

Vehicle Crimes Today

A PROFESSIONAL E-NEWSLETTER BY THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AUTO THEFT INVESTIGATORS



VOLUME 2 ♦ ISSUE 6 ♦ June 2020

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President's Message

By Tinus Odendal

IAATI: THE WAY FORWARD 2020/2021

Dear Members

At the outset, on behalf of myself and the Executive Board, thank you for your support and participation with and in the activities of IAATI since our current term of office started in Glasgow, Scotland in September 2019.

Globally, with this COVID-19 pandemic, I believe we are facing some of the biggest challenges in our personal and professional lives. IAATI has had to deal with situations and problems no one could have foreseen back when our Constitution and By-Laws and Standard Operating Procedures were being written.

As mentioned in my previous letter dated 30 April 2020, after careful consideration of all available information, the Executive Board has postponed the Chicago Annual Seminar from August 2019 to August 2022. At this time, we are still confident that the Annual Seminar in Denver in 2021 will be held.

The postponement of the seminar presented the Executive Board with three important matters to consider, namely the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Elections and the Awards, which occur during the week of the seminar. Long and intensive deliberations took place taking into consideration all applicable legislation and pragmatic matters. At the Executive Board meeting on Thursday 14 May 2020, the resolution was passed that the AGM and Elections be postponed to the Denver Seminar in 2021. The Awards will be presented in a format and at date to be determined.

The current Executive Board will therefore continue to serve until the Denver seminar in 2021. I wish to convey my gratitude to all members of the Executive Board for their willingness to take on this responsibility. I have enormous appreciation for their dedication and hard work.

Please be assured that your Executive Board will continue to fulfill its duties, with our members' interest top of mind.

All committees will, as a priority, endeavor to increase communication with the membership through the APB, VCT, our website and available e-platforms. Keep a lookout for announcements in this regard. We are entering exciting times in the way information and training will be shared with our membership.

Also, a number of great initiatives are under way, regarding which committees will shortly start sharing information. I once again implore you to become more active in the Association by for example assisting a committee, sending in articles on interesting or excellent investigations, etc. All the contact details of the Executive Board members are on the website. Do not hesitate to contact anyone of us if you have any questions, proposals and or concerns you would like to share with us.

In closing, please take care of yourselves and your loved ones and stay safe and healthy.

Kind regards,

Tinus Odendal
PRESIDENT
16 May 2020

Auto Theft Today



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Email: enews@iaati.org

Auto Theft Today is an official e-newsletter of The International Association of Auto Theft Investigators (IAATI).

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IAATI's Branch and Chapter Websites

Branches:

Asian Branch
iaati.org/ab

Australasian Branch
iaatiaus.org

European Branch
eb-iaati.org

Latin American Branch
iaatilatam.org

Southern African Branch
iaatisab.co.za

United Kingdom Branch
iaati.org.uk/

Chapters (North America/Canada)

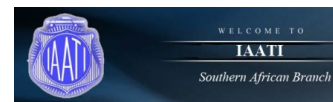
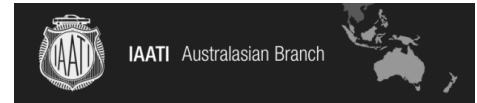
North Central Regional Chapter
ncrc-iaati.org

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neiaati.org

South Central Regional Chapter
tavti.org

South East Regional Chapter
seiaati.org

Western Regional Chapter
wrciaati.org



MEMBER NEWS

Just a reminder!!!

2020 dues are NOW due

Go to the website and renew today!!



WEBSITE UPDATE:

For photos and PowerPoint presentations from the IAATI conference in Glasgow, please log into www.iaati.org and go to the resources page.

E-NEWSLETTER UPDATES

In order to provide relevant and fresh news related to vehicle theft and related crimes, the focus will be to provide more issues, more often, with the latest stories that you need to see, all at your fingertips. IAATI training seminar information, Branch/Chapter News and updates, and committee reports are all posted on the website. Auto Theft Today will have a section included with links to all of these areas on the website that you can easily access for the latest information. Below is a chart of the menus on the website to provide an overview of the wealth of information available once you log in. Please take a few minutes to visit www.iaati.org and check it out!

ABOUT IAATI	MEMBERSHIP	EVENTS	NEWS	RESOURCES	AWARDS	CERTIFICATIONS
President's Message	Application Form	IAATI Training Events	Submit a News Story	Training Resources		Certification Process
Association History	Renew Online	Non-IAATI Training Events	North & South America	Publications		Basic Certification
Branches and Chapters	Search Members	Past Events	Europe & the UK	Photo Galleries		Advanced Certification
International Board Members	Member List		Asia, Africa, & Australasia	Forum		Master Certification
Committees			Browse by Month			Certification Resources
Documentation						

Networking, sharing information and keeping up to date with the latest trends, contacts and news in the world of vehicle theft are instrumental in the always demanding world that we as investigators live in, so the majority of each issue will contain summaries of the latest incidents, arrests, and related information with links to the full story. The links can also be copied and pasted into an email to share with others.

There will also be a section that links to the "Submit a News Story" function on the website. Collectively, we can all reap greater benefits from every-one sharing just one story, one contact or one idea. Please submit yours either through the website or in an email to enews@iaati.org.

