

***By Jan Rahn***

***Managing Editor***

Burglaries and thefts in Perkins County during the month of December 2009 are under continued investigation by the Perkins County Sheriff's Office.

Four burglaries last month tallied in the neighborhood of \$2,000 in stolen goods from residents in Perkins County.

Sheriff Jim Brueggeman reminds homeowners and business owners to secure their property to deter theft.

A press release from the Perkins County Sheriff's Office describes the crimes in detail:

- The Dec. 11, 2009 forced burglary of an apartment at 229 Washington Avenue has deputies looking for those responsible for entering and stealing a blue and green lava lamp valued at \$20 and 15 DVD movies valued at \$300 from the street-side apartment.

The person committing the burglary broke the front door window to gain access to the residence.

"The apartment was unoccupied following the natural death of the tenant on Dec. 8, and we believe the suspect in this case may have been looking for more than a green lava lamp and DVD movies, given the sheriff's office seized over one pound of marijuana, a significant amount of cash, and drug paraphernalia from the residence during the death investigation," said Sheriff Brueggeman.

"We strongly believe the suspect in this case was an associate or acquaintance of the deceased tenant."

- The forced burglary of two vacant rural farmsteads in northwestern Perkins County reported on Dec. 18, 2009 and Dec. 20, 2009 has deputies looking at who may be responsible for stealing antique board games and a 32-inch Sanyo television.

The two burglaries occurred northwest of Grant at two vacant farmsteads located just around the corner from one another. A value has not yet been determined on the stolen board games, and the 32-inch Sanyo television left by a previous tenant of the property was valued at \$50.

"These cases are believed to be related due to their proximity to one another, and another prior burglary in the same vicinity," said Sheriff Brueggeman. "A suspect and suspect vehicle have been developed in both cases and investigating deputies are following up on the leads."

The Perkins County Sheriff's Office reminds those persons with vacant rural properties to take necessary measures to insure any buildings are secure from intruders, to check the property on a regular basis, and to notify law enforcement of the location of the property so it can be placed on the office's extra patrol list.

- The Dec. 19, 2009 reported theft of four wheels and tires off a red 1997 Chevrolet pickup parked on the front lot of Bullock Motors, Inc. between 4 p.m. Dec. 18, 2009 and 11 a.m. on Dec. 19, 2009 also has deputies investigating and attempting to recover the stolen property with an estimated value of \$1500.

"A suspect vehicle has been identified and deputies are following up on the lead," said Sheriff Brueggeman.

"The suspect in this case used the cover of the salvage yard-like atmosphere and lack of lighting in the back lot, along with the close positioning of other vehicles around the targeted

vehicle to conceal their illegal activity.”

Business owners and homeowners alike are reminded to keep areas around business and residential structures well lit at night and free of debris to deter criminal activity and increase the likelihood of observation of criminal activity by law enforcement officers on patrol or citizen bystanders.

Anyone with information about any of these crimes or who would like their property placed on the extra patrol list is asked to contact the Perkins County Sheriff's Office in person at the courthouse, or by calling 308-352-4564, or via e-mail at [sheriff@perkinscoso.com](mailto:sheriff@perkinscoso.com)