



Resolution for Watch Your Car Program

- Whereas: The ATPA Committee recognizes the Watch Your Car Program was adopted under the United States Federal Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Act of 1994, and subsequently published in the Federal Register on August 6, 1996.¹
- Whereas: The Watch Your Car Program is a national voluntary effort that encourages owners of motor vehicles to display a light reflective decal or sticker on the rear window of their vehicle to alert police that their vehicle is not normally driven between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.
- Whereas: Since adoption under the United States Code, versions of the national program have been adopted by some states, local jurisdictions and auto theft prevention programs.²
- Whereas: The ATPA Committee received a report from the Intelligence Analysts Workgroup which provided background, rationale, case study, challenges, and recommendations.
- Therefore: Based on consultation with representatives from the ATPA Committee, the Watch Your Car Program would be recommended for IAATI to support an existing or new programmatic implementation under the following conditions:
1. The programmatic owner would perform a jurisdictional legal analysis which demonstrates applicability for implementing or continuing the Watch Your Car program, including consideration on elements of the program not creating intrusive police activity which would infringe on personal rights of citizens,
 2. The programmatic owner has on-going impact analysis of the Watch Your Car Program which identifies and manages the number of registrants enrolled in the program, awareness, and training to law enforcement, and ability to dis-enroll registrants that either no longer poses the previously enrolled vehicle or desire to no longer participate,
 3. The programmatic owner performs an annual administrative analysis on the performance and effectiveness of Watch Your Car Program, which may include the number of active registrants, number of dis-enrolled registrants, number of vehicles which were identified as being stolen at the time of the police stop, etc.
- Adopted: This resolution is adopted by the IAATI ATPA Committee on the 9th day of May 2019.

¹ Federal Register, Volume 61, No. 152, Pages 40725-40727, 42 U.S.C. 14171 Part 29 Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Act Regulations

² Examples of Watch Your Car Programs include: Combat Auto Theft or C.A.T. program began as an experiment in New York in the mid-1980's and was brought to additional cities in California in 1992 (Connelly, June 30, 1992); California and Minnesota call it the Help Eliminate Auto Theft or H.E.A.T. program (Riverside, California Police Department, May 8, 2017; Duluth, Minnesota Police Department, 2018); Illinois has the Beat Auto Theft or B.A.T. program (United States Department of Justice, February 1998).