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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

It's Vehicle Theft Prevention Month!

Midland, MI (July 16, 2020) – Great Lakes Safety Training Center (GLSTC) is nonprofit organization located in Midland, Michigan, with a mission of “Preparing People to Live and Work Safely Every Day.” GLSTC is proud to share that July is National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month. Many of us are not doing as much traveling these days, so we may have let down our guard. Now is a good time to review the statistics and prevention tips.

Vehicle theft is serious business. In the United States in 2018:

- Nearly three quarters of a million vehicles were stolen in the United States, costing owners more than \$6 billion.
- Passenger cars made up more than 50% of all stolen motor vehicles.
- Only 59.3% of all stolen motor vehicles were recovered.
- Of all motor vehicles stolen, 74.8% were passenger vehicles.
- There were 748,841 motor vehicles stolen.
- A motor vehicle was stolen every 42.2 seconds.

Here is the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's list of the top 10 states with the most motor vehicles stolen (such as passenger cars, trucks, and multipurpose vehicles) in 2018.

1. California
2. Texas
3. Florida
4. Georgia
5. Washington
6. Illinois
7. Colorado
8. Montana
9. Tennessee
10. North Carolina

Even though Michigan did not make the list above, it is important to take these steps to help prevent motor vehicle theft:

- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Park in well-lit areas.
- Do not leave the area while your vehicle is running.
- Do not leave your keys in your vehicle.
- Always stow away your valuables.

Please visit www.glstc.org for more safety tips or to view upcoming safety classes.