

## **1998 ANNUAL REPORT**

# **ILLINOIS MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION COUNCIL**

A private and public partnership effectively combat-  
ing motor vehicle theft and related crimes in Illinois  
since 1991

**George H. Ryan**, Governor  
**Sam Nolen**, Chairman

**State of Illinois**

George H. Ryan, Governor

**Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council**

Sam Nolen (Chairman), *Director, Illinois State Police*

Ronald R. Brown, *State Farm Insurance Companies*

Michael Burnside, *Allstate Insurance Company*

John W. Harris, *Chief, Springfield Police Department*

Linda Laurich, *American Family Insurance*

Hon. Paul A. Logli,

*State's Attorney of Winnebago County*

Hon. Richard A. Devine,

*State's Attorney of Cook County*

Terry G. Hillard, *Superintendent,*

*Chicago Police Department*

Hon. Jesse White, *Illinois Secretary of State*

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## To the Governor and the Members of the Illinois General Assembly:



The Council's partnership of the public and private sectors is effectively fighting vehicle theft in Illinois. I'm proud to present this annual report documenting our accomplishments in 1998. In this report, we'll describe the challenges we've faced and the positive results we've achieved in 1998 and how we envision our future.

The grant funds awarded by the Council have dramatically improved motor vehicle theft law enforcement by establishing task forces, investigative teams, and other special efforts around the state. These programs have generated impressive results:

- 9,542 criminal investigations initiated
- 17,423 audits of vehicle-related businesses conducted
- 5,267 persons arrested
- 1,763 convictions obtained
- Almost 11,000 stolen and contraband vehicles recovered, worth nearly \$76 million

In short, the \$39 million granted by the Council from 1991 through 1998 has resulted in nearly \$189 million from recovered stolen vehicles and reduced theft rates—a return of nearly \$5 for every dollar spent.

I want to acknowledge Terry Gainer, former director of the Illinois State Police and chairman of the Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council since its inception, for his contributions to the Council. In 1998 he resigned to take a position with the Washington Metropolitan Police Department. His contributions to the success of the Council and its programs were significant and appreciated.

It's often been said that the best predictor of future performance is past performance. As the Council plans its strategies for the year 2000 and beyond, we expect to continue the strategies that work, while recognizing that the funding for Council programs is limited.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Nolen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sam Nolen, Chairman

## **The 1998 Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council**

In 1998 the Council was composed of 11 representatives from law enforcement and the insurance industry.

**Terrance W. Gainer (Chairman), Director,  
Illinois State Police**

Mr. Gainer was appointed chairman of the Council in 1991, the year he became director of the Illinois State Police. The 20-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department also served as a deputy director of the state police, the state's deputy inspector general, and a special assistant to the U.S. secretary of transportation. He currently chairs the Vehicle Theft Committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. In May 1998, Mr. Gainer resigned to take a position with the Washington Metropolitan Police Department. Gene P. Marlin replaced him.

**Gene P. Marlin (Chairman), Acting Director,  
Illinois State Police**

Mr. Marlin was appointed acting director of the Illinois State Police and chairman of the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council in May 1998. He began his career with the state police in 1963 as a trooper assigned to patrol duties in northern and central Illinois. Mr. Marlin served in the Division of Administration Personnel Bureau from 1975 to 1985. He was named first deputy director of the agency in 1991 and served as second in command until his appointment as acting director.

**Mr. Michael Burnside,  
Allstate Insurance Company**

Mr. Burnside has been employed at Allstate Insurance Company since 1974. He currently serves as external communications consultant for the Illinois region. He was appointed to the Council in November 1998, replacing Jay Puccinelli.

**Mr. Ronald R. Brown,  
State Farm Insurance Companies**

Mr. Brown has 28 years of service with State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company and was named vice president-operations in Bloomington in 1994. He was appointed to the Council in 1996.

**Hon. Richard A Devine,  
State's Attorney of Cook County**

Mr. Devine served as first assistant to State's Attorney Richard M. Daley from 1980 to 1983. His record of public service has included president of the Chicago Park District, assistant to Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley, and member of numerous commissions, boards, and committees on the legal profession. Before being elected state's attorney in 1996, Mr. Devine was a partner in the Chicago law firm of Shefsky Froelich & Devine Ltd.

**Chief John W. Harris,  
Springfield Police Department**

Chief Harris has 24 years of police experience. He has been the chief of police of Springfield for the last four years. Before that, he was chief of police of Pleasant Hill, Illinois, and assistant chief of police in Tucson, Arizona. He was appointed to the Council in 1996.

Terry G. Hillard,  
**Superintendent, Chicago Police Department**  
A 30-year veteran of the Chicago Police Department, Mr. Hillard served as commander of the 6th District (1991–1993) and deputy chief of Area Two (1993–1995). He was appointed chief of the Detective Division in June 1995. From 1979 to 1984 he was assigned to the security detail for Chicago Mayors Jane Byrne and Harold Washington. Mayor Richard M. Daley appointed Mr. Hillard superintendent of police on Feb. 18, 1998.

Ms. Linda Laurich,  
**American Family Insurance**  
Ms. Laurich is government affairs counsel for American Family Insurance. Her responsibilities include lobbying the Illinois General Assembly, developing and implementing legislative strategies, and serving as corporate liaison to the Illinois Department of Insurance and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. She was appointed to the Council in November 1998.

Hon. Paul A. Logli,  
**State's Attorney of Winnebago County**  
Mr. Logli was appointed state's attorney of Winnebago County in 1986, having since been elected to the office three times. His legal career also includes an associate judgeship and private practice. He was appointed to the Council in 1993 and is also a board member of numerous community and civic organizations.

Mr. Jay Puccinelli,  
**Allstate Insurance Company**  
Mr. Puccinelli brings to the Council more than 20 years of personal lines insurance claims experience with Allstate Insurance Company. He currently directs all aspects of Allstate's casualty-related claims in Illinois. He was appointed to the Council in 1993. In November 1998 he was replaced by Michael Burnside.

Hon. George H. Ryan,  
**Illinois Secretary of State**  
After a distinguished 10-year legislative career, Mr. Ryan was elected secretary of state in 1990; he was elected to his second term in 1994. He also served as lieutenant governor for eight years and has been a statutory member of the Council since 1991. Elected governor in 1998 Mr. Ryan was replaced by the newly elected secretary of state, Jesse White.

Mr. Donald L. Sauzek,  
**Country Companies**  
Mr. Sauzek started as a field claims representative in 1973 for Country Mutual Insurance. He is currently the manager of material damage claims directing all aspects of physical damage claims in 10 states. He was appointed to the Council in 1996.

### **About the Council**

In 1991 the General Assembly established the Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, an 11-member coalition uniquely comprising law enforcement and insurance industry officials, which has worked tirelessly to put the brakes on vehicle theft, insurance fraud, and related crimes.

The Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Act requires insurance companies to pay into a special trust fund an amount equal to \$1 for each private passenger automobile insured for physical damage coverage. This amount, collected and administered by the Council, totals approximately \$5.4 million each year. Funds are primarily designated for law enforcement programs that increase the investigation and prosecution of vehicle theft-related crimes.

### **Vehicle thefts continue to decline**

The steady rise in reported thefts from 1988 to 1991 gave way to an overall decrease of 28 percent from 1991 to 1998, according to the Illinois State Police, Uniform Crime Reporting Program. More than 21,000 fewer vehicles were stolen during 1998 than in 1991, which equates to more than \$113 million saved.

### **Most stolen vehicles recovered**

According to the Illinois State Police, most of the vehicles reported stolen were recovered in 1998. Nearly 80 percent of the 52,293 stolen vehicles in Illinois were recovered within 14 days, 20 percent faster than the national average.

### **Parts market audited**

Council-funded programs have successfully attacked the "black market" for stolen vehicles and contraband parts. Special auditing teams scrutinized the forms that track essential parts from buyers and sellers to determine whether the purchases were for other than legitimate rebuilding purposes. In 1998

more than 2,500 audits of vehicle-related businesses were conducted, bringing the statewide total more than 17,000 since 1992. An estimated \$2.5 million in stolen vehicles have been recovered by the audit teams to date and 228 persons arrested. The word is out that dealing in stolen parts isn't worth it in Illinois.

### **Public awareness campaign continued**

The Park Smart public awareness program urging drivers to protect their vehicles from theft continued. At the Illinois State Fair, the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council's display featured the remains of a stolen motorcycle and a stripped sport utility vehicle. In addition, a VIN etching demonstration was conducted, and brochures and key chains were distributed.

Radio and television ads during the auto show reminded people to "Park Smart," and in late 1998 the holiday campaign, "Don't Make a Gift of Your Car," was repeated. Park Smart billboards were placed in Chicago's Northwestern and Union train stations. Commercials were aired on WLS, WMAQ, and WGN radio in the Chicago area, as well as other radio stations throughout Illinois, reaching millions with the message.

### **1998-1999 statewide theft prevention strategy**

The Council adopts a statewide strategy on the basis of information accumulated at public hearings, solicited from written input, and captured through data analyses describing the nature and extent of the motor

vehicle theft problem and the areas in the state where the problem is the most severe. From this the Council then formulates which types of programs are eligible to receive support.

In the late summer of 1997, the Council convened panel hearings over two days to solicit comments from the public. In all, six diverse panels comprising concerned professionals and citizens discussed topics



*A stripped vehicle and the remnants of a recovered stolen motorcycle provided by American Family Insurance were on display at the Council's exhibit at the 1998 Illinois State Fair.*

### PARK SMART TIPS

- INSTALL ANTITHEFT DEVICES
- ROLL UP YOUR WINDOWS
  - LOCK YOUR DOORS
  - TAKE YOUR KEYS
- DON'T LEAVE VALUABLES IN OPEN VIEW IN YOUR CAR
- AT NIGHT, PARK IN A WELL-LIT AREA

such as law enforcement approaches, insurance fraud, and partnerships with vehicle-related businesses. This input was invaluable in setting the Council's strategic path for 1998.

#### The partners contributed to the efforts

Programs funded by the Council are truly cooperative efforts. Most of the trust funds awarded to date have been used to fund law enforcement personnel. In 1998, 125 staff, including investigators, special agents, auditors, and the assistant state's attorney, as well as legal and clerical staff, were funded by the Council's grant programs. Thirty-five unfunded staff were also assigned to the programs. In all, 160 personnel focus their attention on combating vehicle theft and related crimes each day in Illinois.

Nearly all the participating agencies contribute "matching" funds to the programs; without this match, the programs could not continue. The Illinois State Police and the Secretary of State's Police are not reimbursed for the salaries of the seven task force directors and 11 other agents they assigned to the programs. The National Insurance Crime Bureau is not compensated for the three agents assigned to the programs. Many agencies have contributed office space and furnishings, surveillance equipment and vehicles, radios, and consumable supplies, even if they did not contribute personnel to the program.

As a further contribution from the insurance industry, more than two dozen insurance companies have lent more than over 213 recovered vehicles since 1991. These are used by law enforcement in program operations, particularly surveillance and undercover work. The Council spends about \$40,000 per year to prepare and maintain the entire fleet of vehicles for safe and reliable use. Without the generosity of the insurance companies, the funded programs would have to lease vehicles, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars that can now be directed to antitheft operations.

#### Targeting program areas

In 1998 the Council funded 16 grant awards totaling \$6.1 million. As in previous years, the majority of awarded funds, about 90 percent, were provided for

law enforcement programs that increase investigations and prosecutions of vehicle theft, insurance fraud, and related crimes.

The anti-vehicle theft grants awarded in 1998 were in four broad areas:

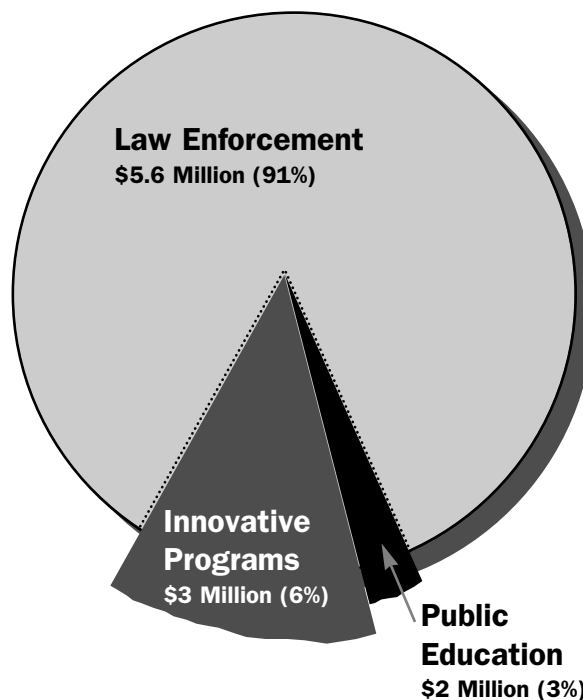
*Law enforcement*—Multijurisdictional task forces, special investigative activities, and specialized prosecution efforts

*Infrastructure supporting law enforcement*—Collection, analysis, and sharing of criminal intelligence information regarding motor vehicle theft; and training for patrol officers and investigators covering vehicle theft and insurance fraud

*Public education, awareness, and prevention*—Park Smart program

*Innovative programs*—Vehicle for Change program

### PROGRAM AREAS FUNDED IN 1998



## 1998 Programs Funded

The Council funded 16 programs in 1998. The purpose, activities, and results of each program are summarized below as tallied in early 1999. Unless otherwise noted, awards were made for calendar year 1998, based on the strategy adopted by the Council.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

#### South Suburban Auto Theft Interdiction Network

**Grantee:** Illinois State Police

**Type of Program:** Multijurisdictional vehicle theft task force

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$396,280

Consisting of six personnel, including officers assigned from the Illinois State Police, the Calumet City Police Department, the Dolton Police Department, the Harvey Police Department, the Chicago Heights Police Department, and the National Insurance Crime Bureau, this task force serves the south suburban Cook County metropolitan area. The unit, known as SSATIN, employs numerous theft detection techniques, such as surveillance and informant development.

