



ROCKY WATSON, SHERIFF
TAD LEACH, UNDERSHERIFF

KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

**KOOTENAI COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
MEDIA RELEASE
APRIL 18, 2008**

The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department is seeing an increase of reports of auto burglaries throughout the County. Thieves seem to be targeting **unlocked** vehicles with valuables in plain view. Residents and visitors are reminded that removing valuables from vehicles and locking vehicles are some of the best ways to avoid being a victim of an auto burglary.

The Sheriff's Department was also made aware this week of a re-occurring scam where victims are notified that they have one some sort of a sweepstakes or other contest, and receive a check for a small portion of the "winnings" with instructions to send a money order for a specified amount to cover "taxes." Most of these scams have an Eastern Canadian address where the money is to be sent. The check the victim receives may look real, but is in fact a fraud. Please remember that you have to enter a contest to win a contest and no contest requires you to send them money prior to you receiving your winnings. Remember, that if it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Rocky Watson, Sheriff

By: Capt. Ben Wolfinger