2019-2021 Officers



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To see the full list of Directors and Associate Directors please visit the direct link below:

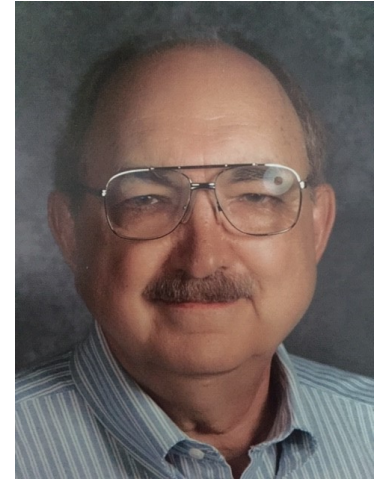
[Full Executive Board](#)



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
John Abounader
[Learn More](#)

25 Years.....or more

We are very excited to honor those who have been members for 25 or more years. We appreciate all the dedication and time given to the organization and the mission. Please check out some of the many who have been on this journey and see what they have been so dedicated. This of course is not even close to being everyone. Email enews@iaati.org to be added.



Those with no picture:

[Gary Labb](#) | [Phil Googin](#) | [Skip Copeland](#) | [Bob Hasbrouck](#) | [Michael Tower](#)

IAATI Certificate Program

The International Association of Auto Theft Investigators, (IAATI) is continuing to grow while remaining the premier organization dealing with local, national and transnational vehicle crime investigations. We, however, must widen our investigative scope to remain relevant in today's environment. IAATI investigators, detectives and specialists have always considered themselves experts in Vehicle Crimes Specialist while neglecting to acknowledge their expertise in crimes generally associated with motor vehicle theft. Rarely is a motor vehicle stolen that is not connected to other crimes such as robbery, theft, identity theft, narcotics, burglary, murder, sexual assaults and a myriad of other crimes. As a trained investigator you have the necessary skills to follow up on all the leads associated with the actual theft but your ability to investigate the secondary crimes associated with the theft will demonstrate to your command staff, citizens and politicians that motor vehicle theft is not just a property crime.

IAATI has recognized a need for an accepted method and standard of evaluating the qualifications of individuals who are conducting vehicle crimes investigations. Vehicle Crime Investigators, Detectives and Specialist who testify in court as "Experts" have an equal need and interest in establishing their credentials. Certified Vehicle Crime Specialist Certification Program Objectives:

- Recognize qualified Vehicle Crime Specialist
- Serve as an International Registry for identifying qualified investigators and specialist
- Promote excellence in training, education and conducting vehicle crime investigations
- Provide a system by which equally qualified investigators will have an immediate acceptance as "Experts."

The Education, Training and Certification Committee is working diligently to complete the certification program and making it available to its members. We are preparing to complete the test validation and building a digital platform with NICB, where members will have not only access to the certification program and testing, but to other valuable training. We expect to have the certification program going live by June 1, 2020.

2021 IAATI Vehicle Crimes Conference

As vehicle crimes ravage our communities, endangering health, life and safety, it is important to keep pace with leadership, technology, investigative techniques, intelligence gathering and information sharing to countermeasure criminal activity.

In the spirit of addressing today's investigative needs, the 69th International Vehicle Crimes Training Seminar plans to offer a premium venue for training, education and collaboration for international participants.

The 69th International Vehicle Crimes Training Seminar will offer a variety of training tracks focused on innovative, effective or proven techniques to countermeasure vehicle crime activities. Training tracks will include topics for executive leadership, investigators, crime/intelligence analysts, patrol officers, special investigators, task force personnel, public information/outreach personnel and prosecutors.

The Colorado Auto Theft Investigators and the Colorado Automobile Theft Prevention Authority are honored to host the 69th International Vehicle Crimes Training Seminar within the Denver Metro area in Broomfield, Colorado.

Attendees are encouraged to plan a little vacation before or after the Seminar to explore our beautiful state. Near the hotel is Rocky Mountain National Park and the Flatirons, which are great for day hiking, fishing and wildlife viewing. Red Rocks Amphitheater hosts top notch bands and artists all summer long. The Denver Metro area offers a wide array of restaurants, bars, and entertainment venues, including 7 professional sports teams, internationally acclaimed museums, art galleries, and shopping. There is something for everyone!

For more information please send your inquiries to IAATIDenver2021@iaati.org.

We hope you join us!



69th International Vehicle Crimes Training Seminar August 8-13, 2021

Provided By:

**International Association of Auto
Theft Investigators**

IAATIDenver2021@iaati.org

Hosted By:



Location:

OMNI HOTELS & RESORTS

The Omni Interlocken Hotel provides 390 luxurious rooms nestled against the backdrop of the Rocky Mountains with stunning views. The hotel offers a wealth of on-site experiences including first class dining, golf and wellness. **Reservation details will be provided with future conference materials.**

500 INTERLOCKEN BOULEVARD
BROOMFIELD, COLORADO

WWW.OMNIINTERLOCKENHOTELS.COM

Welcome New Members

We want to take the time and welcome our newest members to IAATI and their Chapter/Branch. The following are our new members for May 2020. Again welcome!

