



Huntington Beach Police Department

PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: November 2, 2009 **Time:** 8:40 AM

TYPE OF INCIDENT: Vehicle Burglaries	
LOCATION: Downtown Huntington Beach / Pacific Coast Highway from 6 th St. to Goldenwest	
DATE/TIME OF OCCURRENCE: 10-9-09 to 10-30-09	CASE NUMBER: 2009-018486

VICTIM INFORMATION Victim # 16 (Use additional page(s) for listing multiple victims)

NAME/AGE/: 16 victims over 3-week period

SUSPECT INFORMATION

ARRESTED: YES XXX NO

SUSPECT # 1 of 2 .

(Use additional page(s) for listing multiple suspects)

NAME/DOB (OR DESCRIPTION): Amber Marie HINTZ / Female, 27 years old			
CITY OF RESIDENCE: Garden Grove			
CHARGES:	1) 459 PC-Vehicle Burglary	2) 664/459 PC-Attempted Vehicle Burglary	3) 182(a)(1) PC-Conspiracy to commit a crime
BOOKED AT: Huntington Beach City Jail			
INJURIES/CONDITION: N/A			
WHERE HOSPITALIZED: N/A			

SUSPECT VEHICLE INFORMATION

MAKE/MODEL: Pontiac Grand Prix	COLOR: Gray	YEAR:
LICENSE/STATE: 5DZS243	DIRECTION OF TRAVEL: N/A	

(Continued on next page)

Press Release Prepared By:	Date/Time on Pressline:
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Distribution:

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Community Liaison Team Sgt.
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Additional Victims/Suspects:

SUSPECT INFORMATION

SUSPECT # 2 of 2 .

ARRESTED: YES XXX NO

(Use additional page(s) for listing multiple suspects)

NAME/DOB (OR DESCRIPTION): Nathan PATER / Male, 32-years old			
CITY OF RESIDENCE: Huntington Beach			
CHARGES:	1) 664/459 PC- Attempted Vehicle Burglary	2) 459 PC-Vehicle Burglary	3) 182(a)(1) PC- Conspiracy to commit a crime
BOOKED AT: Huntington Beach City Jail			
INJURIES/CONDITION: N/A			
WHERE HOSPITALIZED: N/A			

DETAILS:

Over the past three weeks, the Huntington Beach Police Department has had approximately sixteen reports of vehicle burglaries in the area of the City Beach. These burglaries have occurred in the City Beach parking lots or on the streets along Pacific Coast Highway from 6th to Goldenwest Streets. All of these victims were surfers and most had hidden their keys in the wheel-well or bumper of their car. A few victims hid their keys in a backpack and left the backpack on the beach as they went surfing. The suspects would obtain the "hidden" key and enter the victims' vehicles removing various property including wallets, credit cards, iPods, cell phones, etc.

Huntington Beach Police Department Detectives had been tracking some of the victims' credit cards which had been fraudulently used by the suspects. Detectives were able to identify PATER and HINTZ using some of the stolen credit cards. A surveillance team of detectives was set up and watched suspects PATER and HINTZ as they stalked potential victims in the downtown and beach areas. Detectives watched PATER and HINTZ observe surfers preparing to go into the water. The suspects split up with PATER on foot and HINTZ acting as the get-away driver. Once the victim had gone out into the water, PATER recovered the victim's key from the wheel-well of the victim's car. PATER entered the victim's car and began rummaging through the vehicle removing items from the center console, etc. HBPD Detectives confronted

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PATER while he was still inside the victim's vehicle. He surrendered and was taken into custody without incident. Other detectives stopped HINTZ and she was also arrested without incident.

As a public service, the Huntington Beach Police Department urges all of those coming to enjoy the beach to please properly secure your vehicle and secure the key to their vehicle to help prevent such burglaries from occurring. Citizens are encouraged to report any suspicious activity they observe to the police as well.

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