



For Immediate Release: April 25, 2019
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**Multiple Vehicle Break-ins and Stolen Vehicles Being
Investigated in Jerome Township**

The Union County Sheriff's Office is investigating a rash of vehicle break-ins and motor vehicle thefts that occurred during the early morning hours of April 25th in Jerome Township in southern Union County. The hardest hit areas include the Dogwood Neighborhood in Jerome Village and the New California Woods and Hills sub-divisions. A total of four vehicles were stolen which include a 2019 black Mercedes Benz CL25, a white 2017 Toyota Prius, a black 2011 Honda Odyssey, and a silver 2004 Acura TL. Detectives from the Sheriff's Office are reviewing video footage for possible persons of interest that were observed using one of the stolen credit cards at a service station on the southeast side of Columbus. Items stolen from the vehicles include a computer, sunglasses, wallets, credit cards, gift cards, cash, head phones, golf clubs, and a backpack. Almost all of the vehicles that were entered were left unlocked and ignition keys were left in several of the stolen vehicles. "Unfortunately, these are primarily crimes of opportunity. We strongly urge residents to lock their vehicles and remove all valuables and keys. This will reduce the opportunities for theft in our community", said Sheriff Jamie Patton. The investigation is ongoing and the Sheriff's Office is working with law enforcement agencies in Franklin County to identify suspects and recover the stolen property.

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Sheriff Malcum J. "Jamie" Patton