



ST. PETE BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
200 76th Avenue
St. Pete Beach, FL 33706
727-363-9200

DATE: June 10, 2009

Vina Residents:

Within the past week, a number of car burglaries have been reported to the St. Pete Beach Police Department. Entry is usually gained from unlocked car door(s); however some of these burglaries have been forced entries (i.e. prying type tool or breaking a window).

In Vina Del Mar, we've had approx 12 cars burglarized in the past week. These crimes have occurred during the early morning hours on weekday nights. All of these cars have been unlocked.

This morning at approx 1:15 a.m., a Vina Del Mar resident witnessed a suspect inside his unlocked vehicle. Prior to entering the victim's car, the suspect had entered another unlocked car (on the same property), which contained the ignition key to the victim's car. The perpetrator(s) subsequently used this key to steal the victim's car. The victim phoned the St. Pete Beach Communication Center and officers were immediately dispatched. Shortly thereafter, officers recovered the victim's vehicle, but we were unable to apprehend the suspects.

Forensic evidence is currently being processed in these cases. The suspects in this morning's incidents are reported to be B/M juvenile(s) in their teens.

St. Pete Beach has stepped up uniform patrols, and will be supplementing normal patrols with plainclothes officers in unmarked vehicles (along with other covert methods). Electronic message boards have been deployed at several locations within St. Pete Beach asking for residents to lock their homes and vehicles.

As a reminder, please lock your car doors and don't keep items of value in plain view. Be sure to report any suspicious activity to the police department immediately at (727) 363-9200 or 911.