



## **Communication Service**

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(MEDIA STATEMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE STATION COMMANDER, BRIGADIER POTGIETER)

### **Vehicle Hi-jackings – 28 June 2010**

Vehicle Hi-jackings are showing an increase and residents are urged to be very careful when driving late at night. When leaving or returning to your residence be observant towards any suspicious people or vehicles in and around your street or property.

If confronted by hijackers;

The aim is to survive the crime. Accept that you are going to lose a valuable possession, your vehicle.

- Do not lose your cool, threaten or challenge the hijacker.
- Do exactly as told by the hijackers. Surrender your vehicle and move away. Remember property can be replaced, but not lives.
- Don't reach for your purse or valuables. This may threaten the hijackers and you may get hurt. Leave everything in the vehicle.
- Even in your shocked and terrified state, try to listen to and understand exactly what the hijackers want from you.
- Keep your hands still and visible to the hijacker, to give him or her the assurance that you do not intend fighting back. Whatever movement you make, do it slowly.
- If you have a baby sleeping in the back seat, which they may not have noticed, tell the attackers.
- Phone the police immediately after the hijackers have left the scene.
- Know the full description (color and make) and registration number of your vehicle.

Hi-jacking incidents that occurred the past week:

At about 20:30 the complainant was returning from the gym. When she approached her townhouse complex in Weltevreden Park, she noticed a vehicle coming from behind. As she opened the gate of the complex, three unknown armed men surrounded her vehicle, blocking her from going into the complex. The suspects instructed the complainant to get out of her vehicle and not to scream. The suspects fled in the complainant's vehicle and in their vehicles which were a black BMW and a white Golf GTI with unknown registration numbers.

In the early hours of Sunday morning at about 03:30 two ladies were hijacked in a parking area in a shopping centre in North Riding. It is alleged that two unknown males hijacked the vehicle, and took the ladies with them. At some stage the vehicle stopped and one of the ladies was raped. The ladies were then dropped off in Robertsville, JHB. On Sunday morning three suspects were arrested and the vehicle was recovered after the suspects used the vehicle to attend a funeral. One firearm was also recovered.

ISSUED BY: WARRANT OFFICER KAREN JACOBS, SPOKESPERSON FOR SAPS HONEYDEW

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