

The C.A.T. Program

The City of Hartford, like many other communities, has experienced an increase in auto theft. In an attempt to address that reality the Hartford Police Department has searched for new and innovative methods to identify and apprehend auto thieves in our community. As a result of those efforts we have adopted the **C.A.T. (Combat Auto Theft)** Program that is currently in use by other law enforcement agencies in Wisconsin. This is an effort to address these concerns through community members and law enforcement partnering together to proactively confront this national epidemic.

The basic premise of the C.A.T. Program involves a vehicle owner to signing a consent form, which allows the police to stop his or her vehicle without cause if it is being operated between the hours of 1:00A.M. and 5:00A.M. You will be issued a C.A.T. Program participation sticker for the inside of your vehicles rear window to help officers identify your vehicle as a C.A.T. car. During a C.A.T. stop officers will check the identity of the operator, vehicle registration and look for signs showing that the vehicle was stolen. The idea is to identify auto thieves and facilitate the recovery of stolen autos as quickly as possible, often before the owner has a chance to report the vehicle stolen.

If you would like to participate in the C.A.T. Program please stop by the station to complete a program registration form and get your C.A.T. car identification sticker. **This program is completely free to Hartford residents.**