Unmarked Police Vehicle Stolen from outside Detective’s Home

This morning Detective Matthew Furse, 32, with our Department’s Homicide Unit discovered his city issued unmarked police vehicle missing from the driveway of his south St. Petersburg home. It appears that suspect(s) had also broken into his personal vehicle which had been parked next to it.

The police vehicle, a 2007 Chevrolet Impala, was located at about 7:30 am by a passer-by who saw the car submerged in the water about 15 out on the east shore of Lake Maggiore (about 34 Avenue South and Dr. MLK St S).

Discovered missing from the vehicle’s trunk were the detective’s issued police equipment to include his Glock 45 cal. handgun, a Colt AR 15 rifle, a portable police radio and ammunition.

It appears that sometime during the night the suspect(s), who were not seen, forcibly entered Detective Furse’s locked personal vehicle where a set of keys to the police vehicle had been kept in a center console. An attempt was made to steal the personal vehicle as well. The suspect(s) apparently used the keys to drive the police vehicle from the area, remove the equipment from the trunk and then drive it into the lake.

St. Petersburg Police are asking for the public’s assistance in identifying any possible suspects in this case. Anyone with information should call the non-emergency number at 727-893-7780, Text-A-Tip to 727-420-8911 or leave a confidential tip at 727-892-5000.

Information released by Mike Puetz, 727-893-7550, michael.puetz@stpete.org

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