## **Vehicle Drug Deals**

The Milwaukee Police Department is currently involved in an extensive operation to abate street-level (car-to-car) drug sales in District 3. Law enforcement has identified several areas within the district where these type of drug sales are prevalent. As part of this abatement operation, the Milwaukee Police Department will be contacting vehicle owners if their vehicle was in a neighborhood at the time and location of an alleged car-to-car drug transaction. In order to be successful, we need your help!

Here are step-by-step instructions on what you can do to help:



## What to do when you observe a suspected vehicle drug deal

- Stay Safe! Do not place yourself in danger by making yourself visible.
- Call! Call 911 if you believe a crime is in progress or the non-emergency number (933-4444, Press 9) for other concerns.
- Follow Up! Callbacks from the police are difficult in these situations, so in order for us to follow up with you, please e-mail the following information to your Community Prosecution Unit Coordinator (find your Community Prosecution Unit Coordinator's e-mail in the table below):
  - Date of suspected vehicle drug deal
  - o Time of suspected vehicle drug deal
  - Location of suspected drug deal
  - License plate number(s)
  - Description of car(s)
  - o **Description** of person(s) if possible
  - If you are at a safe and secure vantage point, take a picture and include the image as an attachment in your e-mail.



## What to expect from the Milwaukee Police Department

- Because these transactions are over in a matter of seconds, a squad arriving in time is unlikely.
   However, squads in the area will be alerted to be on the lookout for the vehicles.
- Callbacks from the police are difficult because often there is nothing substantial to report. For example:
  - License plates, and vehicles, are often stolen and then abandoned.
  - If apprehended, the dealer only has cash but no evidence to allow arrest or prosecution.
  - Buyers are reluctant to cooperate with police to identify their source.
- Remember, it takes time. It is important to follow up with your Community Prosecution Unit in addition to calling in the crime. This will provide police with information that can be used to identify trends and piece together prosecutable cases.

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