EUGENE POLICE NEWS RELEASE

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Don’t let criminal grinches steal holiday cheer

The Eugene Police Crime Prevention Unit wants students to protect their property over the holiday break and raise awareness of property crime issues and the avenues to report suspicious behavior.

Statistically, the Eugene Police Department is aware that property crime spikes during the weeks of winter break when many take the opportunity to visit family, friends and warmer weather. The Crime Prevention Unit is hoping that students will assist others in becoming aware of the risk and take the easy steps necessary to make their homes and vehicles “harder targets” while they are away.

Criminals target students, but there are simple steps you can take to prevent from being a victim:

BURGLARY PREVENTION
Lock doors and windows.
Don’t leave valuables visible through windows.
Take your valuables with you when you leave for the holidays.

THEFT FROM VEHICLE PREVENTION
Never leave ANYTHING in view even when your car is locked.
Park in busy and well-lit areas.

THEFT OF VEHICLE PREVENTION
Use a steering wheel locking device. EPD sells these for only $13.
Use a vehicle security system.

DON’T ADVERTISE YOUR VACATION PLANS - It’s risky to change your answering-machine message to say you’re on vacation or allow your home to look unoccupied while you’re away. Share your vacation information on a “need-to-know” basis.

For emergencies and crimes in progress call 9-1-1. To report crimes that have already occurred that are not emergencies, please call the non-emergency line at 541.682.5111. There is also the online reporting tool at http://www.eugenepolice.com (report a crime). Using this online citizen police
report system allows you to submit a report immediately for vandalism, criminal mischief, graffiti, hit and run, illegal camping, and to provide anonymous drug/crime/behavioral activity tips.

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