Auto Theft at Gas Stations/Convenience stores

St. Petersburg Police wants the public to be aware of an increase in the number of cars stolen at gas stations and convenience stores. See how quickly it happens:

https://youtu.be/ss9ROJAEemk

Most of the thefts occur when the owner leaves the car running for a minute to run inside and pay the clerk. However, recently we’ve also seen cases where the owner is right next to the vehicle with the key fob, and the thief jumps in and is able to start the car with the push button....and drive off.

Message to owners: Don't leave cars unattended for quick stops... especially if you have a newer car with a push button start.

Sgt. Brian Taylor from Auto Theft will be available from 10:30-11am for media interviews in the Community Awareness office.