



**Kia America, Inc. | Central Region**  
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June 23, 2021

**Sent Via Email and U.S. Mail**

Milele A. Coggs  
Alderwoman, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Milwaukee City Hall  
200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Khalif J. Rainey  
Alderman, 7<sup>th</sup> District  
Milwaukee City Hall  
200 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Alderwoman Coggs and Alderman Rainey,

We at Kia America thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2021 regarding the increase in thefts of vehicles in the Milwaukee area. We at Kia understand and share your concerns regarding the impact of this criminal activity on your communities.

To support the safety and security of Kia owners and our local Milwaukee communities we will be proactive in our response. Our engineering team has investigated this matter and determined that the vehicles being targeted are those that do not feature engine immobilizers. This feature is used to make it more difficult to start a vehicle without a key.

While there is no defect with these vehicles, and they meet or exceed Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, similar to other brands not all Kia vehicles feature immobilizer technology. With the introduction of our 2022 Model Years, engine immobilizers will be standard equipment on all new Kia models at all trim levels.

We would like to support the City of Milwaukee and the Milwaukee Police Department on theft prevention. We are developing our plans internally and will share with you once determined. Our engineering teams are also looking at a potential upgrade for the targeted vehicles.

We thank you for allowing us to be a part of the solution to the benefit of all Milwaukeeans.

Sincerely,

Scott Fitzgerald  
Director, Central Region  
Kia America, Inc.