



Sheriff Eric B. Hess

FLUVANNA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fluvanna County, VA — April 16, 2026

The Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office is currently investigating a recent increase in vehicle break-ins occurring in residential neighborhoods throughout the county.

Over the past several weeks, multiple incidents have been reported, often involving several vehicles in the same area during overnight hours. While many of these cases involve unlocked vehicles, there have also been instances where vehicles were forcibly entered.

Preliminary information indicates that vehicles containing visible items of value appear to be specifically targeted. Items such as purses, wallets, firearms, and other valuables left in plain view have been a common factor in several of these incidents.

The Sheriff's Office is actively following up on leads and is working diligently to identify those responsible. The Sheriff's Office remains committed to holding offenders accountable and protecting the safety of the community.

Residents are strongly encouraged to take proactive steps to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim. Many of these crimes are preventable and occur when suspects encounter easy opportunities. The following measures are recommended:

- Always lock vehicle doors and ensure windows are fully closed, even when parked at home
- Remove keys, key fobs, and garage door openers from vehicles
- Do not leave valuables inside vehicles, including purses, wallets, electronics, or bags
- NEVER leave a firearm in your vehicle when it is going to remain unattended
- If you must leave items in your vehicle, secure them out of sight prior to reaching your destination
- Park in well-lit areas whenever possible and utilize exterior lighting at your residence
- Consider installing cameras or security systems to deter and assist in identifying suspects
- Regularly check your vehicles, especially if parked outside overnight

Taking these precautions not only protects your personal property but also helps deter criminal activity within the community as a whole.

Community awareness and cooperation are critical. Anyone who observes suspicious activity or believes they may have been a victim is urged to contact the Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office.

**Authorized By: Major David R. Wells
Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office**

**P.O. Box 113
160 Commons Boulevard
Palmyra, VA 22963
434.589.8211
www.fluvannasheriff.com**