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News Release

For Immediate Release: July 6, 2018

DPD Provides Designated Internet Buy/Sell Transaction Areas

The Durham Police Department is providing designated parking areas where people can conduct Internet buy/sell transactions.

There are two marked parking spaces in the upper parking area at Durham Police Headquarters at 505 West Chapel Hill Street. These parking spaces are under 24-hour video recording.

Spaces are also being set up at police substations in District 2 (shopping center at 5285 North Roxboro Street), District 3 (#8 Consultant Place) and District 4 (2945 South Miami Boulevard). There are plans to designate spaces in the public parking area at the new Durham Police Headquarters on East Main Street.

Officers have taken 10 reports involving Internet buy/sell robberies so far this year. They have also taken several larceny reports. These incidents usually involved transactions set up through Craigslist or through apps such as letgo.

The Durham Police Department offers the following crime prevention tips with respect to this type of crime:

- Be cautious and trust your instincts. If something does not feel right, leave
- Meet in a public place
- Meet during daylight hours
- Tell a friend or family member where you are going
- Take a friend with you, if possible
- Do not carry large amounts of cash
- Do not divulge personal information
- Be wary of last minute changes in the meeting location
- Save any and all communications with the seller/buyer (text messages, emails, voicemails, etc.)

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