



# Santa Clara Police

## Training Flash



### Stolen Vehicle Reports



**When we respond to, investigate, and complete a stolen vehicle report, officers should verify the following and note each in the report:**

- Does the RP or RO know the suspect or have suspect information?
- Did the RP or RO give the suspect permission to use the vehicle?
- Are all keys accounted for?
- Verify who is the actual victim of the stolen vehicle.
- Verify the approximate worth of the vehicle.

At a patrol level, we **should not** ask the RP or RO if they want prosecution for the stolen vehicle when we initiate the stolen vehicle report or when we recover the stolen vehicle. This will be handled by the Detective Bureau during follow up investigation.

**When we locate a stolen vehicle, officers should contact the registered owner and document the following:**

- The condition of the vehicle, including ignition (take photos and book into Evidence.com)
- Attempt to obtain a Mirandized statement from the suspect.

When SCPD Communications and/or Records Unit checks the license plate through the Stolen Vehicle System, they should focus on confirming the vehicle's status and any hazards of which officers should be aware. Informing the initial patrol officer if the RP or RO wants prosecution is not pertinent to the high-risk vehicle stop and does not need to be transmitted on the radio.

#### **TRAINING POINT:**

When we investigate any felonious crimes, we do not need to seek a citizen's arrest at the initial investigation.

**Training Flash:**  
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