

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** \_\_\_\_\_

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### **SUFFOLK POLICE REMIND YOU TO LOCK UP**

SUFFOLK, VA (April 7, 2015) During the early morning hours on Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, there were 15 car burglaries in two neighborhoods and a business near downtown Suffolk, and in all but one of the instances the vehicles had been left unlocked. This is a problem not only for those who were unfortunate enough to have their cars broken into and ransacked, but also for the neighborhood as a whole.

There are 3 main reasons why residents should always lock their car doors:

- 1) Loss of valuables is the most obvious reason to lock your door. Thieves look for crimes of opportunity and prime targets are unlocked vehicles with GPS devices and electronics, cell phones, money and other valuables in plain sight.
- 2) Possible entry to your home. If you leave your doors unlocked with a set of house keys or garage door opener in the glove compartment, it could be easy for the thieves to possibly enter your home, and you could become further victimized.
- 3) Do it for the neighborhood. While the Suffolk Police Department is happy to know that people feel secure in their neighborhoods, they stress that public safety is a shared responsibility. If we tend to keep our cars or homes unlocked, word gets around and this is an open invitation for possible future crime.

With spring weather finally here, more people are focusing their attention on the outdoors, whether doing lawn work or possibly enjoying family time in the backyard. Always make sure to lock your doors, and don't forget garages or sheds where lawn tools and bicycles can be easy targets.

Suffolk Police would like to remind everyone to lock up, whether your car or your home. Do it not only for yourself and your family, but also for the neighborhood.

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