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## **BROOME SHERIFF / BROOME SECURITY JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

## <u>Otsiningo Park Visitors Warned to Protect Valuables in Vehicles</u> <u>Following Several Break-ins and Thefts</u>

Otsiningo Park visitors are urged to protect their valuables after a series of "smash-and-grab" thefts from vehicles have taken place over the past several weeks.

Broome County Security has reported as many as 8 recent break-ins taking place during the day between 11:00am and 4:00pm.

Larceny suspects have smashed windows and grabbed wallets, purses and other valuables left in view on the seats of parked vehicles.

Broome County Sheriff's Office detectives are currently investigating several larcenies where valuables were stolen at the park, with thieves then utilizing IDs and other items found to withdraw thousands of dollars from the victim's bank accounts.

"We are urging all Otsiningo Park visitors to use extra caution after a series of recent thefts. Locking your doors isn't enough. Secure your valuables out of view or leave them home," said Broome County Security Director Brian Norris.

During the winter months and off-season, Broome County Security Patrols regularly patrol the park and will be increasing their presence considering the recent events.

"Until the culprits are brought to justice, we're urging all park visitors to stay vigilant and protect your valuables," said Broome County Sheriff Fred Akshar. "If you witness any suspicious activity at Otsiningo Park, please don't hesitate to call the Sheriff's Office at 607-778-1911, but in an emergency, always dial 911."

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