



CHATHAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Chatham County Police Department Urges Wilmington Island Residents to Report Thefts from Vehicles

Detectives Believe Numerous Unlocked Autos Were Entered Last Night

Chatham County, GA (September 10, 2020) – The Chatham County Police Department is urging people on Wilmington Island to check their vehicles for any signs that they may have had items stolen from them overnight.

Chatham County Police Department detectives have identified two juveniles who they believe entered only unlocked vehicles and stole numerous items. Detectives have recovered some of those items, and are now asking victims to come forward. Investigators believe the juveniles targeted the North Cromwell Road and Deerwood Road areas, and all surrounding streets, neighborhoods, and apartment complexes.

“Even if you had a small item stolen, the evidence we could potentially gather from your vehicle, neighbors, and security cameras could be invaluable as we build our case,” said Chatham County Criminal Investigation Division Captain Gene Harley. “We’re asking anyone who found their vehicle was rummaged through and had items missing to contact us now so we can process the evidence as quickly as possible.”

Harley also cautions all residents in every area of the county to remove valuables from their vehicles, and make sure vehicles are always locked.

“Every week, we have residents report that valuable items have been stolen from a vehicle they left unlocked. A crook doesn’t care if the vehicle is in your driveway, or if you’re parked in front of a business while you run inside for a quick minute or two,” Harley continued. “They will take the opportunity to steal whatever they can find, and that includes cash, credit cards, electronics, jewelry and firearms. The best way to prevent becoming a victim is by simply locking your door.”

Anyone who needs to report a vehicle that has been unlawfully entered can call the department’s non-emergency line 24-hours a day, seven days a week at 912-652-6500 and an officer will be

sent to your location. Anyone with information about the juvenile suspects or entering auto cases can call Chatham County Police Department detectives at 912-651-4701 or CrimeStoppers at 912-234-2020. Tipsters remain anonymous, and may qualify for a cash reward.

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