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# **FRAUD ALERT!**

From the Office of Denver District Attorney Mitch Morrissey

## **Think Before You Pump**

Be aware of your surroundings when filling your tank. There is an increase in break-ins while individuals are at the gas pump. Thieves pull up on the opposite side of vehicles from where drivers are pumping gas. While drivers are occupied, thieves take purses, wallets, and other valuables from unattended vehicles. In most cases, stolen credit cards are used immediately before owners realize the theft has occurred.

### **Be cautious:**

- Don't leave purses or other valuables on the front seat of vehicles.
- Lock car doors – even when remaining in close proximity to the vehicle.
- Always be aware of your surroundings.

These quick “snatch and run” crimes can be prevented if we just take a moment to think before we pump.

### **Here are a few additional safety tips related to driving:**

- Travel on well-lighted, busy streets.
- Keep doors locked and windows up.
- Do not leave purses on the seat and keep packages in the trunk.
- Avoid stopping to aid disabled motorists. Report it to the police instead.
- If you have car trouble, use a cell phone to call for assistance. Raise the hood and stay in the car with the doors locked. If someone tries to enter the car, sound the horn.
- Be aware of surroundings when entering a garage. Close the garage door before getting out of your car. Have your keys ready to enter your home before exiting the garage.

**Denver DA's Fraud Line: 720-913-9179**

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