SSATIN utilizes "sting" operations and database tracking of offender information to identify chop shops and retagging operations, as well as thieves who specialize in the theft of heavy equipment or the use of fraudulent documents. In 1998, SSATIN conducted 138 investigations that resulted in 116 arrests and 28 convictions. The unit recovered 144 stolen vehicles worth an estimated \$2.4 million.

#### DuPage County Auto Theft Task Force

**Grantee:** County of DuPage, Sheriff's Police Department

**Type of Program:** Multijurisdictional vehicle theft task force

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$373,082

The DuPage County Auto Theft Task Force, known as BATTLE (Beat Auto Theft Through Law Enforcement), is composed of the following law enforcement agencies: Illinois State Police; DuPage County Sheriff's Office; Woodridge, Naperville, and Winfield Police Departments; and DuPage County State's Attorney's Office.

In 1998, BATTLE conducted 116 investigations,

resulting in 62 arrests and seven convictions. In the same year, 32 individuals were brought to trial on motor vehicle-related charges from 1997, resulting in 30 convictions. The remaining cases are awaiting trial. BATTLE also conducted 46 extensive vehicle inspections on suspected stolen vehicles. The unit recovered 90 stolen vehicles worth an estimated \$1.1 million dollars.

#### Metro East Auto Theft Task Force

**Grantee:** City of Collinsville, Department of Police

**Type of Program:** Multijurisdictional vehicle theft task force

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$597,403

Unique problems face the southern Illinois task force outside the East St. Louis metropolitan area. With 11 local police officers on special assignment, the task force battles vehicle thieves who cross the Missouri-Illinois border with impunity. The task force thwarts the thieves' efforts by working closely with the police departments of St. Louis and St. Louis County. The task force is headed by a Secretary of State, Police lieutenant and concentrates its efforts in Madison and St. Clair counties. The task force includes officers from the Collinsville Police Department, the East St. Louis Police Department, the Cahokia Police Department, the Fairview Heights Police Department, the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Police Department, the St. Clair County State's Attorney's Office, the Madison County State's Attorney's Office, the St. Clair County Sheriff's Office, the Madison County Sheriff's Office, the Secretary of State Police, and the Illinois State Police.

In 1998 the Metro East Auto Theft Task Force opened 483 case investigations, made 207 arrests resulting in 198 prosecutions, and recovered 234 vehicles.

#### Kane County Auto Theft Task Force

**Grantee:** City of Elgin, Department of Police

**Type of Program:** Multijurisdictional vehicle theft task force

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$334,293

This task force, known as KCAT, serves Kane County and includes seven personnel from the St. Charles Police Department, the Elgin Police Department, the Aurora Police Department, the Kane County Sheriff's Office, the Kane County State's Attorney's Office, and the Illinois State Police.



In 1998, KCAT launched 99 investigations, resulting in 64 arrests and 25 convictions. In addition, the task force recovered 92 vehicles worth an estimated \$1 million.

#### **Lake County Auto Theft Task Force**

**Grantee:** City of Waukegan, Department of Police

**Type of Program:** Multijurisdictional vehicle theft task force

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$244,292

The Lake County Auto Theft Task Force, or LCAT, operated with seven personnel assigned from the Illinois State Police, the North Chicago Police Department, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the city of Waukegan, and the Lake County State's Attorney's Office and served all of Lake County. In 1998, LCAT initiated 46 investigations, resulting in 91 arrests and 24 convictions. The task force also recovered 166 vehicles worth an estimated \$1 million. This program closed down on December 31, 1998.

#### **Northern Illinois Auto Theft Task Force**

**Grantee:** County of Winnebago, Sheriff's Police Department

**Type of Program:** Multijurisdictional vehicle theft task force

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$377,212

This task force headed by a lieutenant with the Secretary of State's Department of Police covers Winnebago and Boone counties. Personnel are assigned from the Rockford Police Department, the Loves Park Police Department, the Cherry Valley Police Department, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office, the Boone County Sheriff's Office, and the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office.

In 1998 the task force launched 218 investigations, resulting in 152 arrests and 90 convictions. The Northern Illinois Auto Theft Task Force also recovered 369 stolen vehicles worth an estimated \$1.6 million.

#### **Tri-County Auto Theft Task Force**

**Grantee:** City of Joliet, Department of Police

**Type of Program:** Multijurisdictional vehicle theft task force

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$659,674

This task force includes personnel assigned from the Joliet Police Department, the Illinois State Police, the Will County Sheriff's Office, the Bolingbrook Police Department, the Grundy County Sheriff's Office, the

Kankakee County Sheriff's Office, and the Romeoville Police Department. It serves the Joliet metropolitan area, including Will, Kankakee, and Grundy counties.

During 1998 the task force initiated 402 new investigations, of which 15 were insurance fraud or fraud-related. These 402 total investigations resulted in 172 arrests, of which 33 were for an insurance fraud related crime involving a vehicle. Of those arrested,

144 were adults and 28 were juveniles. Those arrested were charged with a total of 241 violations. The two assigned assistant state's attorneys disposed of 331 cases during the year, of which 305 were by conviction, resulting in a 92 percent conviction rate.

The unit recovered 318 vehicles worth an estimated \$1.6 million dollars. Four of the recovered vehicles were involved in fraud cases.

#### **SPECIALIZED PROSECUTION**

##### **Motor Vehicle Theft Vertical Prosecutions Unit**

**Grantee:** Office of the Cook County State's Attorney

**Type of Program:** Vehicle theft prosecutions unit

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$576,137

In addition to supporting prosecutors dedicated to each task force, the Council funds an eight-person prosecution unit comprising of attorneys, investigators, and legal and clerical staff to "vertically" prosecute targeted vehicle theft cases and related crimes in



*Al Pace, former project coordinator for the Secretary of State Audit Teams, talks about salvage titles. Mr. Pace retired from the Secretary of State's Office in 1998 after 6 1/2 years as project coordinator.*

Cook County. Four senior attorneys prosecute career auto thieves, chop shop operations, insurance fraud, organized street gang operations, carjacking, and the illegal activities of rebuilders and scrap dealers. Each attorney is assigned to a case from charging through disposition, a method considered superior for prosecuting complex cases. Two investigators augment police work by tracking documents, locating corroborating witnesses, and conducting detailed background investigations.

