



# News Release

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**Date:** December 14, 2021

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**CAUTION: THIS INFORMATION IS NOT ENTIRELY INCLUSIVE OF RECENT EVENTS OR ARRESTS. USE OF THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE AT YOUR DISCRETION. SOME NAMES, DETAILS AND ADDRESSES MAY NOT BE ACCURATE AT THE TIME OF THIS RELEASE.**

## Catalytic Converter Thefts Continue to Surge through December

The Wallingford Police Department is aware of the surge of both catalytic converter thefts and theft from autos in the State. We are addressing each incident as they are reported, and are implementing best practices to detect and deter this type of crime. Since October 2021, there have been approximately 62 documented incidents of catalytic converter thefts from Wallingford addresses. Our Community Impact Unit is leading our efforts to combat this issue and we are working with other Law Enforcement partners to determine who is responsible for plaguing the State with this type of crime. We aim to hold those responsible accountable for their actions.

### **Some brief reminders to help protect yourself from these types of crimes are:**

- Keep your car in a locked garage if you have one
- Park your cars in well-lit areas.
- Park your cars in public view if possible.
- Install surveillance systems on your home/business.
- Lock your gate surrounding your business if you have one.
- Mark your catalytic converter with a unique identifier or paint it a bright color.
- Call the police if you see something suspicious.

The Wallingford Police Department Community Impact Unit will be passing out informational documents to local businesses this week with further information on how to protect yourself and your businesses in the future.

We ask that you please forward any video or information you may have regarding these thefts to our police department. Please contact Officer Szeligowski at (203)294-2827 with any information.

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