

Bikes being stolen off car racks in S. Tahoe

Two high-end bicycles were stolen off bicycle racks on the back of parked vehicles in public parking lots in South Lake Tahoe.

The crimes occurred in the day and at night in the last week.

Police have no suspects. However, each of the victims had smaller, thinner bicycle locks securing the bikes to the racks. The suspect was able to easily cut through the cables and steal the bikes.

The following are tips from South Lake Tahoe police officers:

- Always lock your bike's frame and wheels with a high-quality, modern U-lock (with a disc/flat key).
- Remove all detachable items like lights, bags and quick release parts and take them with you.
- Lock to a bike rack, or firmly affixed (bolts covered in concrete) parking meter or sign pole – these are the most secure places.
- Record your bike's serial number. Take a photo of you and your unlocked bike. Keep the receipt.
- Always lock your bike, even if you're just leaving it for a moment.
- Always lock through the frame and a wheel. Add a cable, cable lock, or second U-lock to lock the second wheel.
- Buy the most expensive lock you can afford. U-locks are strong and better ones come with theft warranties. Only buy a U-lock with a flat or disc key. Cylindrical keyed locks are

more easily picked.

- Beware of locking to “sucker poles” that are loosely bolted down and can easily be removed.
- Avoid locking to private property. Store your bike inside if space is available.
- Lock your bike when keeping it in a garage or on a porch.
- Learn about the lock manufacturer’s warranty and product replacement policy.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*