In 1998, 24 investigations were opened, and 100 vehicle theft-related cases were referred for prosecution. Of the 147 cases disposed of in 1998 (which include some cases from 1996 and 1997), all but two resulted in guilty pleas or findings of guilty. One hundred and thirty-eight defendants were sentenced to prison or jail; 29 were given felony probation; and 11 were sentenced to boot camp or received other sentences. Restitution and court costs were also ordered in the amount of \$82,447.

### **SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES**

#### **Secretary of State Special Audit Teams Program**

**Grantee:** Illinois Secretary of State, Department of Police

**Type of Program:** Statewide auditing of salvage yards, rebuilders, repairers, and scrap processors

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$1,554,687

This program, unique in the nation, focuses on policing the "marketplace" for stolen vehicles and parts through the use of special audit teams. The four teams are located in Cook/Will, Winnebago, Peoria, and Madison/St. Clair counties and travel throughout Illinois, monitoring salvage yards, rebuilders, repairers, and scrap processors for compliance with regulations governing record keeping of vehicle and vehicle part transactions. The teams comprise 25 non-sworn personnel and are supervised by four administrators.

In-depth, intensive audits are designed to

- Reduce the number of stolen vehicles disposed of through salvage yards, rebuilders, repairers, and scrap processors
- Reduce the number of stolen and contraband essential vehicle parts sold to and through these businesses

- Eliminate chop shop, retagging, and other organized theft operations in the state
- Track the flow of salvage titles and force the conversion of them to junking certificates when appropriate

In 1998 the teams performed 2,539 audits on 48,307 vehicles and 10,972 essential vehicle parts. In all, 44 stolen vehicles and 116 contraband vehicles were recovered; with an estimated value of \$445,384. Of the 35,135 essential parts inspected, 6 were determined to have been stolen and 29 were contraband for an approximate value of \$53,150.

This work of the Audit Teams also resulted in

- Nine arrests
- Issuance of 36 warning tickets
- Revocation of four licenses
- Issuance of 521 violation letters
- Twenty-two licensees surrendering their authorities
- Inspection of 5,173 certificates of titles and 2,478 salvage certificates

### **INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORTING LAW ENFORCEMENT**

#### **Motor Vehicle Theft Intelligence Clearinghouse**

**Grantee:** Illinois State Police

**Type of Program:** Statewide motor vehicle theft information clearinghouse

**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$240,983

The Motor Vehicle Theft Intelligence Clearinghouse provides focused statewide analytical support for motor vehicle theft task forces and the Illinois law enforcement communities. The unit comprises three criminal intelligence analysts and two support personnel and is directed by a sergeant assigned by the Illinois State Police.

During 1998 the Clearinghouse received 364 requests for information, crime analysis, mapping, charting, case assistance, and the production of strategic products. These requests included 168 inquiries from auto theft task forces; 128 from the Illinois State Police; 2 from federal agencies; and 66 from other criminal justice entities. The requests varied from simple name checks and title histories to detailed motor vehicle theft regional assessments and lengthy analyses of auto theft conspiracy cases.

**Chicago Police Department Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Program****Grantee:** City of Chicago, Department of Police**Type of Program:** Information and technology support**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$101,999

This program, launched in 1993, assists the Chicago Police Department with additional personnel and equipment to combat motor vehicle theft in Chicago. The department reports significant improvements in information processing and dissemination. In 1998 the Council provided funds for four data entry operators in the following sections:

*Field Inquiry Section.*

This section is responsible for verifying all information on stolen and recovered vehicles entered into LEADS and other computer data systems.

*Auto Pound Section.*

This section conducts confidential vehicle identification number investigations.

*Auto Theft Section.*

This unit conducts crime analysis and provides investigative support.

**Insurance Vehicle Expense Program****Grantee:** Illinois Anti-Car Theft Committee**Type of Program:** Maintenance of insurance industry-loaned vehicles**Amount awarded for 1997 and 1998:** \$90,000

Extended to December 31, 1998

To support Council-funded law enforcement efforts, insurance companies have loaned vehicles for use by Council-funded programs. To date, nearly two dozen insurance companies have loaned 213 vehicles. The vast majority of these vehicles are recovered stolen vehicles obtained from the insurance salvage pools in the Chicago metropolitan area. About three-quarters of the loaned vehicles require repair. Funds are used to repair these often damaged vehicles as well as to obtain required Illinois titles and license plates. The Council, through the Illinois Anti-Car Theft Committee, has designated trust funds for repairing or purchasing parts for these vehicles to make them safe for grantee's operation. Most loaned vehicles are used by the task forces for surveillance and undercover activities. Funds that would have been used to

purchase or lease new vehicles at many times the cost are being used instead to fund other grant expenses.

To date, expenditures from the fund total nearly \$250,000. Approximately \$11,800 of this amount has been for the cost of licensing and registering vehicles. There are currently approximately 85 vehicles in use. The Council spends about \$40,000 per year to prepare vehicles for use. The estimated cost of leasing 85 vehicles for the year is more than \$700,000.

**Motor Vehicle Theft Investigation Training Program****Grantee:** Illinois State Police, Training Academy**Type of Program:** Statewide officer motor vehicle investigation training**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$87,213

Officer training is crucial to the success of vehicle theft detection and prosecution. This Illinois State Police-administered program developed and conducted five 36-hour auto theft investigator courses, targeting Council-funded vehicle theft task forces: three of the courses were in the Chicago area, one near Springfield, and one in Grayslake. Forty-eight officers participated in the trainings. Overall, the training received favorable remarks from the participants and the instructors. To assist in the teaching of the program, Illinois State Police officers, National Insurance Crime Bureau task force officers, and Secretary of State Police officers were utilized as instructors.

**PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION****Park Smart****Grantee:** Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority**Type of Program:** Public awareness and education**Amount awarded for 1998:** \$200,000

Funding from October 1, 1998, to June 30, 1999

The Park Smart campaign continued its activities during 1998. The campaign focused on making citizens aware of ways they can "Park Smart" and protect their car by following a few simple tips. At the Illinois State Fair, the Council's exhibit included a stripped sports utility vehicle and a stolen motorcy-

cle. Brochures and key chains were also distributed as reminders to follow the "Park Smart" tips. During the 1998 auto show, radio and television public service announcements were aired, further reinforcing the message.

The holiday campaign theme was "Don't Make a Gift of Your Car." It appeared on Park Smart billboards in Chicago Northwestern and Union train stations.

### **INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS**

#### **Vehicle for Change**

**Grantees:** Office of the Cook County State's Attorney; Metropolitan Family Services

**Type of Program:** Alternative sanctions program for youth

**Amount awarded for 1998 for Cook County State's Attorney:** \$43,131

**Amount awarded for 1998 for Metropolitan Family Services:** \$304,101

The Vehicle for Change program targets first-time juvenile offenders between the ages of 13 and 16 charged with PSMV (possession of a stolen motor vehicle) and other auto-related crimes; (Criminal Trespass to Vehicle and Burglary to Auto). Working



*Park Smart billboards were displayed in Chicago's Union and Northwestern train stations.*

together, the Office of the Cook County State's Attorney and Metropolitan Family Services provide the necessary screening, selection, and services to the teenagers. The program diverts them from the court system into an intensive nine-month counseling program, with an eight week group session (Teen Reach Program) within the nine months.

