

PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE

**Owatonna Police Department
204 East Pearl Street
Owatonna, MN 55060**



For Release Immediately

Thursday, April 16, 2009

**Shaun E. LaDue
CHIEF OF POLICE**

For Further Information Contact

Investigations Commander, Eric G. Rethemeier

507-774-7203

Crime Alert-Vehicle break-ins

The Owatonna Police Department is requesting citizens to be alert in observing and reporting suspicious behavior during the evening and nighttime hours.

During the past four days, there have been numerous reports of vehicles being broken into in the areas south of Main St., bordered to the east by Grove Ave., to the west by South Cedar Ave., and to the north of South St. The vehicle tampering reports consist of unlocked vehicles parked on streets and in driveways being entered and rummaged through with change, cell phones, electronics, and wallets/purses taken. There have also been vehicles that have been entered while parked in unlocked garages.

There is little to no suspect information at this time.

What can you do?

- Please be alert to suspicious activity and don't hesitate to call 911 to report it. This includes strangers walking or loitering about your neighborhoods, apparent juveniles out after curfew, vehicles you don't recognize circling your neighborhood, or sounds such as glass breaking or loud banging.
- Record descriptions of suspicious people and/or vehicle(s) and obtain license plate numbers when possible.
- Don't leave valuables unsecured and within the vehicle.
- Consider parking your vehicle in well lit locations.

These incidents are under investigation by the Owatonna Police Department. Anyone with information regarding these incidents is requested to please contact the Owatonna Police Department-Captain Eric G. Rethemeier @ 507-774-7203.

