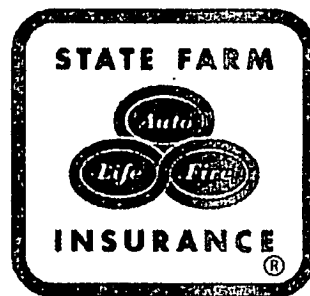


In recognition of  
The City of Sacramento  
for its efforts to reduce auto theft,  
State Farm Insurance Companies hereby pledges  
\$2,000  
to support the Auto Theft Prevention Program



Michael Livingston,  
Vice President-Operations

August 17, 1999

## Auto Theft Rankings for the State of California

### Top 10 Populated Cities Ranked on the Basis of Auto Thefts per 100,000 Residents

Ranking	City	Population	Auto Theft	Auto Theft per 100,000 Resident
1.	Fresno	396,843	7,166	1810
<b>2.</b>	<b>Sacramento</b>	<b>383,921</b>	<b>6,260</b>	<b>1634</b>
3.	Oakland	376,696	4,987	1326
4.	San Francisco	754,239	7,403	982
5.	Los Angeles	3,541,309	35,218	995
6.	Long Beach	445,404	4,231	951
7.	San Diego	1,182,653	10,810	915
8.	Santa Ana	298,570	2,681	900
9.	Anaheim	289,645	1,972	682
10.	San Jose	840,529	3,935	468

\*\*\* Figures based on 1997 FBI Statistics

## The City of Sacramento

### Auto Theft Rate

- In 1997, there were 6,260 automobiles stolen in Sacramento.
- In 1997, one automobile was stolen in Sacramento every 84 minutes.
- Of the top 10 populated cities in California, Sacramento ranked second based on auto thefts per 100,000 residents.
- Of the top 10 populated cities in California, an average of 1050 autos were stolen per 100,000 residents, in Sacramento it was 1634.
- Sacramento is 56% higher than the average for the top 10 populated cities in California.
- In comparing Sacramento to the City of San Jose, Sacramento's auto theft rate is 63% higher than that of San Jose even though San Jose's population is more than 2.2 times that of Sacramento.

\*\*\* Figures based on 1997 FBI Statistics

# The Stolen Auto Verification Effort (S.A.V.E)

## And How it Works

The S.A.V.E. program is an effort to combat the high rate of auto thefts in the City of Sacramento. Statistics have shown that automobiles are less likely to be stolen with a S.A.V.E. decal affixed to the car's window.

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Citizens will voluntarily give the Sacramento Police Department permission to stop a vehicle with a S.A.V.E decal during specific hours of the day when the car is usually not in operation. If a vehicle is observed during these hours, the officer will stop the car and determine ownership of the vehicle. If the operator can not produce proof of ownership, or legal permission to operate the car, the individual will be detained for further investigation. The program can also be used for abandon vehicles.

To Enroll in the Program:

- Interested citizens will register their car with the Sacramento Police Department.
- The owner of the car will show proof of ownership.
- The owner will sign a waiver.
- The office would affix decals in the side rear passenger windows.

## **BENEFITS OF THE S.A.V.E PROGRAM**

Citizens participating in the program will most likely see the following benefits:

- A vehicle with a decal will be less likely to be stolen.
- A registered vehicle will not be as likely to be broken into.
- If stolen, the vehicle will be recovered sooner and with less damage.
- If the vehicle is tampered with or struck by another vehicle while parked, the owner can be contacted quickly by Police.

## **COST OF THE PROGRAM**

The Sacramento Police Department has received a grant of \$2,000 from State Farm Insurance for the initial start-up cost of the program.

## **STATISTICS FROM THE S.A.V.E. PROGRAM**

- In New York City, an automobile with a S.A.V.E. decal was 33 times less likely to be stolen than a car without one.
- In Philadelphia, an automobile with a S.A.V.E. decal was 10 times less likely to be stolen than a car without one.
- As of June of 1992, 17,000 vehicles were enrolled in the S.A.V.E. program in Philadelphia. Of those vehicles, 20 were reported stolen and 17 were recovered almost immediately.
- In 1999, there were 32,376 vehicles registered in the S.A.V.E. program in Philadelphia.

S.A.V.E. DECAL



PROJECT S.A.V.E. WAIVER

My name is: \_\_\_\_\_

I reside at: \_\_\_\_\_ " \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I am the registered owner of the following vehicle:

YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	COLOR
REGISTRATION:	STATE	TAG #	VIN NUMBER

I voluntarily participate in PROJECT S.A.V.E., a program being conducted by the Philadelphia Police Department to decrease the rate of auto theft.

