



## **SEAL Chief speaks to Lake Bullard membership May 4, 2019 meeting addressed growing resident concerns about crime**

Reginald Rowe, the head of Security for SEAL (Security Experts and Leaders), Lake Bullard's security control company, spoke to Lake Bullard's membership at the May 4, 2019 meeting. Chief Rowe provided tips to address the increasing number of vehicle break-ins and thefts throughout the city, including Lake Bullard.

He informed the group that NOPD felt that they had apprehended the adult leader of a group of approximately 60 teenagers terrorizing the area. While breaking in cars, the teenagers were especially seeking firearms, laptops and other valuables. Chief Rowe noted that in the two weeks prior to the meeting, 456 cars had been broken into.

Perpetrators use a variety of devices to commit their crimes. Rolljam is a device that can be used to open garage doors or activate a vehicle's push-to-start feature. This device, which can easily be purchased online for about \$32 is used to hack wireless security systems. In an example of a good thing being used for the wrong reasons, the device was originally purposed to open doors in an emergency situation, such as when a child is locked in a car. Other devices being used by criminals are pliers which are used to remove the entire window. During some crimes, the perpetrators simply break the car windows altogether. Other devices used by criminals allow them to jam wireless camera signals, removing the ability to capture valuable footage that can be used to identify the perpetrators or their activities.

To combat these tactics, residents are advised to remove keys from cars when running, leave their lights on at night, lock their doors and park in sight of security cameras. Devices like the Ring doorbell are a good tool, and crime victims have even been able to find their stolen vehicle by using footage of the theft from the Ring app, which can be matched to other homeowners' footage and used in real time to track the movement of the vehicle. However, homeowners were warned that criminals use the app as well and can use the postings to their advantage.

Residents should be aware of their surroundings at all times, and are encouraged to inform their neighbors and authorities of suspicious activity. If you walk in your neighborhood, you should take photos of suspicious vehicles.

Additional ways to protect yourself are to take a different way home, and check your surroundings to see if you are being followed. If you feel that you are being followed, you should pass by your home and go to a well populated location.

You should not allow yourself to be distracted from seeing what's going on around you by using your phone, or to be prevented from hearing what's going on around you by listening to music.

Car owners can install a GPS device inside the car or stow it in the car's trunk. The activity from the GPS device can then be tracked from a phone.

Stolen items may be sold on eBay or in pawn shops, which are the biggest sellers of stolen merchandise. Local authorities are focusing on pawn shops and they are investigating where shop owners are getting their stock. As a result, those who sell items to the shops are required to provide their identification.

If you see suspicious activity, please call the SEAL group at (504) 329-8023 to report security concerns.

**SECURITY EXPERTS AND LEADERS**



**Lake Bullard**  
Your Security Contact:  
**(504) 329-8023**

**Seal's Safety Tips:**

- Be observant
- Get to know your neighbors
- Report any suspicious activity
- Lock home and car doors upon entering and exiting
- Turn on nightlights for safety
- Always carry your cellphone while walking around your neighborhood
- Let a trustworthy neighbor or family member know when you'll be away for a long period of time

SEAL Brochure Side 2.JPG (474 x 699)



**For complaints or suggestions, please call:**  
**(504) 248-7174**

**For Emergencies  
Dial 911**

[www.sealsecuritygroup.com](http://www.sealsecuritygroup.com)



**"Thank you for  
letting us serve you"**