



# Tailgate Thefts

## Information & Prevention Tips



Sacramento County has seen a rise in tailgate thefts. If you own a 2010 or newer truck, there is a potential the tailgate will be stolen, especially if it has a backup camera installed.

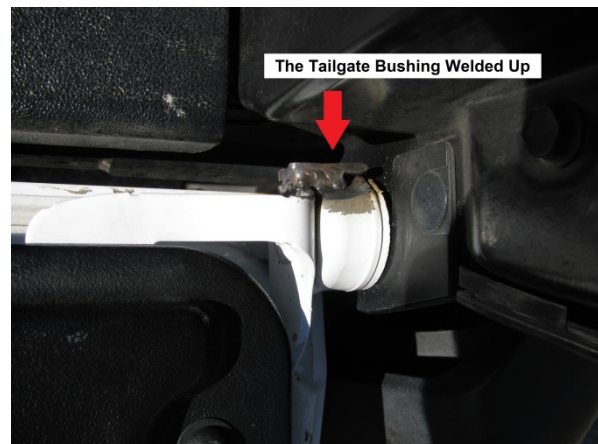
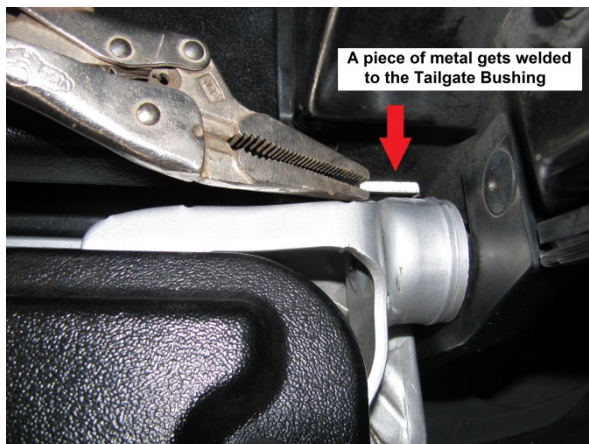
### Theft Details

If you own a newer truck, most likely its tailgate is designed to be removed effortlessly within minutes. 70% of the tailgates stolen have a backup camera (which greatly increases the value of the tailgate). Of the tailgates stolen, about 50% are Fords, 20% are Chevys, 15% are Dodges and 15% are Toyotas. The average cost to replace a tailgate is \$1,500 to \$2,000, but it can be as high as \$3,000. These thieves are selling the stolen tailgates on the internet or directly to dismantlers. The thieves are getting \$300 - \$500 for a stolen tailgate, but can get as much as \$800.

### Protection Measures

There are (3) viable methods to protect your tailgate, with the 3<sup>rd</sup> option below being the best.

- 1) **LOCK IT** - Keep your tailgate locked (if equipped). Thieves are not attempting to defeat locked tailgates, but some truck models don't have a tailgate lock so one of the below methods will be required.
- 2) **ALARM IT** – An Aftermarket Alarm can be installed. When your tailgate is opened, the alarm will sound.
- 3) **WELD IT** (Best Option) – Get the tailgate bushing (U connector) and the cable connectors welded up. The tailgate can still go up and down, but it **CAN NOT** be removed. See the pictures below:



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