Chris Sleep-AU Branch

Brendon Harbour-AU Branch

Joleen MacKeown-AU Branch

Peter Slaven-AU Branch

Noel Ferguson-McLellan-AU Branch

Jamie Orme-UK Branch

Tim Cruise-AU Branch

Jordan Harley-UK Branch

Barrie Hahnel-AU Branch

Colin Brockwell-AU Branch

Beverley Briggs-AU Branch

Mark Stubberfield-AU Branch

Maree Miller-AU Branch

Christopher Burston-AU Branch

Member Articles-Article 1

Things My Momma Taught Me

Submitted by the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators (IAFCI) Auto Finance Coalition

Our parents teach us many things as we grow up in the hopes of molding us into good, honest and productive members of society. While I've personally never found "your face is going to freeze like that" to be particularly true (so far), one piece of advice has been resoundingly helpful; It's good to share. Fraudsters have known for a long time that companies, banks in particular, do not talk to each other. We don't share information. Even more so, we don't share information across industries. The financial industry does not commonly reach out and share information with the insurance industry and vice versa. Fraudsters have very successfully used that to their advantage.

Take the example of a real-world case involving "Bob" and "Mary." Fraudster "Mary" gets the ball rolling by going to her local auto dealership and financing a new Chevrolet Silverado. "Mary" appears to be an authentic person and puts \$3,000 cash down on the purchase, financing a little more than \$50,000. A few regular monthly payments are received by the bank and all seems well . . . until it's not.

Suddenly, the payments stop, and collection agents work doggedly but unsuccessfully to contact Mary. The matter escalates to repossession professionals, who try to locate the vehicle with no luck. Mary is too crafty, and the lender is getting ready to book a loss.

Finally, when all hope seems lost, a ray of hope! The lender receives a telephone call from a smalltime body shop. "Bob" from the shop says they have the Silverado, but the insurance lapsed. And Mary has skipped out on the repair bill of about \$12,000. Wanting to recover the vehicle, which has much more owed on the loan than \$12,000, the lender is pleased to have located the vehicle and starts the process to pay the body shop and retrieve the vehicle.

Whoa . . . This is where lenders need to pump the brakes. A simple step is often overlooked by the lenders which could shed a whole new light on the scheme. Why should lenders just take Bob's word that the insurance lapsed? Lenders need to reach out to the insurance company and do something we are all too often afraid to do; **TALK**.

In this particular case, a sharp lender employee working the impound request to recover the vehicle noticed a valuable detail. When body shop owner Bob called the lender to discuss the amount owing on the truck, the caller ID from Bob's phone number displayed the same last name as the customer Mary. What?? Suspecting this was not a coincidence, the impound agent escalated the case for investigation. The investigator went through the usual steps in gathering information, including obtaining a Carfax report. An accident did appear on the report; however, only minor damage was indicated. Nothing that seemed to justify a demand for \$12,000 in repairs.

The investigator reached out to the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) for more information. Information obtained from NICB indicated the vehicle was in fact involved in a claim with an insurance carrier that included not only vehicle damage, but also personal injury claims. With the assistance of NICB, the lender reached out to the insurance carrier to obtain more information about the claim. The insurance adjuster shared that their claimant indicated she was traveling on a local highway when the lender's financed Silverado swooped in front of her and suddenly slammed on the brakes. This caused a chain reaction, with her rear-ending the Silverado and a third vehicle rear-ending her vehicle. The description of the accident put the lender's financed Silverado in front. The lead vehicle in the 3-car accident. Estimates and invoices involved in the insurance claim listed the expected rear end damage and totaled approximately \$3,200; which was paid by the carrier to honor the claim for the physical damage to the Silverado. The carrier paid an additional \$16,000 in personal injury claims to the passenger of the Silverado.



Article 1 continued....

Wait . . . didn't body shop Bob say there was not insurance coverage?

In the mechanic's lien demand sent to the lender by Bob, an invoice was provided listing the damage and related repair costs. The invoice listed; right fender, hood, water tank, 2 bumpers, roof and radiator. The invoice read, "removed and replaced all these parts" totaling approximately \$12,000. The repairs on the invoice were suspect, as the only known accident would not have caused any front-end damage. Remember, the Silverado was the lead or front car in the accident. Only rear damage would have been sustained.

The police report submitted to the insurance carrier was reviewed. The accident report listed the damage to the Silverado as only "slight" and "minor damage". However, the much more interesting information contained in the accident report was the driver of the vehicle was "Bob!" Yes, that Bob. The owner of the body shop demanding payment from the lender. And the passenger was "Mary," the lender's customer and registered owner of the vehicle.

I have since learned from my friends in the insurance world, this accident is typical of a "swoop and squat" scheme. The scheme usually involves two vehicles where one vehicle drives beside the victim preventing them from swerving, while the other swoops in front of the victim vehicle and stops suddenly, causing a rear-end collision. The learning went both ways, and I was able to share chapter 2 of the swoop and squat scheme with my peers in the insurance industry; the "mechanics lien fraud." After Bob and Mary received the payments from the insurance claims, they set their sights on the bank. Being experienced, they had learned to double dip, and this is where they "cash out" the vehicle.

