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*Councilman*

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*Councilman*



Pat Efird  
*Mayor Pro Tem*

Gary Doetsch  
*Councilman*

Calvin R. Peck, Jr.  
*Town Manager*

**TOWN OF CAROLINA BEACH**  
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## News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Editor's Note: Suspect's photo not available.

### **CAROLINA BEACH POLICE ARREST SUSPECT IN VEHICLE BREAK-INS**

CAROLINA BEACH, NC---A man suspected in a series of vehicle break-ins and other crimes in the Central Business District here is currently behind bars. Carolina Beach police arrested Eric Scott Dent, 18, of Matthews, NC on October 18, 2005 for three counts of breaking and entering motor vehicles and four counts of misdemeanor larcenies.

According to the police report, Mr. Dent broke into and entered three vehicles behind the Gulf Stream Restaurant at 78 Myrtle Avenue on October 18<sup>th</sup>. One of the vehicle owners observed the suspect and pursued him through the Central Business District heading towards McDonalds. The owner used a stun gun on Mr. Dent who jumped out of his sneakers as a result of the shock.

Surveillance of the area by detectives after the stun gun incident resulted in Mr. Dent being observed walking west on Harper Avenue. He was seen stealing a child's bicycle and was arrested. The victim of the vehicular break-in identified Mr. Dent as the person he had stunned and chased after the vehicles had been damaged.

Police said Mr. Dent used a hammer from one vehicle to break the windows on two other vehicles. He later acknowledged information about a vehicle reported stolen from 700 Harper Avenue also on October 18, 2005. A search of the town resulted in locating the stolen vehicle. Mr. Dent's sneaker prints were identified near the driver's side door.

Mr. Bill Blackburn reported that Mr. Dent had also forged and issued a stolen check to Blackburn Seafood.

- more -

**Carolina Beach  
Vehicle Break-ins  
Page 2**

On October 18, 2005, CBPD took numerous reports of vehicle break-ins and larcenies along Harper and Raleigh Avenues. The victims of the Harper and Raleigh Avenue incidents were able to identify and retrieve all of their property with the exception of \$70 in cash.

Mr. Dent is currently in the New Hanover County Jail under \$8,000 bond with additional warrants being served.

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