- Commerce City Police Department
- Thornton Police Department
- Adams County Sheriff's Department

DMATT - Denver Metropolitan Auto Theft Team

- Colorado State Patrol
- Lone Tree Police Department
 - Douglas County Sheriff's Office
 - Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office
 - Broomfield Police Department
 - Thornton Police Department

JRATT - Metropolitan Auto Theft Task Force

- Lakewood Police Department
- City of Arvada Police Department
- Wheat Ridge Police Department
- Jefferson County Sheriff's Office
- City and County of Denver
- First Judicial District

Multi-Jurisdiction Project to Reduce Automotive Theft

- City of Westminster Police Department
- City of Arvada Police Department
- Broomfield Police Department

NRATT - Regional Auto Theft Team of Northern Colorado

- Colorado State Patrol
Colorado Department of Revenue/Auto Industry
- Fort Collins Police Department
 - Greeley Police Department
 - Larimer County Sheriff's Department
 - Longmont Police Department
 - Loveland Police Department
 - Weld County Sheriff's Department

Operation Southwestern Auto Theft Prevention

- Montezuma County Sheriff's Office
- Cortez Police Department
 - Colorado State Patrol

SCRATT - Southern Colorado Motor Vehicle Theft Task Force

- Colorado Springs Police Department
- Pueblo Police Department
- Pueblo County Sheriff's Office
- Monument Police Department
- Fountain Police Department
- El Paso County Sheriff's Office
- National Insurance Crime Bureau

South Area Auto Theft Task Force

- Littleton Police Department
- Sheridan Police Department
- Englewood Police Department

WCATT - Western Colorado Auto Theft Task Force

- Grand Junction Police Department
- Colorado State Patrol
- Mesa County Sheriff's Office
- Fruita Police Department
- Mesa County District Attorney's Office

AUTO THEFT PREVENTION TIPS

The National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) and law enforcement recommend a layered approach to preventing auto theft.

1. Use Common Sense

- Park in well lit areas.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Report anything suspicious and avoid suspicious looking people.
- Lock your doors.
- Close your windows completely.
- Take your keys out of the car.
- Never leave your car running unattended - not even for a minute.
- Remove all items from the car or hide them from view.

2. Visible or Audible Anti-Theft Devices

- Audible alarm system
- Steering wheel locks/Brake pedal lock
- Steering column collars
- Theft deterrent decals
- Tire/locks/Tire deflators
- Wheel locks/Brake locks
- Window/VIN etching
- Micro Dot Marking

3. Vehicle Immobilizer

- Smart keys have computer chips that must be present to start the car.
- Fuse cut-offs
- Kill-switches
- Starter, ignition and fuel disablers -
- Wireless, ignition authentication

4. Tracking System

- Install a tracking system that alerts police or a monitoring service when the vehicle is reported stolen.

5. Avoid Carjacking

- Drive with windows rolled up and doors locked.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- When stopped at a signal, leave enough space between you and the next car to be able to drive away if approached.
- Do not enter your car if someone is loitering. Seek help.
- Be alert at drive-up ATM's.
- If all else fails, don't resist. Your life is more important.

Report fraud and vehicle theft to your local law enforcement, as well as the National Insurance Crime Bureau at 1-800-TEL-NICB (1-800-835-6422). Your call to NICB can be anonymous and you may be eligible for a reward.



TOP

COLORADO'S TOP TEN STOLEN VEHICLES IN 2008 (NICB)

1. 1995 Honda Accord
2. 1999 Honda Civic
3. 1999 Jeep Cherokee/Grand Cherokee
4. 1990 Toyota Camry
5. 1995 Acura Integra
6. 1997 Ford F150 Pickup
7. 1995 Saturn Si
8. 1997 Dodge Ram Pickup
9. 2002 Ford Explorer
10. 1995 Dodge Neon

MEDIA COVERAGE

Colorado Auto Thieves Are Put on Notice

By Carole Walker, Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association and Bear Kay, Colorado State Patrol

34 Colorado Law Enforcement Agencies receive grants to fund joint efforts to combat auto theft.

Police Raid Finds Stolen Cars at Wheat Ridge Home

By Kirk Mitchell, *The Denver Post* 8/22/09

Revvng and clanging were heard nightly.

Man Wanted by Jeffco Task Force is Arrested

By Kieran Nicholson, *The Denver Post* 11/10/2009

New Cameras Shoot Plates, Looking for Stolen Cars

Last year more than 1,100 cars were stolen in the Pike Peaks Regions, one out of every three of them was never recovered.

Posted: 7:08 PM Jun 29, 2009

Reporter: Jason Aubry/KKTU 11 News, Colorado Springs, CO



CATPA



Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority | 710 Kipling Street, Suite 404 | Lakewood, CO 80215