Cashing out the vehicle, when done correctly, is a no-lose proposition for the body shop. Step one is to send the demand for payment to the lender. If the lender pays the demand, mission accomplished; the body shop (suspect) gets the money and releases the vehicle to the bank. Remember – they were already completely compensated by the insurance carrier (for repairs that may never have happened)! If the bank refuses to pay the demand, the body shop hides the vehicle from repossession agents while the brief, statutory time allotted for recovery expires. The body shop then submits a mechanic's lien claim to the state and obtains a new title and ownership of the vehicle, as the lender "abandoned" the vehicle. The body shop then sells, or cashes out, the vehicle.

Bottom line, a double dip win by Bob and Mary. They got paid twice, once by the insurance carrier and then again by the lender for the same \$12,000 repairs. I'll leave it to you to decide if the accident was staged and the repairs significantly exaggerated.

Would you be surprised if Bob and Mary repeat this bad, but lucrative, behavior? I'm just wondering why my Momma told me to become a fraud investigator. It looks like the easy money is on the fraudster's side . . . until we up our game.

Now, more than ever, it is becoming apparent that **communicating** needs to be a tool in our investigator's toolbox. In this case, through the communication and cooperation between industries, the fraudulent mechanic's lien was detected prior to payment to Bob. I forgot to tell you; in this case, we didn't pay. Although we were unable to locate the vehicle at any of the locations associated with Bob, the investigation from both the financial industry for loan fraud and mechanics lien fraud and the insurance industry for insurance fraud and medical fraud was forwarded to law enforcement for review. The case remains an open investigation.

In closing, communication and cooperation between industry fraud investigators is the key to successfully detecting and preventing fraud. I happen to be on the lender side, and we have an association, the Auto Finance Coalition (AFC), whose mission is to promote communication, coordination, and cooperation between investigators. Ping us at afc@iafci-committee.org if we can be of assistance. Cooperation . . . that's something Momma taught me.

End

Article 2....

“THE EVOLUTION OF AUTO THEFT”

PROVIDED BY ORANGE COUNTY AUTO THEFT TASKFORCE (OCATT)

written by Investigators Dave Navarro, Eric Beltran and Det Eric Tilove

Vehicle theft by way of auto fraud has been on the rise over the last several years and has quickly exploded. The techniques used by professional thieves to commit fraudulent vehicle purchases is continually evolving and expanding across Orange County. Once law enforcement, financial institutions, and/or automotive dealerships identify specific trends, the professional auto thief adapts and alters their tactics to elude detection. For the automotive industry, law enforcement, financial institutions, and other stakeholders to be effective in combating these crimes, it is essential that we all continue to learn, educate one another, and collaborate with one another to enact proactive measures to combat the auto fraud.

Just as forward-thinking leaders identify and incorporate new and more efficient means to conduct their way of doing business, professional auto thieves have done the same.

The more common method of breaking into and stealing a vehicle from parking lots, driveways, and other common locations, still occurs, but has steadily decreased over the past several years. One significant contributing factor to the decline is vehicle manufacturers equipping newer vehicles being with anti-theft technology. These anti-theft features have been an integral part in deterring and assisting law enforcement in tracking and eventually locating stolen vehicles. The features combined with other proactive measures such as advances in license plate reader (LPR) technology, making LPRs more efficient and portable for law enforcement and local communities, BAIT vehicle operations, in addition to training in current auto theft related trends, have made a significant impact to assist in efforts to reduce vehicle theft. Professional auto thieves have realized their criminal efforts and apprehension when instituting fraud related practices to “purchase” a vehicle, bare far lesser risk than attempting to break in and physically steal a vehicle. The attraction of fraud-based schemes to embezzle vehicles is much more attractive to individual(s) or criminal organizations to remain efficient in their main objective, making money at the cost of others. It is also a viable means for those with aspirations of owning a vehicle they would otherwise be unable to afford minus it being illegally obtained.

According to Department of Justice and California Highway Patrol statistics, the 1999 Honda Accord has ranked in the top ten of most reported stolen vehicles California for the past several years. The main attraction vehicles such as these by “street level” auto theft criminals range from the minimal effort to access and steal the vehicle, to the resale of vehicle components and parts. But the professional auto thief who specializes in fraudulent vehicle purchases is not employing fraudulent means to steal a 1999 Honda Accord. Rather they are using illegal fraudulent practices to steal the brand-new Mercedes Benz CLS 550. In today’s stolen vehicle black market, an auto thief or criminal organization could go down to their local dealer and fraudulently purchase a 2019 Mercedes Benz CLS 550 using fraudulent personal identifying information (PII) virtually undetected. The professional auto thieves tend to target the high-end luxury vehicles in order to get more bang for their buck. Whether the vehicle is sold locally in the United States at a much lower cost, sometimes for as much as 75-80% below its actual value or shipped overseas to Asia where it could garner as much as 200% over its actual value, the bad guys are making substantial profits at the expense of dealerships, finance companies, and ultimately the consumer. In instances where vehicles are fraudulently purchased or attained, they can go undetected for several days, weeks, months, and even years. Professional auto thieves use these unintended grace periods and the embezzled vehicle(s) to commit additional crimes which result in additional profits which sustains their illegal activity and enterprises.

Article 2 continued....

Whereas, vehicles stolen the old-fashioned way; from parking lots, driveways, or a carjacking, are reported to law enforcement at the onset and immediately entered into the stolen vehicle system to alert law enforcement of its status.