I have received DECAL # \_\_\_\_\_ from the \_\_\_\_\_ Police District. Decals will be placed on the vehicle described above on the right and left rear side windows. This program has been explained to me, and I have received information from the Police Department about this project and understand how PROJECT S.A.V.E. operates. By participating in this program I am stating to the Philadelphia Police Department that my vehicle is not usually operated between the hours of 12:00AM and 6:00AM.

If the police should observe a person operating my vehicle during the above hours (12:00AM - 6:00AM), they will reasonably suspect that the person operating the vehicle is doing so without my permission. Under these conditions, I want the Police to make an Investigation Stop of the vehicle to check for ownership.

I also realize that persons operating my vehicle during the stated hours with my permission are subject to being stopped by the Police for investigation. It is my responsibility to warn these individuals prior to giving them my vehicle that police may stop the vehicle. In these instances, Police action will include the necessary precautions taken to protect officers when approaching a potentially stolen vehicle with occupants.

I also understand that I must remove the decals if I withdraw from the program, or prior to sale or transfer of the vehicle. I will also notify the \_\_\_\_\_ police district of any change. Further, I will notify the \_\_\_\_\_ police district of any change of address or phone number while a participant of this program.

I understand the advantages and disadvantages of volunteering to participate in the S.A.V.E. PROGRAM.

I HEREBY CONSENT AND AGREE TO THE ABOVE PROCEDURES, AND I HAVE FULLY READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL THE INFORMATION IN THIS WAIVER AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE PROCEDURES CONTAINED THEREIN.

Signature of Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_ Badge # \_\_\_\_\_

# Project S.A.V.E. Registration

The 22nd Police District is having their S.A.V.E. Program kickoff at the Thriftway Supermarket located in the Strawberry Square Shopping Center at 28th and Dauphin Streets on Saturday, January 19th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Project S.A.V.E. stands for Stolen Auto Verification Effort which has been a success in Center City and other neighborhoods and now is established in the 22nd and 23rd Police Districts.

Project S.A.V.E. involves placing a bright yellow plastic decal that resembles a badge on the rear side of the car windows. This authorizes the police to stop your car between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m. to check on the driver or the ownership of the car. You must possess a valid drivers license and current car registration

in order to enroll in this program. There is a \$2.00 fee for the enrollment in the program which goes to future printing expenses for new stickers.

The 22nd District will maintain an up to date file of all participants which will include name, address and telephone number in order to notify owners more quickly if the car is stolen and recovered.

This program is patterned after a similar program that was initiated in New York City and the program began in 1989 in the 6th District of Philadelphia and expanded to all police districts.

For those residents in the 23rd Police District, the registration will be held on Saturday, January 19th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Progress Plaza Shopping Center, 1501 North Broad Street.



*Playing it safe* THE PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE 1/25/91

Neighborhood motorist Ethel Barnes receives her Project S.A.V.E. (Stolen Auto Verification Effort) sticker (a bright yellow plastic decal for rear side of car window) from 22nd Police District Crime Prevention Officer Arthur Bley during the S.A.V.E. Program kickoff at Strawberry Square Saturday.



# Inside **FIN**

## Fighting Auto Theft in Pennsylvania

Your car is one of your most important assets — perhaps your biggest financial investment after your home. That's why you'll want to have the best possible insurance protection for your automobile in the event of theft, vandalism, or other mishap.

But maintaining quality insurance coverage isn't the only way to protect yourself. You can also take steps to help prevent these kinds of incidents. Consider the problem of auto theft. (*Tips on theft prevention appear on the other side of this newsletter.*)

Auto theft is one of the leading causes of auto insurance premium increases, and it remains a significant problem in Pennsylvania: 56,517 vehicles were stolen in the state in 1989 alone.

That's why we're glad to see new efforts being made in Pennsylvania to fight back. In recent years the police departments of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh have implemented tough programs designed to combat auto theft in their cities.

Pittsburgh has a program called Operation B.A.T. (Beat Auto Theft), which was established in 1989. That program is similar to Philadelphia's very successful Project S.A.V.E. (Stolen Auto



In 1989, more than 56,000 cars were stolen in Pennsylvania.

Verification Effort), which has been in place since 1988 and now has nearly 10,000 participants.

