

TO THE HONORABLE GOVERNOR EDWARD RENDELL AND MEMBERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE:

I am pleased to report another great year for Pennsylvania drivers, the ATPA and our grantees. In 2004, auto thefts decreased by 0.9 percent, with a total of 29,085 reported thefts.* This number is down from more than 47,000 in 1995, meaning that, in total, auto theft in Pennsylvania has decreased by more than 32 percent since we began our work nearly ten years ago. Assuming that the average stolen vehicle costs an insurance company \$7,000, the efforts of the ATPA and its grantees have saved Pennsylvania residents \$225,500,000 in potential vehicle loss alone.

This year, we continued to educate drivers about how valuable their ordinary cars are to thieves, and increased consumer awareness about protecting their vehicles through a variety of programs, including VIN-etching. The ATPA and its

grantees VIN-etched a total of 2,045 cars in 2004, making this one of the biggest years for VIN-etching to date.

I am also pleased to report that in 2004 the ATPA redesigned its entire website. The new website, which was launched in February 2005 to coincide with our 10th anniversary, is a more interactive, informative and educational resource for site visitors.

2004 has been a very successful year for the ATPA and its grantees, and we anticipate an even more exciting year in 2005 as we celebrate our 10th anniversary and continue to work together to fight auto theft in Pennsylvania.

Respectfully,



Julia K. Hearthway, Chair
Pennsylvania Auto Theft Prevention Authority

* UCR numbers are subject to continual edit and not complete until the UCR Annual Report is compiled. The 2004 UCR Annual Report is expected October 2005.