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Press Release

Unlocked cars lead to overnight thefts Overnight thefts lead to jail time

DA Morrissey reminds residents to lock up – especially in summer

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The local man who went on a late-night spree last August, breaking into four cars – some unlocked - parked at homes between Foxborough Common and the Regional Charter School, stealing coins, credit cards and other items, has been sent to jail for the next 2 ½ years.

Matthew Englehart, 24, of Foxborough, pled guilty to four counts of breaking and entering in the night time, credit card fraud, seven counts of identity fraud and multiple larceny charges in Norfolk Superior Court June 30, 2014, according to Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey.

“Assistant District Attorney Debi Curley requested a sentence of 4 to 5 years state prison,” District Attorney Morrissey said. “We are pleased that Judge Raymond Brassard imposed a substantial committed sentence and ordered restitution for these victims.”

Morrissey said the case is a good reminder, particularly in the summer, to keep cars and homes locked at night and when unattended. “It doesn’t matter how safe the town is and how nice the neighborhood is, we see thieves looking for easy targets everywhere,” Morrissey said. “Locking your car door and home at night is the best, easiest thing we can do to avoid being the victim of a property crime. An open door or open window can be an open invitation.”

The break-ins were overnight August 19 to 20, 2013. Englehart began using the credit cards and cashing in the coins the very next day. “Foxborough detectives followed the money, collecting store security video from multiple places the stolen items were being negotiated,” Morrissey said. “It was a nice package of evidence to bring to court. The strength of that case may well have colored his decision to admit his guilt.”