

METROPOLITAN AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE

INFORMATION BULLETIN

06/24/2016

ATTENTION AUTO DEALERS

AFRICAN AUTO THEFT FRAUD

There is currently an Auto Theft Fraud scheme being perpetrated in the United States, specifically targeting the Denver Metro Area car dealers.

The fraud is conducted in the following way:

- A male claiming to be a Doctor or some other professional will call a car dealership wanting to purchase a 1-2-year-old car.
 - The associated area code will be an out of state area code.
 - The caller will speak decent English but an accent will be noticed.
- The male will use a credit card (newly stolen) to start the purchase.
 - They will use a counterfeit driver's license with the provided name.
- They will request the sales paperwork to be overnight mailed to an out of state address.
- Within 24 hours of receiving the sales paperwork the male will contact the dealership to coordinate shipping the vehicle out of state (wanting the car shipped overnight).
 - This will be paid for using a stolen credit card.
- As soon as the suspects get the vehicle they will disable the GPS.
- The vehicle will then be concealed in a cargo container and shipped to Africa.
 - This process will usually be completed before the car dealer knows they have been defrauded.

IF YOU RECEIVE THIS TYPE OF PHONE CALL "PLAY ALONG" WITH THE CALLER OBTAINING AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE.

- Names, Phone Numbers, email address, where they want the paperwork shipped to and type of car they are wanting to order.
- **CONTACT METROPOLITAN AUTO THEFT TASK FORCE**

If you have any information, or are the target of this fraud scheme please contact:

Investigator Brian Taylor at btaylor@englewoodgov.org

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