EUGENE POLICE NEWS RELEASE

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Holiday Property Crime – Package Theft

Recently, the Lane County Sheriff’s Office has sent out information about a white pickup truck in the Santa Clara area that is associated with several package thefts. Because of the increase in property crime during the holiday season and the proximity to these thefts, the Crime Prevention Unit wants to remind people how they can protect against these types of crimes.

Statistically, the Eugene Police Department is aware that property crime spikes during the last half of December when many take the opportunity to visit family, friends and warmer weather. The Crime Prevention Unit is hoping that people 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.

There are simple steps you can take to prevent from being a victim of property crime.

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.

DON’T BECOME COMPLACENT – Be aware and attentive of your surroundings!
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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