



CITY OF EUREKA

EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

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Date: April 29, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: EPD Recovers Three Stolen Vehicles – Two Arrested

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On the morning of 4-29-13, officers with the Eureka Police Department recovered three recently stolen vehicles during separate incidents. Two suspects were taken into custody related to these auto thefts and additional arrests may follow.

INCIDENT #1:

On 4/29/13, at about 8:15 AM, an EPD officer on uniformed patrol spotted a gray 1987 Nissan van parked in an alley behind a residence on the 900 block of Pine Street, Eureka. The officer recognized the Nissan as a vehicle which had been reported stolen overnight from the 200 block of West Wabash, Eureka. The van, which was unoccupied, was released to its owner. Officers are presently waiting to review an existing security video which may identify the suspect(s).

INCIDENT #2:

On 4/29/13, at approximately 9:01AM, a citizen phoned EPD dispatch to report he was following his girlfriend's stolen gray 2000 Toyota Tundra in the Henderson Center area. The Tundra had been stolen yesterday during a residential burglary on the 2900 block of J Street, Eureka. During the burglary, a handgun had been taken along with a substantial amount of the victim's property.



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Responding officers intercepted the stolen Toyota Tundra as it was traveling northbound on 'E' Street approaching Wabash Avenue. Officers conducted a high risk traffic stop on the vehicle and detained its driver and sole occupant, Tamela Deette Brown (age 31), at gunpoint.

During a search of Brown's purse in the vehicle, officers located jewelry and make-up which had been taken from the victim's home during the residential burglary. Officers also found ammunition believed to belong to the victim's stolen .38 caliber revolver, and a forged title for the Toyota Tundra.

Brown is currently on probation for possession of a controlled substance. She was arrested and transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where she was booked for felony vehicle theft, receiving/possessing a stolen vehicle, receiving/possessing stolen property, and probation violation.

Brown was released from custody a short time later without having had to post bond due to "overcrowding" at the jail.

The investigation into this vehicle theft and the related residential burglary is continuing and additional arrests may follow.

INCIDENT #3:

On 4-29-13, at about 8:36 AM, EPD responded to the report of a vehicle theft on the 700 block of P Street, Eureka. The victim reported an acquaintance, Brandon Douglas Bean (age 34), was visiting her residence last night when she fell asleep. When the victim woke up, she discovered Bean had taken her vehicle (a gold 1999 Ford Taurus), keys, and purse along with other items.

At approximately 9:21 AM, an EPD officer located the victim's stolen Ford Taurus parked unoccupied on Howard Street. The officer developed information Bean may be staying in a mobile home at a nearby trailer park located on the 1200 block of Allard Avenue. Officers set-up a perimeter around the mobile home and then demanded Bean's surrender. Bean was subsequently taken into custody after he fled into a bedroom and shut the door.

Bean was transported to the Humboldt County Correctional Facility where he was booked for felony vehicle theft and receiving/possessing a stolen vehicle. Bean was also arrested and booked on an outstanding misdemeanor warrant for vehicle theft.



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The victim's stolen vehicle and property was returned to her.

The Eureka Police Department would like to offer some tips for auto theft prevention:

1. Lock your vehicle, close all windows, and take your keys.
2. Hide valuables. Don't leave them in plain view as they will attract thieves.
3. When possible, park in well-lit areas and avoid secluded spots.
4. Never leave your vehicle running and unattended for even a moment (e.g. while at an ATM or warming it up on a cold morning).
5. If you have a garage or secure parking area, use it when possible.
6. If your vehicle has an alarm or anti-theft device, use it!
7. Be alert for suspicious individuals when you approach or leave your vehicle. Lock the doors once inside.
8. Take your automatic garage opener with you when you go inside at night. Thieves may take it and use it later to burglarize your home.
9. Don't leave important documents inside your vehicle such as bank statements, credit card bills, or other personal information. Thieves may later use it to steal your identity and/or access your bank and credit card accounts.
10. Never leave the title in your car. These documents make it easier for thieves to dispose of your vehicle.

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BRANDON BEAN

TAMELA BROWN





JAN California