By working together to educate one another, law enforcement, financial institutions, and dealerships will be able to understand each of its roles, capabilities, and focus on methods which will enhance efforts to safeguard involved stakeholders. To better understand the perspective of dealerships and the business side of a deal, law enforcement should be educated on the elements related to the finance portion of a sale and the factors associated with coming to a decision to approve or disapprove. Conversely, finance companies and dealerships should be trained and educated on the investigative process, capabilities and limitations of law enforcement. The success to safeguard the automotive industry from being victimized by professional auto thieves and law enforcement to effectively investigate illegal fraud-based schemes, is dependent on their willingness to collaborate their efforts and expertise. Anything less should be considered a failure to safeguard the consumer from becoming a victim.

Financial institutions must be willing to work with law enforcement to identify consistent methods to provide pertinent information required to establish elements of a crime, in this case fraudulent activity. When information is not provided or shared, law enforcement has not met their legal obligation to establish elements of the crime, therefore, there is no crime to charge. Law enforcement must approach fraud-based investigations with patience and an open mind. They cannot make predetermined decisions based on the face value of a crime or on their previous experiences. Fraud suspects are sophisticated enough to disguise fraud transactions into legitimate transactions. Therefore, law enforcement must be able to approach these types of investigations with the mindset of a finance manager AND auto theft detective/investigator. Law enforcement must understand that fraud suspects are not your everyday street criminals committing low level crimes just to go joyriding or make a quick few bucks, fraud suspects are professional auto thieves who are extremely organized and involved in much more serious crimes, such as robbery, drug smuggling, human trafficking, and homicides. Many professional auto thieves/fraud suspects are drug dealers, criminal street gang members, and/or organized crime members. They have adapted to survive in their business to remain effective.

Annually, auto fraud results in billions of dollars in loss which has a direct effect on the auto industries lifeline, the consumer. The loss to the financial institutions is temporary, ultimately losses are recouped by higher prices and higher interest rates. This scenario coupled with the current economic forecast, can be catastrophic for the automotive industry and the consumer.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak, vehicle theft investigators/detectives have witnessed a significant rise in auto fraud. Professional auto thieves are taking advantage of the current climate; mandatory face coverings allow fraud suspects to conceal their identity and some manufacturers promotions for "no payments for three months," allows suspects that unintended "grace period" to possess and/or sell the vehicle minus fear of repossession or the initiation of a timely investigation. More than likely, the vehicle may be a loss prior to the first payments due date once it's shipped out of country or VIN switched.

Article 2 continued....

Orange County Auto Theft Taskforce (OCATT) Detectives/Investigators have provided the following fraud indicators in hopes to prevent fraud purchases from occurring. These indicators are dealership specific.

“BEST PRACTICES TO PREVENT A FRAUD PURCHASE.”

1. Obtain and utilize an ID scanner/ID verification software. There are several products out there such as “Fraud Fighter.” This software will help detect fraudulent/counterfeit driver’s licenses.
2. Do not accept a scanned copy or picture of a driver’s license. If the purchaser is attempting an online or an over the phone purchase, have the purchaser provide a photograph (selfie) of themselves holding the driver’s license being provided.
3. If the dealership is willing, obtain a thumb print from the customer(s). If the purchase ends up being fraudulent, a good thumbprint will assist law enforcement in positively identifying the suspect. Additionally, obtaining a thumbprint can also be a deterrent.
4. High definition video surveillance installed in areas where purchasers sign purchase documents are also a deterrent as well and can be used to positively identify a suspect.
 - a. Suspects do not like being videotaped when they are committing crimes.
 - b. If possible, retain video surveillance data for 90 days or longer.
5. Ensure all information matches, from the driver’s license to credit application to credit report. A current trend involves suspects using their real driver’s license while using another person’s Social Security Number who has the same or similar name. On several occasions, the name will match, but the year of birth and address on the credit report are totally different.
 - a. If a discrepancy is identified, obtain explanation from customer.
6. Several credit inquiries, specifically from auto loan companies, within a week or less of each other is a major indicator. Normal people do not allow every dealership they contact to run their credit.
7. Require proof of income when any purchaser claims more than \$20,000 in monthly income. Professional auto thieves provide a high monthly income to steer the debt to income ratio into their favor.
8. Require proof of funds if the suspect is attempting to purchase the vehicle with a personal or cashier’s check.
9. Professional auto thieves/fraud purchase suspects prefer to take advantage of an online purchase with delivery of vehicle. Suspects who enter the dealership, primarily go in on Friday afternoon after 5 p.m. or on weekends and holidays. Suspects understand the “auto approval process” and take advantage of it during non-banking hours.
 - a. On occasion, suspects will show up with proof of income, proof of residency, and additional documentation in hopes to speed up the process.
 - b. Additionally, these suspects will refuse a test drive, will not negotiate the purchase price, and agree to all extended warranties and vehicle service contracts.
10. For off-site deliveries, ensure the safety of your employee, by controlling the delivery location. If purchaser requests delivery to their residence, make sure to deliver vehicle to their residence, do not let them meet you down the street from the residence. If the purchaser requests delivery at a location other than residence, ensure the location is a public place where people are present.
 - a. Most importantly, ensure the purchaser is present and proper identification is provided before turning over possession.
11. For all purchases, make sure the picture on the driver’s license matches the purchaser providing it.

