Vehicle burglaries and thefts in Humboldt County have historically shown a significant rise during the spring and summer months, often prompting law enforcement to issue warnings. The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) has previously reported that such incidents can double in frequency, particularly at local beaches and trailheads during the summer season.

Recent Trends and Context:

- **Summer Risk:** Spring and summer months are peak times for theft, including vehicle burglaries.
- **Previous Surges:** Reports of vehicle burglaries have previously doubled in the county between January and August, with a focus on tourist areas.
- **Target Areas:** Beaches and hiking trails are often targeted by thieves while visitors are away from their vehicles.
- **Theft Trends:** A significant number of vehicles are stolen using the owner's own keys, often left inside the car or with the car running.
- **Recent activity (March 2026):** Local reports have indicated continued smash-and-grab incidents in late March 2026, with reports of broken windows and stolen personal belongings (bags, chargers, and console items).

Preventative Recommendations:
The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office advises the public to "leave nothing" in their vehicles, including:

- **Locking** doors, even in the driveway.
- **Removing all valuables** from sight, including purses, wallets, and bags.
- **Taking keys/fobs** with you and never leaving a car running unattended.

- **Removing garage door openers** and personal information (insurance/registration) from the car.

For reporting suspicious activity or a vehicle burglary, contact the HCSO at 707-445-7251.