



# COUNTRYSIDE POLICE

## CRIME ALERT

Date: September 1, 2017

Alert #: 17-006

## CRIME ALERT

The Countryside Police Department has been alerted to the following criminal activity in our area:

We have seen a recent increase in Identity Theft cases at automotive dealerships.

Persons committing these crimes are applying for credit online or at the dealerships with fraudulent credentials in order to take possession of vehicles. These vehicles are often used in other, more serious crimes.

The Countryside Police Department asks that sales personnel be diligent in checking and ensuring that persons applying for credit to purchase vehicles possess authentic, valid forms of identification and that all information matches the identification and/or credit application(s).

Dealerships should be suspicious of customers buying multiple vehicles based only on an online credit application, especially those purchases made near the close of business hours.

If you have any doubts regarding the authenticity of identification during a purchase or feel a customer is making a fraudulent purchase, you may contact the Countryside Police Department by dialing 9-1-1.

**This information is being provided to make you aware of suspicious or criminal activity in the Countryside area. Please review this alert and take appropriate action.**

Any questions can be directed to Deputy Chief Scott Novak at (708) 352-2171.