

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE _____

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SUFFOLK POLICE REMIND YOU TO LOCK UP

SUFFOLK, VA (March 9, 2017) During the overnight and early morning hours on Tuesday, March 7th, and Wednesday, March 8th, there were 24 incidents of thefts from motor vehicles in several neighborhoods, including northern Suffolk and areas off Godwin and Portsmouth Boulevards. In the overwhelming majority of these instances the vehicles had been left unlocked. This is a problem not only for those who were unfortunate enough to have their cars entered and ransacked, but also for the neighborhoods 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, jewelry, weapons, 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 arriving early, 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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