End

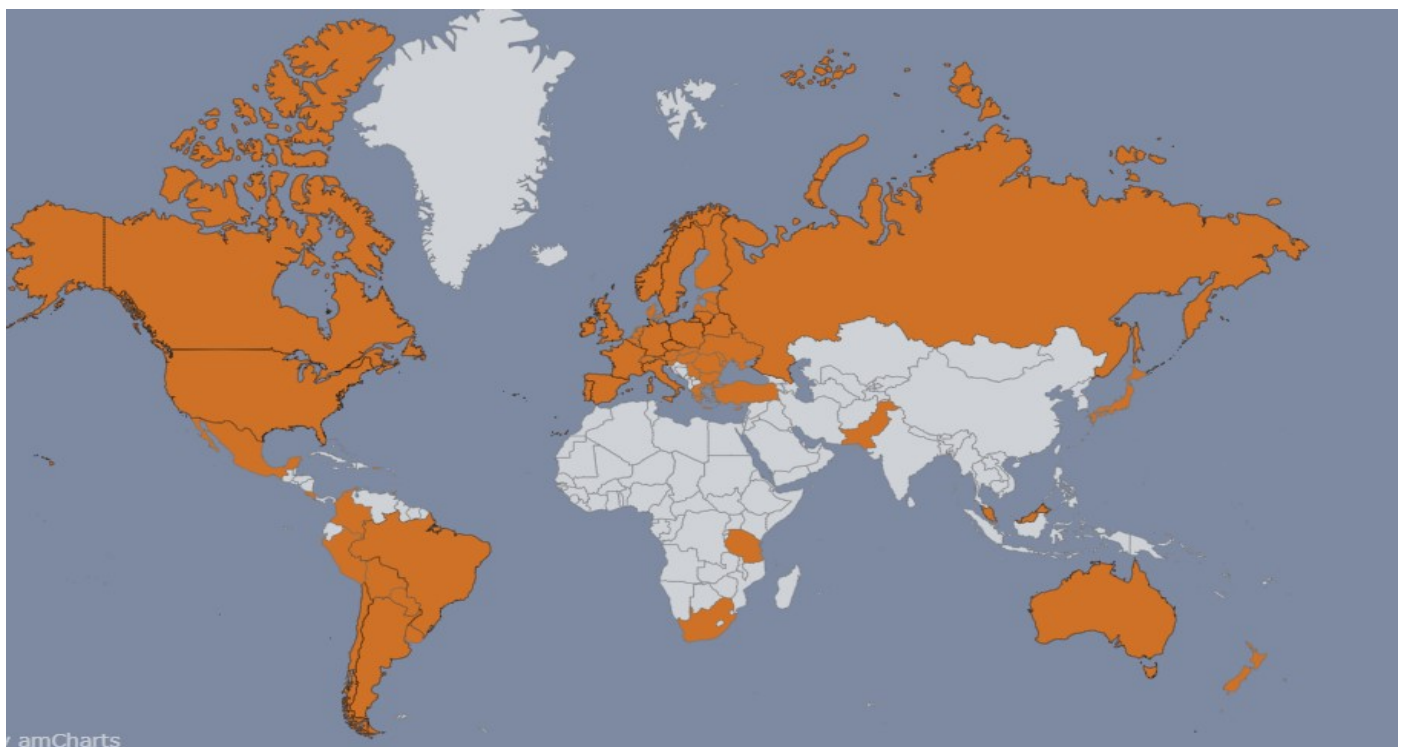
Where in the World? By Paul Thomas

Did you know that IAATI has members in Trinidad and Tobago? Well we do, we have two members based there - Martin and Robert.

Have you ever needed a contact in Belarus, Kenya or Malaysia? Yes, we also have members there as well.

In fact we have over 3,100 members in 66 countries throughout the world.

While IAATI is currently working to expand our membership base throughout Asia, you can see from the following map that we have members in most parts of the world. These are people you can turn to for assistance with your investigations.



To find details of an IAATI member in another country simply:

Go to our website www.iaati.org

1. Click the *Account* button in the header of the home page and log in.
2. Once you have logged in, click the *Search* button in the header.
3. An orange coloured panel will open where you can either search the entire site or search for members.
4. To search for members click the blue *Member Search* button.
The best way to search is to then click the '+ Further options' link. This will enable you to filter your search by a large number of data items including 'Home country'.

Alternatively, you can access this search feature from the Membership page of the website. Simply select 'Search members' from the submenu on the right side of the Membership page. Remember, as this tool is only available to financial members, you can only search for members once you have logged into your account.

As a quick guide to where we have members you can also visit the new interactive membership map on our website.

<https://www.iaati.org/membership>

IAATI UPDATES

Chapter / Branch Information - Branch and chapter information is located on the website.

For general information and obtain contact information for a branch or chapter, please [click here](#). Information about IAATI chapters and branches can be found on the website: ABOUT IAATI/BRANCHES AND CHAPTERS. For individual chapter and branch news, please visit that website or go to page 2 and click on a logo to be directed to that branch or chapter website.

Committee Information / News / Reports - Committee information is located on the website.