Project S.A.V.E. provides members with a bright yellow, badge-shaped decal to be placed in the vehicle's rear window. The decal acts as a deterrent to potential thieves and authorizes police to stop and verify the ownership of any car displaying the decal seen on the road between midnight and 6 a.m. — the hours when most auto thefts occur. Drivers can obtain the decal at their local police district by showing proof of vehicle ownership and signing a waiver stating that they don't normally drive between

midnight and 6 a.m.

Statistics from both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh show that those participating in the programs have experienced very low auto theft rates. For example, of the 9,480 vehicles enrolled in the Project S.A.V.E. program, only 11 have been stolen since the program's inception, and nine of those vehicles were recovered almost immediately.

If you live in Philadelphia or Pittsburgh, we urge you to contact your local police district to enroll in this worthwhile program.

# Police widen effort to curb auto thefts

By Bill Miller  
Inquirer Staff Writer

Hoping to combat a record number of automobile thefts in the city, Philadelphia police are significantly expanding Project S.A.V.E., a fledgling crime prevention program that is meant to make cars less attractive to thieves.

Project S.A.V.E., which stands for Stolen Auto Verification Effort, is going citywide, police officials said. In the last 16 months, the program has been a success in Center City and other neighborhoods, police said.

About 30 community relations officers met Wednesday at the Police Administration Building and vowed to start a vigorous sign-up campaign for Project S.A.V.E. in their neighborhoods. Among other promotions, the police intend to tape a series of public service commercials.

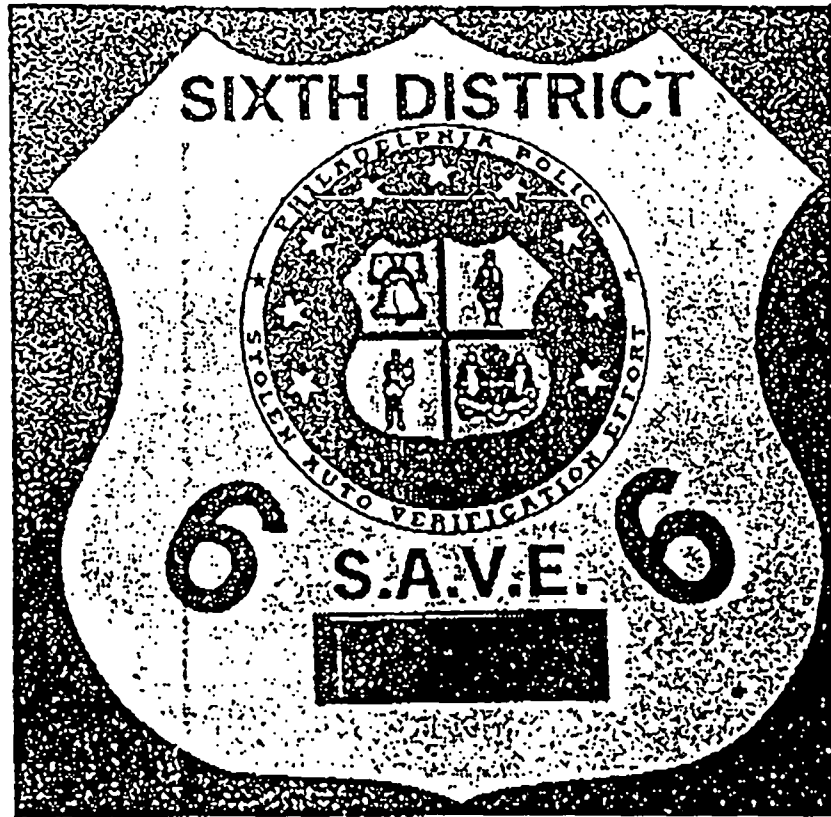
Instead of a burglar alarm or locking device, Project S.A.V.E. relies upon a simple bright yellow plastic decal, 3½ inches from top to bottom and from side to side, that resembles a badge. By displaying this decal in the rear side windows of their cars, people can successfully shoo away crooks, police said.

Here's how the program works: Citizens obtain decals at their police districts after showing automobile registration papers and signing waivers that state they normally don't use their cars between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m. The waivers authorize police to stop their cars if driven during those hours.

Participants who must drive in the early-morning hours are subject to being stopped by police and asked to produce car registration papers.

Car owners get two decals, one for each side rear window. Police ask for a donation of \$2 to cover the expenses of printing the stickers. Police districts maintain files with participants' names, addresses and telephone numbers to notify owners quickly if their cars turn up stolen.