Each client is assigned a counselor, and the counseling sessions are conducted at least once a week. Counseling begins with two or three assessment sessions with both the client and a parent. Each client is assigned a case manager. The case manager visits the client's school and communicates with the school regularly about the client's attendance and performance in school.

There were 134 minors referred to the Vehicle for Change program in 1998. Of the 134 referred, 69 were enrolled, 35 graduated, 24 never appeared; 17 were dropped, and 9 were removed for subsequent arrests. Over half of the 69 minors enrolled are currently fulfilling their obligation to complete in 1999.

**MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION TRUST FUNDS - SFY 1991 TO DATE\***

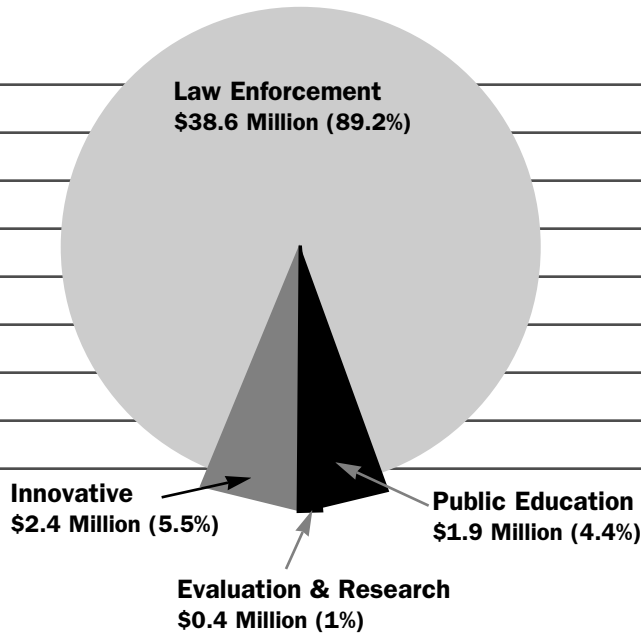
	SFY 1991	SFY 1992	SFY 1993	SFY 1994	SFY 1995	SFY 1996	SFY1997	SFY1998	SFY1999 <sup>††</sup>	TOTALS
<b>REVENUE</b>										
<i>Insurance company payments</i>	3,679,729	6,477,645	5,187,604	5,269,417	5,306,781	5,427,486	5,554,590	5,599,576	0	42,502,828
<i>Beat Auto Theft Program revenue</i>	0	0	0	0	1,590	4,625	1,120	†250	0	7,585
<i>Interest on trust fund</i>	0	253,170	328,170	280,204	310,915	263,376	222,737	240,659	142,577	2,041,808
<b>Subtotal</b>	3,679,729	6,730,815	5,515,774	5,549,621	5,619,286	5,695,487	5,778,447	5,840,485	142,577	44,552,221
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>										
<i>Transfers from trust fund</i>	0	(100,000)	0	(736)	0	(11,441)	0	(12,456)	0	(124,633)
<i>Administrative expenditures</i>	(8,068)	(205,021)	(328,170)	(399,627)	(461,547)	(408,141)	(329,393)	(268,400)	(75,753)	(2,484,120)
<i>Grantee expenditures</i>	0	(70,000)	(4,944,103)	(6,757,497)	(8,227,976)	(5,779,684)	(5,515,961)	(5,277,495)	(2,087,907)	(38,660,623)
<b>Subtotal</b>	(8,068)	(375,021)	(5,272,273)	(7,157,860)	(8,689,523)	(6,199,266)	(5,845,354)	(5,558,351)	(2,163,660)	(41,269,376)
<b>REVENUES VS. EXPENDITURES</b>										
	3,671,661	6,355,794	243,501	(1,608,239)	(3,070,237)	(503,779)	(66,907)	282,134	(2,021,083)	3,282,845
<b>TRUST FUND BALANCE</b>										
	3,671,661	10,027,455	10,270,956	8,662,717	5,592,480	5,088,701	5,021,794	5,303,928	3,282,845	

<sup>†</sup>SFY = State Fiscal Year, July 1 through June 30. <sup>††</sup>July 1 through December 31, 1998

# Statistical Snapshots

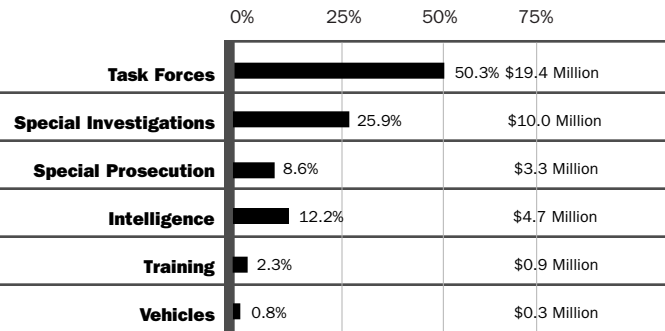
## PROGRAM AREAS FUNDED

1992-1998



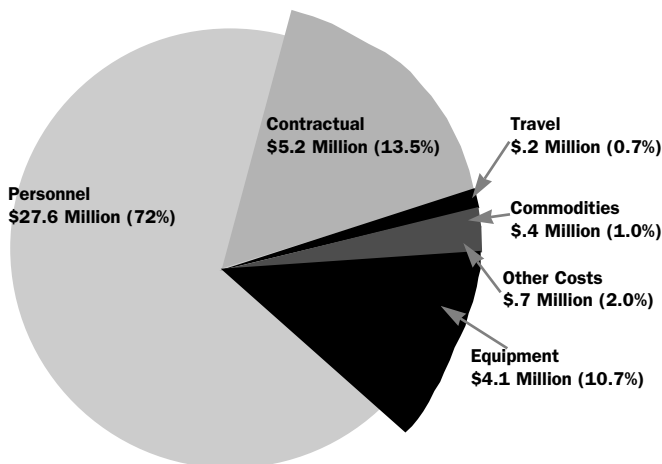
## LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNDING BY ACTIVITY

