***Media Relations Information for 04/24/2012***

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**LPPD catches car burglar within minutes of committing crime**

On 04/23/2012, shortly before 7:00 p.m., La Porte Police Officers responded to the 400 block of South Virginia Street regarding a complaint of a Motor Vehicle Burglary which had just occurred in a residential driveway. Upon arrival, officers learned that a family member of the vehicle owner observed the suspect as the offense was being committed. However the suspect quickly fled the area just prior to the arrival of officers. Responding officers then began an immediate and thorough search of the area and, fortunately, with the suspect having been observed by citizens only a few minutes prior to officer arrival, and with additional patrol units being close to the area, the offender was quickly located in a nearby business, still in possession of several items taken from the victim’s vehicle. As a result of rapid patrol response and alert witnesses, the suspect, 28 year-old Jason Scott Radford (W/M, 04/12/1984), was arrested and charged with Burglary of a Motor Vehicle.

Details involved Radford initially being discovered by the victim’s family member as he entered an unlocked car and began rummaging through its contents. When confronted by the family member, Radford apologized as if he had entered a vehicle belonging to a friend. However, as the concerned citizen demanded he leave the area immediately, Radford pleaded with them not to call police and quickly left on foot, but not before picking up a backpack he had laying in the driveway and exposing a series of tattoos. These descriptors made easy work for canvassing patrol officers, as Radford was located a few blocks away.

Radford’s Burglary of a Motor Vehicle Charge carries a fine of up to $4000, and the possibility of up to a year in jail. The items stolen from the victim’s vehicle, valued at over $1,400, were processed and released to the owner. Radford’s court processing will be handled by the Harris County District Attorney’s Office.



Jason Scott Radford

04/12/1984