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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **ALERT POLICE OFFICER CATCHES CAR THIEVES**

**WAKE FOREST, NC – August 9, 2012** – Two Raleigh men suspected in a string of car break-ins in the Heritage subdivision were caught in the act this week thanks to an alert Wake Forest police officer.

Tevin Antwon Harris, 1503 Malta Ave., Raleigh, and Dequan Durrell Britton-Stewart, 1600 Joe Louis Ave., Raleigh, have been arrested and are expected to be charged with 12 counts of felony breaking and entering a motor vehicle and five counts of misdemeanor larceny from a motor vehicle.

The two were apprehended by Wake Forest Police after Officer N. Dillard spotted Harris' unoccupied vehicle parked along Stroud Circle early Tuesday morning. Dillard, who was patrolling the Heritage Subdivision in response to a reported car alarm in the area, monitored the vehicle before observing the suspects attempt to leave the area.

Police officers stopped and arrested the men at the intersection of Forestville Road and Rogers Road. During the search of the vehicle, officers found a laptop computer and several personal property items.

According to police, all of the vehicles were unlocked at the time of the break-ins.

Harris, 20, and Britton-Stewart, 21, were released from the Wake County Detention Center after posting bond. Their first court appearance was Tuesday.



"This is a perfect example of our community and our police department working together to make Wake Forest a safer place for everyone," said Police Chief Jeff Leonard.

"The resident who reported the car alarm did exactly the right thing by calling the police department. Thanks to the report we received, Officer Dillard and the other officers on his squad were able to utilize their training and instincts to monitor the suspicious vehicle and capture the suspects. As a result of this teamwork, we not only captured them in the act, we likely prevented future incidents in other areas."

Chief Leonard urges anyone who sees suspicious people or activity to immediately call the police department at (919) 556-9111 and report the information.

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For more information about the Town of Wake Forest, contact Public Information Officer Bill Crabtree at (919) 435-9421 or [bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov](mailto:bcrabtree@wakeforestnc.gov).