



CITY OF EDMONDS

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POLICE DEPARTMENT • AN ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

DAVE EARLING

MAYOR

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE #1

Date: March 17, 2014

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Edmonds Police Department

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The Edmonds Police Department wants the public to be aware of a recent trend in our area. Since the first of the year there have been a large number car prowls reported. Edmonds Police on two separate occasions have arrested several suspects as they responded to car prowls in progress or suspicious circumstances. The investigations into the car prowls and thefts have some common factors in them. Many of the vehicles that had items taken out of them were unlocked. Out of these vehicles the suspect(s) took cash, change, lap top computers, cell phones, and garage door openers.

While there have been reported car prowls throughout the City, the recent outbreak has centered in the Esperance area, downtown Edmonds and the north end of the City. Similar instances have occurred in Lynnwood and surrounding cities as well. These are crimes of opportunity where the criminals are going through an area and quickly opening any vehicle that is left unlocked and taking whatever they can that is of any value. There have been cases where the criminals did break car windows to get inside however, the vast majority have been vehicles that were left unlocked.

The Edmonds Police Department wants to recommend to people to do the following to help prevent them from becoming a victim:

- 1) Lock your vehicles
- 2) Do not leave anything of value in your vehicle even briefly
- 3) Remove garage door openers from vehicles if parked outside overnight
- 4) Criminals look for anything of value that is in plain sight, remove it!!
- 5) If you see a vehicle or people that look out of place or suspicious, CALL 9-1-1

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