WESTMINSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE

WESTMINSTER POLICE ANNOUNCE CHARGES IN RECENT STOLEN AUTO CASE

Investigators from the Westminster Police Department have filed juvenile charges against a youth from Baltimore County who now stands accused of stealing a 2004 Jaguar from a home in the Uniontown Road area of Westminster during the overnight hours of August 12-13, 2018. During that same evening a total of six vehicles were illegally entered in the same neighborhood. In one case on Rich Mar Court, a witness reported that one of the two suspects displayed what appeared to be a handgun and pointed it at the witness' vehicle as they fled.

It is noted that the same juvenile has also been charged in a series of theft from auto cases which occurred in the Buck Cash Road area of Westminster during the overnight hours of June 25-26, 2018. On that evening, 11 cars were illegally entered and property to include coins, a laptop computer and a debit card were stolen. The juvenile and an adult, Brandon Wayne McClary (20 years of age) of Baltimore, have been charged with theft and other charges relating to those cases.

The Police Department encourages all citizens to practice effective crime prevention strategies to minimize the potential of being victimized, to include:

- Immediately reporting all suspicious activity to their local police department;
- Locking their vehicles and their homes;
- Securing their valuables out of sight and under lock and key; and
- Utilizing exterior lighting around their homes at night.

The Police Department provides residential security surveys at no cost to Westminster residents who seek guidance as to how to better protect their homes and vehicles from the risk of theft or burglary.

In response to news of the arrest, Westminster Mayor Joe Dominick stated, "I wish to express my appreciation to Chief Jeff Spaulding and his staff for bringing this matter to closure so quickly. The arrest is a reflection of their ongoing work to keep our community safe."

Councilman Tony Chiavacci, Chair of the Public Safety Committee of the Westminster Common Council, added, "I am proud of the hard work the WPD does day in and day out to keep our City safe. When they solve challenging cases such as this and a number of others as they have recently, it should be clear to our citizens that we have a top notch police department that delivers excellent service to our community."

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