1992-1998

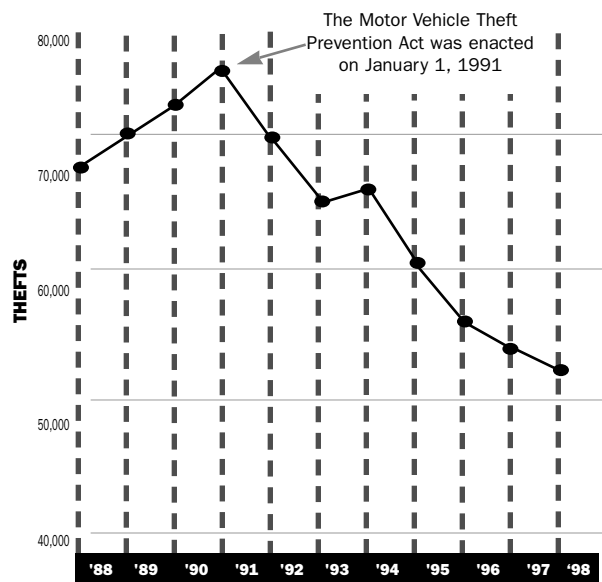


## GRANTEE EXPENDITURES

1992-1998



## ILLINOIS VEHICLE THEFTS



### PROGRAM RESULTS

9,542 criminal investigations initiated  
 17,243 audits of vehicle-related businesses conducted  
 5,267 persons arrested  
 1,763 convictions obtained  
 11,000 stolen and contraband vehicles recovered

## 1999 Programs Funded

### Funds allocated to continue the strategy

In the fall of 1998 the Council allocated funds for the continuation of programs in 1999. For 1999 the Council chose to eliminate funding for the Lake County Auto Theft Task Force and agreed to fund a new program, the Chicago Police Department's Data

Analysis Team, which is expected to enhance auto theft intelligence capabilities of the Chicago Police Department. The Council has made the following allocations of trust funds in connection with the 1998-1999 statewide strategy.

### FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR 1999

PROGRAM NAME	IMPLEMENTING ENTITY	1999
South Suburban Auto Theft Task Force	Illinois State Police	\$473,491
Kane County Auto Theft Task Force	Elgin Police Department	\$352,187
Tri-County Auto Theft Task Force	Joliet Police Department	\$694,025
Metro East Auto Theft Task Force	Collinsville Police Department	\$594,477
Northern Illinois Auto Theft Task Force	Winnebago County Sheriff's Office	\$405,940
DuPage County Auto Theft Task Force	DuPage County Sheriff's Office	\$389,542
Motor Vehicle Theft Intelligence Clearinghouse	Illinois State Police	\$256,592
Motor Vehicle Theft Specialized Prosecution Unit	Cook County State's Attorney's Office	\$582,502
Motor Vehicle Theft Investigation Training Program	Illinois State Police	\$93,212
Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Program	Chicago Police Department	\$100,197
Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Data and Analysis Team	Chicago Police Department	\$207,538
Insurance Vehicle Expense Fund Program	Illinois Anti-Car Theft Committee	\$50,000
Special Audit Teams Program	Secretary of State, Department of Police	\$1,509,208
Park Smart (October 1, 1998 ending June 30, 1999)	Illinois Anti-Car Theft Committee	0*
Vehicle for Change Program	Metropolitan Family Services	\$303,466
Vehicle for Change Program	Cook County State's Attorney's Office	\$46,585
<b>TOTAL FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR 1999 CALENDAR YEAR</b>		<b>\$6,058,962</b>
* Continued with funds remaining from 1998		

## ***The Year 2000 Outlook***

The costs of supporting programs continue to increase each year, but the trust funds used to support the grant programs remain “fixed” at about \$5.4 million per year. Since 1991 the Council has collected almost \$43 million in trust funds and expended about \$39 million. With estimated savings to the insurance industry and the public of nearly \$189 million from recovered stolen vehicles and reduced theft rates from 1991 to 1998—a return of nearly \$5 for every dollar spent—the Council’s programs have put the trust funds to extremely good use. However, without additional funding, the Council must make adjustments to its strategy in order to continue having success against auto theft. To further complicate matters, since payments by insurance companies are not due until April 1, cash flow concerns will require creative solutions by the Council and its grantees.

In program year 2000, the funds expected to be available will be about \$6 million, or about equal to the 1998 amount. Participating agencies have absorbed the increasing costs of programs to the extent they can. Most contribute about one-third of the program’s actual costs in “matching” or contributed funds.

During 1999 the Council will attempt to identify strategies for continuing successful auto theft prevention efforts while allocating limited funding. Options could include cutting programs or revising the statewide strategy or both. Inevitably, continued financial support for the Council’s efforts will help avoid a climbing vehicle theft rate and the crimes and consequences associated with it.



## **Trust Fund Contributors**

Addison Insurance Company  
Aetna Casualty Company of Connecticut  
Aetna Casualty & Surety Company  
Aetna Casualty & Surety Company of America  
Aetna Casualty & Surety Company of Illinois  
Aetna Commercial Insurance Company  
Affirmative Insurance Company  
All America Insurance Company  
All Nation Insurance Company  
Allied Mutual Insurance Company  
Allied Property & Casualty Insurance Company  
Allstate Indemnity Company  
Allstate Insurance Company  
Alpha Property & Casualty Insurance Company  
AMCO Insurance Company  
American Ambassador Casualty Company  
American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida  
American Country Insurance Company  
American Economy Insurance Company  
American Employers Insurance Company  
American Family Mutual Insurance Company  
American Fire & Casualty Company  
American Fire & Indemnity Company  
American & Foreign Insurance Company  
American Indemnity Company  
American International Insurance Company  
American International South Insurance Company  
American Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Company  
American Modern Home Insurance Company  
American Motorists Insurance Company  
American National Fire Insurance Company  
American National General Insurance Company  
American National Property & Casualty Company  
American Premier Insurance Company  
American Protection Insurance Company  
American Select Insurance Company  
American Service Insurance Company, Incorporated  
American Spirit Insurance Company  
American Standard Insurance Company of Wisconsin  
American States Insurance Company  
American States Preferred Insurance Company  
Amerisure Insurance Company  
AMEX Assurance Company  
AMICA Mutual Insurance Company  
Anthen Casualty Insurance Company  
(Currently Shelby Insurance Company)  
Apollo Casualty Company  
Armed Forces Insurance Exchange

Assurance Company of America  
Atlanta Casualty Company  
Atlanta Specialty Insurance Company  
Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company  
Auto Club Family Insurance Company  
Automobile Club Inter-Insurance Exchange  
Auto-Owners Insurance Company  
Badger Mutual Insurance Company  
Bituminous Fire & Marine Insurance Company  
Centennial Insurance Company  
Central Mutual Insurance Company  
Charter Oak Fire Insurance Company  
Chicago Insurance Company  
Chicago Motor Club Insurance Company  
Chicago Mutual Insurance Company  
Cincinnati Casualty Company  
Cincinnati Indemnity Company  
Cincinnati Insurance Company  
Citizens Insurance Company of America  
Citizens Insurance Company of Illinois  
Clarendon National Insurance Company  
Colonial Insurance Company of Wisconsin  
Colonial Penn Franklin Insurance Company  
Colonial Penn Insurance Company  
Columbia Mutual Insurance Company  
Commercial Union Insurance Company  
Consolidated Insurance Company  
Constitutional Casualty Company  
Contemporary American Insurance Company  
Continental Casualty Company  
Continental Insurance Company  
Continental Western Insurance Company  
Country Casualty Insurance Company  
Country Mutual Insurance Company  
CUMIS Insurance Society, Incorporated  
Dairyland Insurance Company  
Deerbrook Insurance Company  
Depositors Insurance Company  
Direct Auto Insurance Company  
Eagle American Insurance Company  
Economy Fire & Casualty Company  
Economy Preferred Insurance Company  
Economy Premier Assurance Company  
Electric Insurance Company  
EMCASCO Insurance Company  
Employers Fire Insurance Company  
Employers Mutual Casualty Company  
Fairmont Insurance Company

