



# PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

From the office of Anoka County Sheriff James Stuart

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## Anoka County Sheriff's Office Participates in Catalytic Converter Pilot Program to Help Prevent Thefts

The Anoka County Sheriff's Office is joining and promoting the [Catalytic Converter Theft Prevention Pilot Program](#) by the Minnesota Commerce Department, through funds appropriated by the Minnesota Legislature in 2021. The intent of the program is to deter the theft of catalytic converters by marking them with unique identification numbers that permanently mark the catalytic converter.

With Minnesota being one of the states with the highest amount of catalytic converter thefts in the nation, the Anoka County Sheriff's Office is proud to join this initiative that will help protect community members' property. Anoka County Sheriff James Stuart states, "It's sad that this measure is even necessary. However, this program is another step to prevent crime and help us convict those criminals who choose to victimize others."

The Commerce Fraud Bureau chose the CATGUARD Label Solution for marking catalytic converters. The labels are installed by sticking the label onto the catalytic converter, and then painting a fluid onto the label, which, once a vehicle is started, causes the unique number to be etched into the metal. Once registered, the unique number allows law enforcement to trace a converter back to a specific vehicle if a converter were to be stolen and later recovered.

If you own one of the top 15 most targeted vehicles and you are interested in a label, please visit the Anoka County Sheriff's Office Monday-Friday between 8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. to pick up a free kit. Once you receive a kit, you will be able to scan a QR code with a mobile phone and register the label ID number with the VIN number on the vehicle. Paper forms are also available to fill out if the owner does not have a mobile device. Individuals are responsible to place the label on their catalytic converter.

Currently, the vehicles most at-risk for catalytic converter theft are:

Chevrolet Express  
Ford Econoline  
Ford F250  
Honda Accord  
Honda CRV

Honda Element  
Honda Odyssey  
Hyundai Santa Fe  
Hyundai Tucson  
Kia Sportage

Mitsubishi Eclipse  
Mitsubishi Lancer  
Mitsubishi Outlander  
Toyota Prius  
Toyota Tundra

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