

### Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff

1250 Eglin Parkway • Shalimar, Florida 32579-1234 Phone: (850) 651-7410 • Email: sheriff@sheriff-okaloosa.org

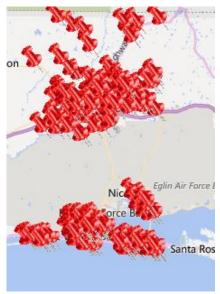
October 12, 2015

## OCSO SAYS DO NOT MAKE IT EASY ON THIEVES -USE ONLINE PROPERTY DATABASE

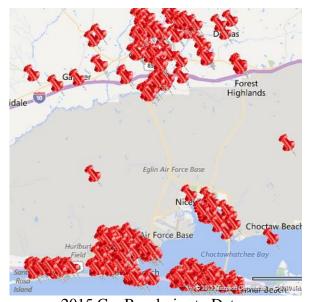


The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is asking residents to take steps to protect their belongings. There have been more than 1000 residential and car burglaries in the OCSO's jurisdiction since January 1<sup>st</sup>. The vast majority of car burglaries target unlocked cars.

The graphics below show a red pin for each car and residential break-in this year.



2015 Residential burglaries to date



2015 Car Burglaries to Date

(Continued on Page 2)



The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

"The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate"



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Simple preventative steps can be the difference between losing thousands of dollars of property and/or being the victim of identity theft if your purse or wallet is stolen with personal identification and credit cards inside.

- 1. Lock Your Car, Take Your Keys, and Hide Your Belongings to prevent car burglaries.
- 2. Sign up for ReportIt which allows you to keep a secure on-line record of valuable property, accessible from anywhere, for free. It's a "proactive tool that allows you to easily catalog information about your valuables. This includes serial numbers, owner applied numbers, photos of property, and scans of receipts.



ReportIt is not a law enforcement function and does not automatically search for property that may have been lost or stolen. Please report any criminal activity to law enforcement immediately



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Page 3

ReportIt is part of the Leads Online system, which allows the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office and other law enforcement agencies across the country to track and recover stolen property. **Keeping serial numbers is critical.** Once you file a report of a theft, you can provide law enforcement the list of stolen property with the serial numbers necessary to make the match.

When an item is sold to a pawn or secondhand shop, the product information is entered into the Leads Online database and verifiable by participating law enforcement agencies. The record may also come in handy when filing claims with insurance providers.

https://reportit.leadsonline.com/



# Safe. Secure. Free.

Knowing what you own – the difference between recovering and not recovering stolen property.

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