

NEWS RELEASE

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ASHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

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THOMAS A. CLARK, CHIEF

The Ashland Police Department has closed several cases involving breaking and entering to businesses, thanks to an arrest by the Chesterfield Police Department.

A 22 year old has been arrested in a series of burglaries affecting 15 businesses in Chesterfield County. According to investigators, Chris Hutchison, from the 2900 block of Lake Point Avenue Midlothian, VA, gained entry into the businesses at night by smashing glass doors. The suspect then allegedly took cash or entire cash registers. More than \$10,000 in damage was done to the affected businesses. He is charged with breaking and entering, grand larceny and motor vehicle theft.

The Ashland Police Department has been able to close multiple breaking and entering cases due to the arrest of this subject. We recommend that our local businesses continue to be increasingly vigilant in their efforts to deter crime by practicing and promoting smart crime prevention techniques.

For your convenience, here is the original 'Crime Alert' from November 16, 2007 -

The Ashland Police Department is notifying the business community of two businesses, located in the Ashland Junction Shopping Center, which were broken into overnight. Suspects broke the glass out of the front doors and entered into the businesses sometime around 3:00 am. In both circumstances, cash was removed. We would like to remind merchants please don't leave cash inside the businesses overnight; to leave lights on inside after closing and make sure that any surveillance equipment is in working order. We commonly see an increase in crime as the holiday season approaches and the police department would like to remind everyone to practice a higher degree of vigilance in deterring crime. For a crime prevention assessment, please contact Officer Gilbert, crime prevention specialist, at (804) 798-1227.