



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT



# NOTIFICATION

## TIMELY WARNING BULLETIN

Date: September 17, 2019

In recent weeks, three pickup truck tailgate thefts have been reported to the FIUPD, and it is growing trend throughout South Florida. Criminals are finding a lucrative market for these stolen tailgates. Most tailgates can be stolen without tools and a thief can steal one in very little time, usually less than 20 seconds, without setting off any alarm or attracting much attention. Replacements tailgates are expensive; often more than \$1,000 after installation. With these costs in mind, there are many second-hand dealers or auto repair shops that willingly purchase these stolen tailgates to sell to their customers.

If you or anyone you know has any information that could help the FIUPD in investigating these thefts, please contact us at (305) 348-2626 or via the Silent Witness at [police.fiu.edu](mailto:police.fiu.edu).

Pickup truck owners are urged to pay close attention to the following prevention tips, and all members of our FIU community should remember to stay vigilant and remember, "If you see something, say something."

### Tailgate Theft Prevention Tips:

- Try to park your vehicle in well-lit, highly populated area with heavy foot traffic to deter thefts.
- Secure your tailgate using commercial tailgate locks or do it yourself with hose clamps: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHD3oewVKPE>
- Please report suspicious person(s) and/or activity by calling FIUPD at (305) 348-5911 for emergencies or (305) 348-2626 for non-emergencies. Persons who wish to report anonymously can do so through our "Silent Witness" process at [POLICE.FIU.EDU](http://POLICE.FIU.EDU)

Please go to <https://police.fiu.edu/crime-awareness-2/timely-warnings/> for updates to this and all of FIUPDs Timely Warnings.

In compliance with federal *Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998*, we are issuing this "Timely Warning Notice" to report an incident that may pose a serious or continuing threat to the campus community.

Florida International University Police Department  
885 Southwest 109<sup>th</sup> Avenue, PG5 Marketplace  
(305) 348-2626 | Emergency: (305) 348-5911