

KATHY HOCHUL GOVERNOR

September 15, 2023

Dear Kia or Hyundai owner:

This letter is to alert you to a major increase in car thefts focused on certain Kia and Hyundai cars including the one(s) you have registered in New York State. It is also to advise of tools available to you free of charge to help prevent your car from being stolen.

The safety of every New Yorker is our top priority. While there are several reasons why car thefts have skyrocketed in New York and around the country, many are due to videos posted to social media that demonstrate how to steal certain cars lacking anti-theft immobilizers. New York State is working to address this problem and protect public safety by increasing law enforcement efforts and prosecutions of car thieves. We know that for many people a car is more than a highly valuable possession, it is essential for work, school, and family.

Fortunately, there are some common-sense steps you can take to help prevent your car from being stolen such as always locking your car doors and parking in well-lit areas. In addition, Kia and Hyundai have agreed to provide tools to strengthen your car's anti-theft protections, including a software update and a window sticker, an example of which is below, alerting would-be thieves of the anti-theft features, available to you free of charge.



More details on this offer can be found at www.ny.gov/CarTheft, or on the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) website www.nhtsa.gov/press-releases/hyundai-kia-campaign-prevent-vehicle-theft. You can also contact Kia toll-free at 800-333-4542, and Hyundai toll-free at 800-633-5151 for more information. New York State and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) urge you to take advantage of these enhancements available through Kia, Hyundai and NHTSA.

In addition to the software updates described above, New York State and the DMV will continue to work with automobile dealers across the state, NHTSA, and others to ensure all vehicle owners have access to tools to combat this current increase in car theft. We encourage you to remain vigilant and take all necessary steps to prevent theft and protect your car.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hochul

Governor, New York

Mark J.F. Schroeder

Commissioner

New York State Department of Motor

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