

# LAW & JUSTICE



## CRIME STOPPERS

(503) 823-HELP 111 S.W. 2nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon

### Protect Your Vehicle

#### Police offer prevention tips

If you own or drive a 1995 Honda Civic, a 1991 Honda Accord, a 1997 Ford F-150 or a 1989 Toyota Camry, you may be surprised to know that, despite their age, these cars are among the most popular cars stolen by thieves across the country.

No matter what make or model of car you own there are a number of things you can do to improve the security of your vehicle. The Portland Police Bureau recommends the following a basic prevention policy to help ensure your vehicle is not an easy target for thieves on the prowl:

Never leave your car running with the keys in the ignition when you're away from it, even for "just a minute."

Always roll up the windows and lock the car, even if it's in front of your home.

Never leave valuables in the car. If you must, never leave them in plain view.

Park in busy, well-lighted areas. Carry the registration and in-

urance card with you when you leave your vehicle.

When paying to park in a lot or garage, leave just the ignition key with the attendant. Make sure no personal information is attached. Do the same when you take your car for repairs.

For added auto theft protection you can also etch the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the windows, doors, fenders and trunk lid. This helps to discourage professional thieves who have to either remove or replace etched parts before selling the car.

Install a mechanical locking device — commonly referred to as clubs, collars or j-bars — that locks to the steering wheel, column or brake to prevent the wheel from being turned more than a few degrees.

Consider installing a security system if you live in a high theft area or drive a vehicle that is popular among thieves.

For more information on keeping your vehicle secure visit [portlandpolice.com](http://portlandpolice.com) to access A Guide to Home and Vehicle Security.

## Few Black Military Officers in Ranks

### 60 Years after desegregation

(AP)—Sixty years after President Truman desegregated the military, senior black officers are still rare, particularly among the highest ranks.

Blacks make up about 17 percent of the total force, yet just 9 percent of all officers. That fraction falls to less than 6 percent for general officers with one to four stars.

The rarity of blacks in the top ranks is apparent in one startling statistic: Only one of the 38 four-star generals or admirals serving as of May was black. And just 10 black men have ever gained four-star rank — five in the Army, four in the Air Force and one in the Navy, according to the Pentagon.

The dearth of blacks in high-ranking positions gives younger African-American soldiers few mentors of their own race. And as the overall percentage of blacks in the service falls, particularly in combat careers that lead to top posts, the situation seems unlikely to change.

Still, officials can point to some historic gains by blacks in the services as the Pentagon commemorates Truman's signing of an executive order on July 26, 1948, mandating the end of segregation in the military.

Best known among the four-



African-American airmen train at Tuskegee Airfield in Alabama in 1943.

stars is retired Gen. Colin Powell, who later became the country's first black secretary of state, under President Bush. Another is retired Gen. Johnnie E. Wilson, who in 1961, at age 17, spied an "Uncle Sam Wants You" poster and joined the Army.

The second of 12 children, Wilson grew up in a housing project outside Cleveland. Enlisting in the Army, he said, was the only way he'd get a college edu-

cation. As a young recruit, he found that the older, black noncommissioned officers were eager to guide him, and they urged him to try for Officer Candidate School. Over the next 38 years, he rose through the ranks to become a four-star general.

Why haven't more done the same?

For one thing, Wilson said, "it's hard to tell young people the

sky's the limit when they look up and don't see anyone" who looks like them.

The Army has led the way with black officers, with nearly double the percentage at times over the past three decades as the other services. Blacks represented 11 percent to 12 percent of all Army officers during that time, compared with 4 percent to 8 percent in the Navy, Air Force and Marines.

## Army Scientist Tied to Anthrax Terror, Takes Own Life

(AP) — Anthrax-laced letters that killed five people and severely rattled the post-9/11 nation may have been part of an Army scientist's warped plan to test his cure for the deadly toxin, officials said.

The brilliant but troubled scientist committed suicide last week, knowing prosecutors were closing in.

The sudden naming of scientist Bruce E. Ivins as the top — and perhaps only — suspect in the anthrax attacks marks the latest bizarre twist in a case that has



Bruce E. Ivins

confounded the FBI for nearly seven years.

Last month, the Justice Department cleared Ivins' colleague, Steven Hatfill, who had been wrongly suspected in the case, and paid him \$5.8 million.

Ivins worked at the Army's biological warfare labs at Fort Detrick, Md., for 18 years until his death on July 29.

He was one of the government's leading scientists researching vaccines and cures for anthrax exposure. But he also had a long history of homicidal threats, ac-

ording to papers filed last week in local court by a social worker.

The letters contained anthrax powder were sent on the heels of

the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and turned up at congressional offices, newsrooms and elsewhere, leaving a deadly trail through post

offices on the way. The powder killed five and sent numerous victims to hospitals and caused near panic in many locations.

## House Apologies for Slavery

(AP)—The U.S. House of Representatives issued an unprecedented apology to black Americans last week for the wrongs committed against them and their ancestors who suffered under slavery and Jim Crow segregation laws.

The resolution, passed by voice vote, was the work of Tennessee Democrat Steve Cohen, the only white lawmaker to represent a majority black district.

Congress has issued apologies before — to Japanese-Americans for their internment during World War II and to native Hawaiians for the overthrow of the Hawaiian kingdom in 1893. In 2005, the Senate apologized for failing to pass anti-lynching laws.

Five states have issued apologies for slavery, but past proposals in Congress have stalled, partly over concerns that an apology would lead to demands for reparations — payment for damages.

The Cohen resolution does not mention reparations. It does commit the House to rectifying "the lingering consequences of the misdeeds committed against African-Americans under slavery and Jim Crow."

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