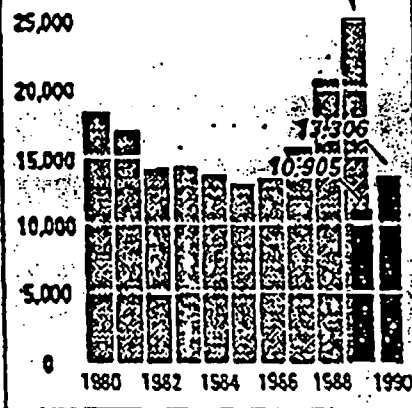
Police Capt. David Morrell, who heads the department's Community Relations Division, said the idea behind the program was that thieves would avoid cars with the decals because they don't want to risk being stopped and caught. He said most of the city's car thefts take place in the early-morning hours.



A Sixth District plastic decal that is used in Project S.A.V.E.

## Vehicle thefts in Phila.

Black bars show numbers for the first six months of the year.



The Philadelphia Inquirer

similar venture in New York City, began in April 1989 in Center City and since has expanded to the Northeast and many other neighborhoods.

Yesterday's announcement means that police will offer Project S.A.V.E. in all 23 of the city's patrol districts. For the first time, residents will be able to sign up by visiting the First, Third, Fourth and 17th Districts in South Philadelphia and the 22d and 23d Districts in North Philadelphia.

Of 5,500 Philadelphians who are using the decals, only eight have had their cars stolen, police said. And six of those cars were recovered in one

case, police found a car even before the owner realized it had been stolen.

Based on Morrell's statistics, only one of every 687.5 Project S.A.V.E. cars were stolen. That's much better than the citywide average. Last year in Philadelphia, for example, one car was stolen for every 66 city residents.

"Those figures are pretty remarkable," Morrell said yesterday. "Now we want to get as many people in the program as we possibly can."

Police said 25,043 vehicles were reported stolen in Philadelphia last year, an all-time high. This year's totals are running higher than last year's. If trends continue, more than twice as many vehicles will be reported stolen this year than were reported taken in 1985.

The number of arrests for vehicle thefts also is up — 5,400 people last year — although police clear a smaller percentage of auto theft cases than for any other major crimes. Only 13 percent of the vehicle thefts reported in Philadelphia last year were solved, police said.

The Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania, which has blamed car thefts for contributing to high insurance premiums, has supported Project S.A.V.E. with more than \$2,000 in start-up grants to the police. Federation officials said yesterday that they would contribute additional money to help the six remaining police districts gather materials and promote the program. The federation helped

# Police Effort to S.A.V.E. Cars Goes Citywide

By Paul Marynlak

Daily News Staff Writer - E1-73

City police think they finally have the antidote for the car theft epidemic sweeping Philadelphia.

The department's Stolen Auto Verification Effort (S.A.V.E.) — which allows police to stop participating motorists without cause between midnight and 6 a.m. — has shown such impressive results since its April 1989 debut in Society Hill that the program now has gone citywide.

For a \$2 fee, S.A.V.E. participants get a decal for the rear window of their car from their local police district. The decal authorizes officers to make the early-morning stops.

Of the 8,800 Philadelphians who have been "S.A.V.E.d" so far, only 11 have lost their cars to thieves, police records show. Even more impressive, says S.A.V.E. coordinator Capt. David Morrell, is that nine of them were recovered within days.

"I think our results show that if people sign up for S.A.V.E., they are signing up for a strong deterrent to thieves," said Morrell, a community affairs division supervisor.

The most recent official citywide figures, for the first six months of this year, show 13,006 cars were reported stolen and 10,989 were recovered. During all of 1989, police recorded 25,000 motor vehicle thefts and 18,616 recoveries.

The S.A.V.E. program is based on a similar one that has operated in New York City for only a few years. The New York police were so enthusiastic

about the program that we figured it was worth a try here," Morrell said.

Insurance companies also are impressed with S.A.V.E.'s results.

Spokeswoman Nora Liero said the Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania has given city police two grants totaling \$5,500 to help promote the program and that many of the group's 200 member insurers plan special mailings to policyholders about the program.

"Our interest, of course, is that we would hope this would be one way to combat the problem of auto theft," Liero said.

