



Georgetown County Sheriff's Report

March 2007

From The Sheriff's Desk

Lock-It or Lose-It!

One of the major crimes we face in Georgetown County are individuals breaking into motor vehicles. We evaluated the 2006 reports made by victims that had their vehicles broken into and discovered that seventy-one percent of the reports were from victims leaving their **vehicles unlocked!!!**

In 2006, there were 244 breaking into motor vehicle reports made with the sheriff's office. Out of the 244, 172 were unlocked and 72 were locked. This is not to say we could have had 172 less reported incidents but I feel it would have been reduced if the doors were locked.

This year, I have started an awareness campaign called "Lock-It or Lose-It!". During this campaign I would like to encourage the citizens and visitors of Georgetown County to be more cautious when leaving their vehicles unattended by locking their doors and removing valuables. By doing this, I feel that the amount of motor vehicle break-ins will reduce dramatically.

Listed below are a few simple suggestions that can be used to discourage a thief from breaking into your vehicle:

- Don't be a easy target. If a thief is on a mission, he/she is far more likely to try his luck elsewhere if your doors are locked verses unlocked. If you doors are locked and a thief wants to break-in, it will take longer to gain entry. Three common ways of gaining entry is breaking a window, attempting to prior a door open enough to unlock a door with some type of slim object or using a "Slim Jim". A thief



Sheriff A. Lane Cribb

does not want this because it takes too much time and will attract attention.

- If possible, remove all valuables such as purses, cell phones, portable radios, packages, money, lap top computers, golf clubs, etc. Thieves will search for other vehicles that are easier targets if they do not see anything of value in your car.
- If you choose not to remove valuables from your vehicle, conceal them from plain view by securing them in a glove box, center console, or, even better, in the trunk.
- Also be aware of where you park your vehicle. If it is during daylight hours, park it where it is constantly being seen by somebody, don't try to hide it because the place you may choose will be a perfect location for a break-in. During the night, if possible, park in a area with a lot of light, light is an enemy of thieves.
- If you park your vehicle at home in a garage with a door, keep the garage door closed and locked.
- Be suspicious of anyone roaming your neighborhood. Call the sheriff's office if you suspect someone is suspicious.

In closing, I would again like to encourage you to be more cautious when leaving your vehicles unattended. Discourage thieves from breaking into your vehicles by taking a few extra minutes to protect your property.

**GEORGETOWN COUNTY DUI
ARRESTS SINCE JANUARY 1, 2007**

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DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!!

Sheriff Announces Promotions

On February 8, 2007, Sheriff Lane Cribb promoted former Uniform Patrol Deputy Noel Smith to Investigator. Investigator Smith originally began with the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office in August of 2000 after serving 4.5 years with the Florence County Sheriff's Office.



Investigator Noel Smith

When Investigator Smith came to Georgetown, he brought with him experience as a patrol deputy and a member of Florence County Sheriff's Office Drug Interdiction Unit. When he was hired at the GCSO, he served as a COPS Officer until 2003 when he became an agent with the Organized Crime Bureau.

In October of 2003 Inv. Smith resigned and was hired on with Andrews Police Department as the Lieutenant of Operations. In July of 2006, Inv. Smith returned to the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office.

In his new capacity, Investigator Smith is responsible for employing thorough and timely investigative techniques in order to ensure an efficient and effective criminal investigation.

Investigator Dustin Morris was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the Uniform Patrol Division on February 13, 2007 by Sheriff Cribb. Sergeant Morris began with the sheriff's office as an investigator in May of 2005 after serving 10 years with the Georgetown City Police Department.



Sergeant Dustin Morris

While serving with the Georgetown City Police Department, Sergeant Morris was on uniform patrol from November 1995 until July of 1999 when he became an investigator. In 1997, he was promoted to rank of Corporal and along with the responsibilities as a supervisor he was also a Field Training Officer (FTO). In January of 2005, he returned to uniform patrol as a shift Corporal and FTO until he joined the sheriff's office.

In the Uniform Patrol Division, Sergeant Morris will be responsible for all field operations which take place during his shift, supervising assigned subordinates, delegating assignments, evaluating and approving reports, and any other issues that may arise during the day to day operations of his shift.

Lieutenant Receives Federal Commission

Since the South Carolina Joint Terrorism Task Force (SC JTTF) was formed after September 11, 2001, Lieutenant T.L. Staub has been representing the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office by participating in training, intelligence briefings and assisting with local investigations.



Lieutenant T.L. Staub

The SC JTTF is the focal point for all counter-terrorism matters in South Carolina.

The team composes of state and local law enforcement officers, FBI Agents, and other federal agents and personnel who work together to investigate and prevent acts of terrorism. By combining law enforcement agencies it produces a proactive step that ensures the timely collection and sharing of intelligence that is critical for preventing a terrorist act.

In January of 2007, Lt. Staub received a Special Deputation Appointment from the United States Marshals Service to work with the FBI on the SC JTTF. This appointment was giving under authority delegated by the Attorney General to perform duties of the Office of Special Deputy United States Marshal as directed by an appropriate official of the United States Marshals Service or some other appropriated federal official. This commission will also allow Lt. Staub to seek and execute arrest and search warrants supporting a federal task force.

Currently, Lt. Staub coordinates Homeland Security activities for the Georgetown County Sheriff's Office such as security at the South Carolina Ports Authority in Georgetown, incident command, developing plans and procedures involving Homeland Security, and any grant funding from Homeland Security.

Happy Birthday to the Following Sheriff's Office and Detention Center Employees

March 2007

- Thurman Kinley*
- Ed Hetzel*
- William Baxley*
- Chris Bailey*
- Barney Mccray*
- Carla Harris*
- William Teeter*
- Noel Smith*

