Eugene Police

EPD warns: Keep garage door remote control, car registration away from thieves

Jan. 5, 2017

Eugene police are encouraging residents to keep garage remote controls and vehicle registration on their person rather than in their vehicle because it could prevent garages and homes from being burglarized.

They are warning about an uptick in burglaries in which thieves enter through the garage door, using the resident's own stolen garage door remote control.

In some cases, police said, thieves have broken into cars, stealing garage door openers and getting the owner's address from the vehicle registration. The thieves then sometimes go to the address on the registration and break in, police said.

Some residents have reported tools, bicycles and other items stolen from their garages. Others are reporting that burglars have used tools taken from the garage to enter residences and steal electronics, jewelry and other items.

Police advise keeping garage door remote controls on your person instead of leaving it in your vehicle. Keychain garage door remote controls are compact and portable, police said. They also recommend locking the door leading from the garage into the house and keeping the exterior garage door closed unless someone is in the garage.

Police said it is legal in certain circumstances to black out a residential, business, mailing or vehicle address from a registration card stored in a glove box. For complete information, see http://bit.ly/2iFaxQe regarding administrative rule 735-030-105.

Keeping vehicle registration cards in a wallet with your driver's license and proof of insurance is another option.