For general committee information, members and their contact information, please [click here](#) or from the website, click ABOUT IAATI. To access periodic committee reports, please [click here](#). Committee reports are located on the website: ABOUT IAATI/DOCUMENTATION.

Training Seminar / Event Information - Training information is always being added to the website.

For information on all IAATI training events as well as training offered by others, please [click here](#). Members are able to view information regarding the various training opportunities available and register online when able.

Board Members / Information - Please [click here](#) to view information on the IAATI website regarding current board members.

Vehicle Crimes Today - Publication deadline

The next issue of Vehicle Crimes Today will be released beginning of April. If you have any articles, photographs, member news, or anything else to include in the next issue, please [click here to submit a story](#) or send an email to enews@iaati.org. In order to have your information included in the next edition, please submit or email everything by the 25th of each month.

Board Members and Committee Members wanted!

Each year during the annual IAATI conference, members elect a new board of directors. New committee members are selected as well. Now is the time to do your part and submit your intent to serve on the IAATI board or one of the committees. It is as simple as sending an email to the chair of the Nominating Committee, Past President JD Hough at jdhough@iaati.org.

When submitting your email, please including the following information:

- Your name and number of years you have been an IAATI member along with membership number;
- Your profession and current employer;
- Your reasons for wanting to get more involved;
- The number of IAATI seminars you have attended over the past years;
- What ideas you have that might benefit IAATI;
- Your experience/work within your local IAATI chapter/branch.



Training Article

2020 & 2021 Vehicle Crimes Training Seminars

Training is one of the most important areas that we as auto theft investigators need to continually seek out. With the trends in auto theft changing on a daily basis, we need to stay on top of these new developments that can assist us with prevention, identification, investigation, and prosecution. If you know of any other auto theft courses that are being offered, please contact me at nmcganty@seiaati.org. IAATI will also post course announcements on our web site & the IAATI e-news during the year. Always check the IAATI web site for training information at: iaati.org. The following auto theft training courses are being offered at this time:

Training Location Info	Date	Contact
National Insurance Crime Bureau	Continuous	www.NICBTraining.org (NICB) click on: courses
2020		
North East Regional Chapter Middleton, Rhode Island	June 1st-4th Cancelled	Kim Hormann KHormann@PlymouthRock.com
South East Regional Chapter Savannah, Georgia	June 7th-11th Cancelled	Julio Valcarcel Julio.valcarel@seiaati.org
AATIA/AATA/WSATI Conference Laughlin, NV	June 8th-12th Cancelled	Nancy Temporado ntemporao@azdps.gov
NICB Fraud Academy	June 8th-10th Rescheduled to 2021	https://www.nicb.org
2020 International Seminar & North Central Chapter Chicago, Illinois	August 2nd-7th Postponed to 2021	Barb Rambo brambo@nicb.org
WSATI 2020 Annual Training Seminar Lake Tahoe, NV	Oct. 11th-14th Cancelled	https://www.wsati.org/
South Central Regional Chapter San Marcos, TX	Oct. 13th-18th Postponed	Michelle Snyder M3editor@outlook.com
2020 CATI Conference Colorado Springs, CO	Oct. 25th-29th Pending Grant Approval	Joni Tangeman jtangeman@arapahoegov.com
European Branch Seminar Marinha, Portugal	Oct. 28th-30th	https://eb-iaati.org/
2021		
NICB Fraud Academy	April 26th-28th	https://www.nicbfraudacademy.org/
North East Regional Chapter Middletown, RI	May 24th-27th	https://www.iaati.org/nerc
South East Regional Chapter Myrtle Beach, SC	June 6th-10th	Julio Valcarcel Julio.valcarel@seiaati.org
2021 IAATI International Seminar Denver, Colorado	August 8th-13th	https://www.iaati.org

IACP Updates



IACP's Vehicle Crimes Committee has been busy for the last few years!

The committee continually works on multiple issues regarding vehicle related crimes. Currently work groups are focusing on rental vehicle thefts, emerging technology issues and creating a vehicle crimes toolkit for smaller agencies.

More than 75% of crimes committed each year involve motor vehicles. The IACP Vehicle Crimes Committee recently developed a comprehensive educational toolkit for vehicle crimes investigations. The toolkit, along with the corresponding reference and resource guide and presentation, provides law enforcement agencies with the information they need to enhance their response to vehicle-related crimes.

The mission of this IACP working group is to create a best practices guideline for law enforcement agencies that do not have a dedicated vehicle crimes investigator. The material here-in will provide them with the resources necessary to better investigate vehicle related crime. The IACP Vehicle Crimes Committee has created a concise and comprehensive "Educational Toolkit for Vehicle Crimes Investigation".