Farmers Automobile Insurance Associated  
Farmers Union Cooperative Insurance Company  
Farmington Casualty Company  
Federal Insurance Company  
Federated Mutual Insurance Company  
Fidelity & Casualty Company of New York  
Fidelity & Guaranty Insurance Company  
Fidelity & Guaranty Insurance Underwriters  
First General Insurance Company  
First National Insurance Company of America  
Florists' Mutual Insurance Company  
Foremost Property & Casualty Insurance Company  
Gallant Insurance Company  
GEICO Casualty Company  
GEICO General Insurance Company  
GEICO Indemnity Company  
General Accident Insurance Company of America  
General Casualty Company of Illinois  
General Casualty Company of Wisconsin  
General Insurance Company of America  
Glens Falls Insurance Company  
Globe America Casualty Company  
Glove Indemnity Company  
Goodville Mutual Casualty Company  
Government Employees Insurance Company  
Grange Guardian Insurance Company  
Grange Mutual Casualty Company  
Granite State Insurance Company  
Great Northern Insurance Company  
Greenwich Insurance Company  
Grinnell Mutual Reins Company  
Grinnell Select Insurance Company  
Hanover Insurance Company  
Hartford Accident & Indemnity Insurance Company  
Hartford Casualty Insurance Company  
Hartford Fire Insurance Company  
Hartford Insurance Company of Illinois  
Hartford Insurance Company of The Midwest  
Hartford Underwriters Insurance Company  
Hastings Mutual Insurance Company  
Hawkeye-Security Insurance Company  
Horace Mann Insurance Company  
IGF Insurance Company  
Illinois Emcasco Insurance Company  
Illinois Farmers Insurance Company  
Illinois Founders Insurance Company  
IMT Insurance Company Mutual  
Indiana Insurance Company

Infinity Insurance Company  
Insurance Property & Casualty Insurance  
Company, Incorporated  
Insurance Company of Illinois  
Integon Casualty Insurance Company  
Integon Indemnity Corporation  
Integon National Insurance Company  
Interstate Bankers Mutual Casualty Company  
Iowa Mutual Insurance Company  
Kansas City Fire & Marine Insurance Company  
Lake States Insurance Company  
Liberty Insurance Company  
Liberty Mutual Fire Insurance Company  
Liberty Mutual Insurance Company  
Lumber Mutual Insurance Company  
Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company  
Madison Mutual Insurance Company  
Maryland Casualty Company  
Massachusetts Bay Insurance Company  
Mendakota Insurance Company  
Merastar Insurance Company  
Mercury Indemnity Company of Illinois  
Mercury Insurance Company of Illinois  
Meridian Mutual Insurance Company  
Metropolitan Casualty Insurance Company  
Metropolitan General Insurance Company  
Metropolitan Group Property & Casualty  
Insurance Company  
Metropolitan Property & Casualty Insurance Company  
MIC General Insurance Corporation  
Mid-Century Insurance Company  
Midland Risk Insurance Company  
Midway Insurance Company of Illinois  
Midwest Mutual Insurance Company  
Millers Classified Insurance Company  
Millers Mutual Insurance Association  
Milwaukee Guardian Insurance, Incorporated  
Milwaukee Mutual Insurance Company  
Milwaukee Safeguard Insurance Company  
Minnesota Fire & Casualty Company  
National Alliance Insurance Company  
National Ben Franklin Insurance Company of Illinois  
National Farmers Union Property & Casualty Company  
National Farmers Union Standard Insurance Company  
National General Assurance Company  
National General Insurance Company  
National Heritage Insurance Company  
National Interstate Insurance Company

Nationwide General Insurance Company  
Nationwide Mutual Fire Insurance Company  
Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company  
Nippon Fire & Marine Insurance Company  
North American Specialty Insurance Company  
Northbrook National Insurance Company  
Northern Assurance Company of America  
Northern Insurance Company of New York  
Northwestern National Casualty Company  
Ohio Casualty Insurance Company  
Ohio Farmers Insurance Company  
Ohio Security Insurance Company  
Old Republic Minnehoma Insurance Company  
Omaha Property & Casualty Insurance Company  
Pacific Indemnity Company  
Pekin Insurance Company  
Pembroke General Insurance Company  
Pennsylvania General Insurance Company  
Pharmacists Mutual Insurance Company  
Phoenix Insurance Company  
Potomac Insurance Company of Illinois  
Preferred Abstainers Insurance Company  
Preferred America Insurance Company  
Preferred Risk Mutual Insurance Company  
Progressive Casualty Insurance Company  
Progressive Premier Insurance Company of Illinois  
Progressive Universal Insurance Company of Illinois  
Providence Washington Insurance Company  
Providian Property and Casualty Insurance Company  
Prudential General Insurance Company  
Prudential Property & Casualty Insurance Company  
Redland Insurance Company  
Regent Insurance Company  
Rockford Mutual Insurance Company  
Royal Indemnity Company  
Royal Insurance Company of America  
Safeco Insurance Company of America  
Safeco Insurance Company of Illinois  
Safeco National Insurance Company  
Safeguard Insurance Company  
Safeway Insurance Company  
Security National Insurance Company  
Sentry Insurance, a Mutual Company  
Shelby Insurance Company  
Shelter General Insurance Company  
Shelter Mutual Insurance Company  
Springfield Fire & Casualty Company  
St. Paul Guardian Insurance Company

St. Paul Insurance Company of Illinois  
St Paul Mercury Insurance Company  
Standard Fire Insurance Company  
Standard Mutual Insurance Company  
State Auto Property & Casualty Insurance Company  
State Automobile Mutual Insurance Company  
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company  
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company  
Superior Insurance Company  
Teachers Insurance Company  
TIG Indemnity Company  
TIG Insurance Company  
TIG Insurance Company of Michigan  
TIG Insurance Corporation of America  
TIG Premier Insurance Company  
Tower Insurance Company Incorporated  
Travco Insurance Company  
Travelers Home and Marine Insurance Company  
Travelers Indemnity Company  
Travelers Indemnity Company of America  
Travelers Indemnity Company of Illinois  
Travelers Property & Casualty Insurance  
Company of Illinois  
Trinity Universal Insurance Company  
Twin City Fire Insurance Company  
Unigard Security Insurance Company  
Union Automobile Indemnity Company  
United Fire & Casualty Company  
United Security Insurance Company  
United Services Auto Association  
United States Fidelity & Guaranty Company  
Universal Casualty Company  
USAA Casualty Insurance Company  
USAA General Indemnity Company  
Valiant Insurance Company  
Valor Insurance Company  
Vigilant Insurance Company  
Viking Insurance Company of Wisconsin  
Warner Insurance Company  
West American Insurance Company  
West Bend Mutual Insurance Company  
Western States Insurance Company  
Westfield Insurance Company  
Westfield National Insurance Company  
Windsor Insurance Company  
Yasuda Fire & Marine Insurance Company of America  
York Insurance Company

# The Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Act

(20 Illinois Compiled Statutes 4005/1)

4005/1 Title. This Act shall be known as the Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Act.