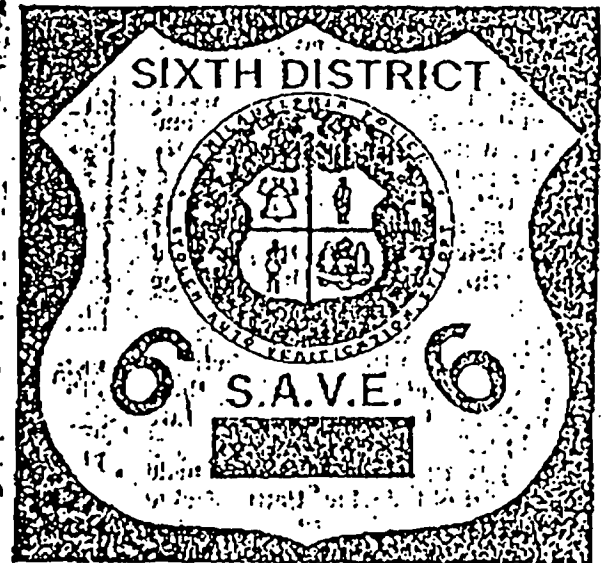
If enough motorists sign up, Liero said, insurers may offer insurance premium discounts to S.A.V.E. enrollees as they do for motorists in the New York program.

"Right now, there aren't enough motorists enrolled here," she said.

Although police normally are not allowed to stop motorists without probable cause, Morrell said he is unaware of any legal problems raised by S.A.V.E. and suggests that's because "the owners do sign a pretty comprehensive waiver form."

But that also may explain why more motorists, particularly younger drivers, have not enrolled in the program, he added.

"I think a lot of young people are hesitant to sign up because many tend to stay out late," he said. "And if you like to stop out for a few drinks, you're probably not going to be inclined to enroll in a program that allows police to stop you anytime they see you after midnight."



This emblem drastically reduced car theft.

Still, he added, that kind of police action has its rewards — as one unidentified Manayunk woman recently learned.

"The police stopped her car and found it had been stolen," Morrell recalled. "When they went to her house to tell her they found her car, she didn't even know it had been stolen. She was sleeping and the car was stolen while she was in bed."



# PROJECT S.A.V.E.



## STOLEN AUTO VERIFICATION EFFORT

### INTRODUCTION

#### PURPOSE:

Project S.A.V.E. is a program being conducted by the Philadelphia Police Department, in an effort to decrease the amount of vehicles that are stolen in Philadelphia. This program is not a guarantee that a vehicle registered in the program will not be stolen but a vehicle that has a decal affixed to the window will less likely, be a target for the criminal, thus less likely to be stolen.

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

Interested citizens will voluntarily give the Police permission to stop their vehicle during certain hours of the day when the vehicle is not usually being operated. To become part of this program a citizen will be required to register His/Her vehicle with the Police Department through the local Police District. A registration form will be completed and the information confirmed with the Department of Motor Vehicles in Harrisburg Pa. Once the information is confirmed, (2) decals approximately 4"X4" in size will be placed on the vehicle. These decals are numbered to correspond with the registration form. The owner of the vehicle will also be required to sign a WAIVER giving the Police permission to investigate the operator and vehicle if stopped during the times specified. If the vehicle is observed being operated during the hours selected for the program, the vehicle will be stopped by the Police and an investigation conducted regarding the ownership of the vehicle. If the operator can not produce proof of ownership and does not know the name and address of the owner He/She will be taken to the nearest Police District for further investigation and the owner contacted. When proof is presented upon being stopped the information will be verified and the operator will be able to continue to operate the vehicle.

#### BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS:

Citizens participating in this program will probably realize the following benefits;

- (a) A vehicle with a decal will be less of a target to be stolen.
- (b) A registered vehicle will not be as likely to be broken into.
- (c) If stolen the vehicle will be recovered sooner and with less damage.
- (d) If the vehicle is tampered with or struck by another vehicle while parked, the owner can be contacted quickly by Police.

## ADDITIONAL PREVENTIVE MEASURES:

In addition to registering your vehicle in the program, the following preventive measures should be considered for protecting your vehicle:

- (a) Installation of a auto alarm.
- (b) Use of a Anti-Theft collar for the steering wheel column.
- (c) Use of a Steering Wheel/Brake pedal locking bar.
- (d) Installation of a kill switch, for either the gas line or ignition switch.
- (e) When possible park the vehicle in a well lit area.
- (f) Do not leave personal identification in the vehicle.
- (g) When possible do not leave keys with parking attendants.
- (h) Keep all valuables locked in the trunk and out of view.
- (i) Do not leave your vehicle running and unattended even for a few minutes.
- (j) When registered in the S.A.V.E. program, advise the Police if there is a change in any of the information on file.

CITIZEN COOPERATION IS A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE SUCCESS OF THIS PROGRAM.