Crime Report

**2/24/22**

Punta Gorda – Deep Creek area – Unknown subject(s) smashed the vehicle window and removed a purse that was left inside.

Port Charlotte – Kings Hwy – Unknown subject(s) smashed the vehicle window and removed a wallet that was left inside while victim ran into a store.

**2/18/22**

Punta Gorda – Burglary – Babcock Ranch area - New home under construction had a gas stove removed by unknown subject(s).

Port Charlotte – Construction site Theft – Collingswood Blvd. area – Unknown subject(s) removed 87 sheets of 4x8 plywood from a home under construction.

**2/11/22**

Punta Gorda – Deep Creek area – Unknown subject(s) removed a Frigidaire dishwasher from a new home under construction.

**2/10/22**

Englewood – San Casa area – Theft of boat motor- Unknown subject(s) removed a 15hp electric start Suzuki motor from a vessel at the dock behind victims home.

**2/9/22**

Punta Gorda – Burnt Store Rd area – Business Burglary – Unknown subject(s) broke into a structure on the property and removed various tools and equipment.

Punta Gorda – Theft – Babcock Ranch area – New home under construction had a pool blower taken during the overnight hours.

Port Charlotte – Business Burglary – Harold Ave – Unknown subject(s) broke into a concession stand and removed a cash register and concession food.

**2/8/22**

Punta Gorda – Burnt Store Rd area – Business Burglary – During the overnight hours unknown subject(s) pried the rear door of the business open. Subject(s) removed several Makita, DeWalt & Craftsman power tools.

Punta Gorda – Duncan Rd. area – UNLOCKED vehicle burglary spree – 6 UNLOCKED vehicles were entered and rummaged through. Subject took, keys, medications, ammo, and credit/debit cards. Subject located in North Port along with some stolen items still in their possession and arrested.

**2/7/22**

Englewood – Gillot Blvd area – Victim awoke to noises in the early morning hours (430am) and found an unknown subject in the laundry room with a flashlight. The subject fled out a side garage door that had been left unlocked. Caller waited to report until after 7am.

**2/6/22**

Port Charlotte – Vehicle Burglary – near Quesada Ave – Unknown subject(s) broke the window of victim's vehicle and removed a purse from the back seat.

Punta Gorda – Vehicle Burglary X2 – Area of Hwy 17/Duncan Rd. – Unknown subject(s) broke the windows of 2 separate vehicles in a parking lot and removed purses that were left inside.

**2/5/22**

Port Charlotte – Burglary to garage – near Cornelius Blvd - Unknown subject(s) entered victims' garage and removed a red Honda 80 scooter.

Port Charlotte area of Quesada Ave. – Vehicle Burglary – Unknown subject(s) smashed victim's vehicle window and removed a purse.

**2/4/22**

Punta Gorda – Catalytic Converter Theft – area of Rio Villa – Unknown subject(s) removed the catalytic converter from a business vehicle parked in parking lot outside closed business.

**2/3/22**

Port Charlotte – Charlotte Harbor area of Tamiami Trail – 3 unknown subjects entered the fenced area of the business and removed a blue Vision Recumbent bicycle and a red & yellow Schwinn Frontier Mountain Bike.

Always remember to **remove your valuables, key fobs and guns from your vehicle** and lock your doors.

Statewide drug overdoses continue to remain on the rise. Many of these overdoses end in fatality. The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office has a drug addiction recovery initiative. This recovery initiative is for those that decide they want to make a change and choose a meaningful life without drugs. You may bring your "use amount" of drugs to any Deputy or Sheriff's facility without fear of arrest. The Charlotte County Sheriff's Office will then assist you in obtaining necessary treatment.

Recovery Center (Detox) 941-347-6444

Screening/OP Main number 941-639-8300

CBHC Crisis Hotline 941-575-0222

National Suicide Hotline 800-273-8255

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**From the Federal Trade Commission @ FTC.gov**

**Top frauds of 2021**

February 22, 2022

by

Bridget Small

Consumer Education Specialist, FTC

Every year, people report fraud, identity theft, and bad business practices to the FTC and its law enforcement partners. In 2021, 5.7 million people filed reports and described losing more than $5.8 billion to fraud — a $2.4 billion jump in losses in one year. You can learn about the types of fraud, identity theft, and marketplace issues people reported by state, and how scammers took payment — including $750 million in cryptocurrency — in the FTC’s new Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book. Here are some of the highlights:

* More than 2.8 million people reported spotting a fraud, and one in four said they also lost money. Their combined losses were over $5.8 billion. Imposter scams, when someone pretended to be a trusted person or business, led to losses of $2.3 billion.
* Almost 600,000 people filed reports about credit bureaus in 2021, an increase of more than 80 percent over the previous year. This jump in reports made credit bureaus, information furnishers, and report users the #3 most-reported category of 2021, behind imposter scams (#2) and identity theft (#1).
* People ages 20-29 reported losing money to fraud more often than people ages 80 and over. While younger people lost money 41 percent of the time they experienced fraud, older adults lost money only 17 percent of the time. But when older people did lose money, they lost a median amount of $1,500, or three times the median amount younger people lost.

If you spot a scam, please report it to ReportFraud.ftc.gov.