4005/2 Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to prevent, combat and reduce motor vehicle theft in Illinois; to improve and support motor vehicle theft law enforcement, prosecution and administration of motor vehicle theft laws by establishing statewide planning capabilities for and coordination of financial resources.

4005/3 Definitions. As used in this Act:

(a) "Authority" means the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

(b) "Council" means the Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, established within the Authority by this Act.

(c) "Trust Fund" means the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund.

4005/4 Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council - Members - Chairman - Terms - Meetings. There is hereby created within the Authority an Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council, which shall exercise its powers, duties and responsibilities independently of the Authority. There shall be 11 members of the Council consisting of the Secretary of State or his designee, the Director of the Department of State Police, the State's Attorney of Cook County, the Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department, and the following 7 additional members, each of whom shall be appointed by the Governor: a state's attorney of a county other than Cook, a chief executive law enforcement official from a jurisdiction other than the City of Chicago, 5 representatives of insurers authorized to write motor vehicle insurance in this State, all of whom shall be domiciled in this State.

The Governor from time to time shall designate the Chairman of the Council from the membership. All members of the Council appointed by the Governor shall serve at the discretion of the Governor for a term not to exceed 4 years. The initial appointed members of the Council shall serve from January 1, 1991 until the third Monday in January, 1995 or until their successors are appointed. The Council shall meet at least quarterly.

4005/5 Compensation of Members. Members of the Council shall serve without compensation. All members shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with their duties.

4005/6 Personnel. The Executive Director of the Authority shall employ, in accordance with the provisions of the Illinois Personnel Code, such administrative, professional, clerical, and other personnel as may be required and may organize such staff as may be appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Act.

4005/7 Powers and Duties of Council. The Council shall have the following powers, duties and responsibilities:

(a) To apply for, solicit, receive, establish priorities for, allocate, disburse, contract for, and spend funds that are made available to the Council from any source to effectuate the purposes of the Act;

(b) To make grants and to provide financial support for federal and state agencies, units of local government, corporations, and neighborhood, community and business organizations to effectuate the purposes of this Act;

(c) To assess the scope of the problem of motor vehicle theft, including particular areas of the state where the problem is greatest and to conduct impact analyses of state and local criminal justice policies, programs, plans and methods for combating the problem;

(d) To develop and sponsor the implementation of statewide plans and strategies to combat motor vehicle theft and to improve the administration of the motor vehicle theft laws and provide an effective forum for identification of critical problems associated with motor vehicle theft;

(e) To coordinate the development, adoption, and implementation of plans and strategies relating to interagency or intergovernmental cooperation with respect to motor vehicle theft law enforcement;

(f) To promulgate rules and regulations necessary to ensure that appropriate agencies, units of government, private organizations and combinations thereof are included in the development and implementation of strategies or plans adopted pursuant to the Act, and to promulgate rules or regulations as may otherwise be necessary to effectuate the purposes of the Act;

(g) To report annually, on or before April 1, 1992 to the Governor, General Assembly, and, upon request, to members of the general public on the Council's activities in the preceding year; and

(h) To exercise any other powers that are reasonable, necessary, or convenient to fulfill its responsibilities, to carry out and to effectuate the objectives and purposes of the Council and the provisions of this Act, and to comply with the requirements of applicable federal or State laws or regulations; provided, however, that such powers shall not include the power to subpoena or arrest.

4005/8 Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund. (a) A special fund is created in the State Treasury known as the Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Trust Fund, which shall be administered by the Executive Director of the Authority at the direction of the Council. All interest earned from the investment or deposit of monies accumulated in the Trust Fund shall, pursuant to Section 4.1 of the State Finance Act, be deposited in the Trust Fund.

(b) Money deposited in the Trust Fund shall not be considered general revenue of the State of Illinois.

(c) Money deposited in the Trust Fund shall be used only to enhance efforts to effectuate the purposes of this Act as determined by the Council and shall not be appropriated, loaned or in any manner transferred to the General Revenue of the State of Illinois.

(d) Prior to April 1, 1991, and prior to April 1 of each year thereafter, each insurer engaged in writing private passenger motor vehicle insurance coverages which are included in Class 2 and Class 3 of Section of the Illinois Insurance Code, as a condition of its authority to transact business in this State, may collect and shall pay into the Trust Fund an amount equal to \$1.00, or a lesser amount determined by the Council, multiplied by the insurer's total earned car years of private passenger motor vehicle insurance policies providing physical damage coverage written in this State during the preceding calendar year.

(e) Money in the Trust Fund shall be expended as follows:

(1) To pay the Authority's costs to administer the Council and the Trust Fund, but for this purpose in an amount not to exceed ten percent in any one fiscal year of the amount collected pursuant to paragraph (d) of this Section in that same fiscal year.

(2) To achieve the purposes and objectives of this Act, which may include, but not be limited to, the following:

(A) To provide financial support to law enforcement and correctional agencies, prosecutors, and the judiciary for programs designed to reduce motor vehicle theft and to improve the administration of motor vehicle theft laws.

(B) To provide financial support for federal and state agencies, units of local government, corporations and neighborhood, community or business organizations for programs designed to reduce motor vehicle theft and to improve the administration of motor vehicle theft laws.

(C) To provide financial support to conduct programs designed to inform owners of motor vehicles about the financial and social costs of motor vehicle theft and to suggest to those owners methods for preventing motor vehicle theft.

(D) To provide financial support for plans, programs, and projects designed to achieve the purposes of this Act.

(f) Insurers contributing to the Trust Fund shall have a property interest in the unexpended money in the Trust Fund, which property interest shall not be retroactively changed or extinguished by the General Assembly.

(g) In the event the Trust Fund were to be discontinued or the Council were to be dissolved by act of the General Assembly or by operation of law, then, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 5 of the State Finance Act, any balance remaining therein shall be returned to the insurers writing private passenger motor vehicle insurance in proportion to their financial contributions to the Trust Fund and any assets of the Council shall be liquidated and returned in the same manner after deduction of administrative costs.

The Act is repealed effective January 1, 2000.

(Source: Public Act 86-1406, eff. January 1, 1991; as amended by Public Act 88-452, eff. January 1, 1994 and Public Act 89-277, eff. August 10, 1995.)