

**Howard County Police Department  
Office of Public Affairs  
Daily Crime Bulletin  
Tuesday, August 29, 2017**

**Skimming device**

**Elkridge, 21075:** Exxon, 7300 block of Washington Boulevard, Aug. 28 1:45 p.m.

A resident reported that gas pumps at the location had damaged or missing security tape. Officers responded and located a skimming device inside one pump.

***Police urge drivers to continue to look for anything suspicious at gas pumps, follow these tips:***

- *Look for signs of tampering: If there is a security seal over the cabinet panel, is it damaged? Is the card scanner or keypad loose or crooked?*
- *Choose a pump within view of the gas station attendant.*
- *If you use a debit card at the pump, run it as a credit card instead of entering a PIN. That way, if your card is compromised, the money isn't deducted immediately from your account.*
- *Consider paying for your gas inside the station or kiosk.*
- *If you discover fraudulent activity on your card, contact your bank immediately, then call police.*

**Theft from vehicle**

**Ellicott City, 21042:** 4400 block of Cross Country Drive, Aug. 28 2:30-2:50 a.m.

A resident reported that a group of suspects forced entry to his vehicle but fled without taking anything. Officers responded to the area and discovered that four additional vehicles had been entered on nearby streets (Cross Country Drive, South Meadow Court, Maxine Street). An EZ Pass and multi-tool were reported stolen.

SUSPECTS: Three males, wearing ski masks, hooded sweatshirts and gloves

**Columbia, 21044:** 10000 block of Town Center Avenue, Aug. 28 11:19 a.m.

Unknown suspect(s) gained entry to two vehicles by breaking their windows and stole a laptop, tablet and clothing.

**Vehicle theft**

**Jessup, 20794:** 7300 block of Assateague Drive, Aug. 28 7:47 a.m.

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