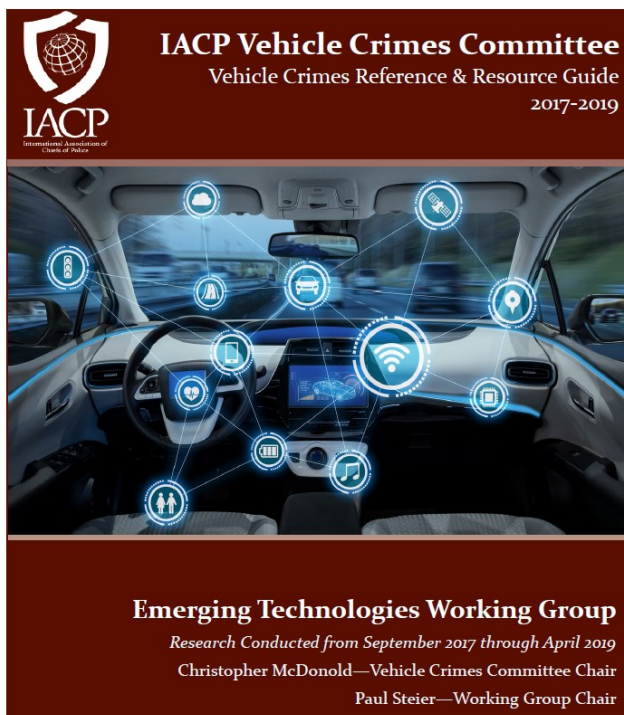
Educational Toolkit for Vehicle Crimes



Educational Toolkit on Vehicle Crimes for Law Enforcement Agencies

IACP Vehicle Crime Committee

Shaping the Future of the Policing Profession™



IACP-continued

[Click here](#) to see what resources are available for your agency!



Awards & Recognition

If you know of any IAATI Member that has received any recognition please let us know so we can share the news. Email enews@iaati.org.



Awards Nominations

With a busy work life we rarely take time out to sit back and review our work or that of others. We rush to finish one job and then move straight on to the next. However it is important that we all occasionally take a moment and assess ours and our colleagues work, and then acknowledge those examples of outstanding achievement.

While all Chapters and Branches have their own local awards the International Board also manages a total of eight awards including:

- Raymond H. Dreher Memorial Award
- The IAATI Award of Merit
- IAATI President's Award
- IAATI Directors Award
- The IAATI Insurance Investigator of the Year Award
- IAATI Heavy Equipment Award
- IAATI Component Parts Markings Award
- NICB Award of Excellence

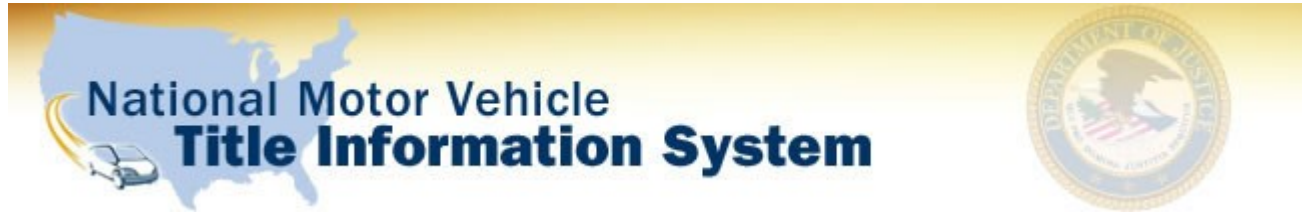
Nominations for all Awards close on 1st May each year, but you don't need to wait until then. Why not use some free time over the to nominate someone and send it in.

Details on the criteria for each award and how to nominate can be found on the Awards Page of the website at <https://www.iaati.org/awards>

You Chapters also have awards available. Please reach out or look at their websites and see what is available and the due dates as they will all be different. It is important to recognize all the dedicated hard workers out there. Please take the few minutes and nominate these important people.

NMVTIS

What is NMVTIS you ask?



According to the website, The National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) is, among other things, a tool that assists local, state, and federal law enforcement in investigating, deterring, and preventing vehicle-related crimes.

Please [visit the website](#) to learn more about [NMVTIS and its Benefits to Law Enforcement](#).

IN THE NEWS...

Police: 25 classic cars stolen, stripped at south St. Petersburg chop shop; two arrested. *May 14, 2020, <https://www.fox13news.com/>* reports that after 10 months of investigating two men have been arrested for stealing classic cars, chopping them down, and either using or selling the parts.

Fighting mileage fraud on used cars. *May 29, 2020, <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/>* reports that the mileage has been rolled back on 50% of second-hand cars traded in the EU.

Lock your cars! Vehicle theft spikes in COVID-19 pandemic. *May 26, 2020, <https://www.foxbusiness.com/>* reports that more people than ever are staying home and leaving vehicles unattended on the streets, making them easy targets for thieves.

Police: Man Charged With 35 Counts Of Theft From Vehicles In Howard County. *May 27, 2020, <https://baltimore.cbslocal.com/>* reports a man has been charged with 35 counts of theft after allegedly stealing credit cards and other property from vehicles.

Tools for your Toolbox

Here you will find publications that could be used as a tool for the trade. If you have anything you would like to share here please email it to enews@iaati.org.

- [Dealer Fraud Prevention and Awareness Worksheet](#)
- [Fraud Prevention and Awareness-Dealer Offsite Delivery Checklist](#)
- [NCTFF-National Cargo Theft Prevention Task Force](#)
- [VEHICLE RENTAL/LEASING INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS: A FORCE MULTIPLIER](#)
- [TSA Rental Truck Brochure](#)
- [NHTSA "Preventing Auto Theft" Video](#) (Please use and share)
- [NHTSA "Protecting Your Vehicle from Theft" social graphics](#) (Please use and share)
- [Car Rental Security Contacts](#)
- [FBI Auto Theft Training Video](#)