



February 21, 2023 to February 28, 2023

POLICE CRIME REPORT

KIA & HYUNDAI AUTO THEFT TREND

Do you own a Kia of model years 2011-21 or a Hyundai of years 2016-21? Does it start a steel key instead of a push-button ignition?

Law enforcement and national [media outlets](#) have recently confirmed a common design flaw in these vehicles that allows auto thieves to easily hotwire them with a screwdriver or USB cable. Thieves have quickly become aware of this flaw through social media, particularly on TikTok.

Perpetrators exploiting this flaw typically force entry through the vehicle's window and use the stolen car for dangerous and costly joyriding.

The [BBC reports](#) that these Korean automakers have released a free software patch to help protect their drivers.

If you have a crime or concern to report, you can call the Rockville City Police Department at:

Non-Emergency: 240-314-8900

Emergency: 9-1-1

We provide a weekly report of serious crime to serve as an overview of police activity occurring within City Limits. Please note this summary does not include every reported incident that has occurred during this time frame and that the words "arrested" and "charged" do not imply guilt.

ARRESTS

02/25/23, a male, age 25, was arrested for theft and a fire code violation in the 400 block of Redland Boulevard.

INCIDENTS

Unit block of Church Street, an unknown subject damaged the window to a building, but did not make entry, sometime between 2:30 PM on 02/17/23 and 1:00 PM on 02/21/23.

14900 block of Shady Grove Road, an unknown subject displayed a black handgun from under his jacket and demanded money from a business's employee, only to flee empty-handed as the employee called police at 8:20 PM on 02/21/23. **The subject is described as:**

Black male—20-to-22 years old, dark complexion, wearing a black ski-mask and black puffy jacket

200 block of Richard Montgomery Drive, someone took an unsecured Trek bicycle from a bike-rack between 7:35 AM and 2:35 PM on 02/23/23.

14700 block of Southlawn Lane, two masked subjects driving a black Infiniti coupe stole catalytic converters from two Nissan vans at 2:42 AM on 02/24/23.

1600 block of Rockville Pike, an unknown subject stole two items of clothing in her bag at 1:53 PM on 02/23/23.

1700 block of Rockville Pike, an unknown subject was following female customers of a store while touching himself between 8:00 PM and 10:00 PM at 02/20/23.

700 block of Rockville Pike, an unknown subject concealed moisturizer in his jacket and only pretended to pay when confronted at 12:56 PM on 02/23/23. **The subject is described as:**

Black male, 6 foot, 2 inches tall, slim-build, with black dreadlocks and full beard, last seen wearing a white hoodie

1600 block of East Gude Drive, someone stole a catalytic converter from a Nissan van between 2:00 AM and 9:30 AM on 02/24/23.

14900 block of Shady Grove Road, an unknown masked subject entered a business with a black rifle, announced a robbery, took cash, and then fled at 11:52 PM on 02/25/23. **The subject is described as:**

Black male—6 foot tall, thin-build, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and black jeans

Unit block of Gibbs Street, an unknown subject struck a passerby who had been attempting to stop a fight. The passerby was then followed by another unknown subject who brandished a black handgun and simply said to him, "hey" at 2:50 AM on 02/25/23. **The subjects are described as:**

Hispanic male—6 foot tall, wearing a Lamar Jackson Baltimore Ravens jersey

Hispanic male—6 foot tall, heavy build

2100 block of Baltimore Road, officers with Mt. Airy Police recovered a Ford van that had been stolen via a popped ignition between 2:30 PM on 02/26/23 and 5:00 AM on 02/27/23.



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The Rockville City Police Department is a Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency.
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