



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Police Department

411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802
218-730-5400 | www.duluthmn.gov | Gordon Ramsay, Chief of Police

For more information contact Brad Wick, Public Information Officer 218-390-2217



DATE: 05/06/2010

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Vehicle Prowl/Theft

CASE NO.: 102267686

INCIDENT DATE :04/23/2010

INCIDENT TIME: 8:11 PM

INCIDENT LOCATION: Home Depot Parking Lot, 1101 Mall Drive

SUBJECT: Help ID Female Suspect using Credit Cards/Checks taken in Vehicle Prowl

BY: Officer Brad Wick, Information Coordinator

The Duluth Police Department is asking for the public's assistance in identifying a female suspect who has been making purchases with stolen credit cards and checks.

On Friday, April 23rd, 2010, at 8:11 PM, the Duluth Police Department investigated the report of a vehicle prowling that occurred in the Home Depot parking lot, 1101 Mall Drive. The reporting party told officers that they had parked their black sport utility vehicle in the parking lot shortly after 6:00 PM. They returned to the vehicle about 45 minutes later and found the vehicle broken into and a purse missing. Inside the purse were credit cards and a checkbook.

Almost immediately after the theft the credit cards were being used at local retail and convenience stores, along with area restaurants. Since the evening of the theft, checks have been used at locations as far away as the Twin Cities, with some used in Forest Lake and Elk River.

Police are asking that anyone with information on the female suspect in the accompanying photograph call Investigator Shana Greene at (218) 730-5623.



Police would also like to remind the citizens of some basic Vehicle Prowl Prevention tips:

- Keep the interior of your car clean. **Never leave valuables**, including bags, purses, wallets, briefcases, laptops, cell phones, loose change or anything that may appear valuable **in plain view**.
- Don't store or leave credit cards, identification or personal information in your glove box or anywhere in your car.
- If you have to leave valuables in your car, **put them in the trunk before you get to your destination**.
- Before leaving your parked car, always remove the keys, roll up the windows, lock the car and set the alarm (if you have one). Keep your keys with you.
- Park in busy, well lit areas.
- Report any suspicious activity to the police. **One of the most important things you can do is to report all suspicious activity to 9-1-1 and encourage others to do the same.**

If your car is broken into or there is a car prowling in progress, call 9-1-1. With your help, vehicle prowls will go down and police will have a better chance of catching those responsible.