

# The Claremont Colleges

Campus Security, Ext. 7-2000

April 1999

## March Crime and Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

In addition to the "blotter" incidents summarized below, there have been many other incidents logged by Security. The point is that no report such as this provides all the information you might want, to make security and safety decisions for yourself and for your institution. Even if we reported everything we knew, there would be more thefts, vandalism, harassment, alcohol offenses, etc. that never were reported to Security. What we can do is give you a wide-angle view of what is going on around you. You, in turn, can draw conclusions and make decisions about the picture we present, keeping in mind that you might have to "read between the lines" on some of this.

Of the many incidents we know about, twenty-six involved alcohol use, abuse or possession this month. Four students were transported to hospitals because of alcohol related medical conditions or injuries. Four arrests (of off campus persons) in which alcohol was a factor, occurred. All twenty-six of the alcohol related incidents occurred on the undergraduate campuses. The Claremont Police Dept. responded to six of the incidents, either to effect the arrests or for assistance in handling problems.

Overall, the crime/incident patterns, trends, etc. which include extensive theft, alcohol and trespassing activity, are unremarkable regarding change.

### Selective Incident Summary, March 1 - 31, 1999

1. A student reported criminal damage to his vehicle door lock but did not want a crime report.
2. A female student reported a possible incipient stalking incident involving phone calls and unwanted contact by an acquaintance. A dean's report was written.
3. A bike was stolen from an academic building rack.
4. A Security officer stopped a vehicle with an intoxicated driver and male passengers riding on the hood, on the interior of a campus. The keys were turned over to an RA.
5. A former student who had been arrested recently and banned from campus returned several times, fled from Security and was subsequently arrested by CPD for DUI while he fled from the campus in his vehicle.
6. At 0547 a female student awakened and found an unknown, naked male subject lying next to, and touching a sleeping female guest in her room. He fled through an adjoining room through the bathroom. Only females had been staying in the suite. Suspect description: White male, 5'9" - 5'10" tall, medium build, tan skin, medium length, dark, wavy hair.
7. Suspect(s) entered an unlocked dorm room between 2100 and 0230 hrs. and removed wallets, cash, credit cards and Nintendo games belonging to three women.
8. Students reported that a male subject approached a theater box office and asked whether the box office was open. When

#### In this issue...

Trends and Analysis .....	1
Selective Incident Summary, March 1 - 31, 1999 .....	1
Crime Prevention Strategies/Tips .....	4
March 1999 Statistics .....	5

advised that it was not the subject threatened to . . . [obscenity] shoot the attendant if she moved, although she did not see a gun. She ran away and reported the incident from an emergency phone down the street while the subject, a white male, "scraggly" facial hair, driving a black Chevy pickup fled off campus. CPD was advised.

9. A student reported a black male subject, 5'10' peeking into her 1<sup>st</sup> floor dorm window, having had to climb through bushes to get there. Security stopped a subject fitting the description. He gave a false name initially then gave several stories about being a Cal Poly student, coach, assistant, and being lost, and other lies, etc. CPD was called and interviewed the subject who was also found to have a suspended driver's license. He was released for "lack of evidence" then sneaked back 10 minutes later and fled in his car when CPD had left.

10. A male student received three annoying phone calls from an unknown male.

11. A bike U-locked to a light pole near student apartments was stolen.

12. Four non-injury traffic collisions occurred over a weekend. Minor property damage was reported in all.

13. A stolen "Employee of the Month" sign reported stolen last month was spotted by a Security officer in a student's room in plain sight. Campus staff and Security retrieved it and seven other stolen signs, including one from the City for which CPD wrote a crime report.

14. Staff reported that forged E-mail had been sent from a computing center.

15. An off campus male in his vehicle was forced down Claremont Blvd. from Foothill Blvd. by two Hispanic males in another vehicle being driven recklessly while involved in a verbal altercation. The subjects then followed the reporting party until both vehicles stopped on campus and they approached him, attempting to intimidate him. Security responded after being notified by a Physical Plant worker who noticed the altercation. The victim had called for police help on his cell phone but 911 calls go to the CHP which did not respond in time. CPD was given vehicle and descriptive information by Security.

16. A pedestrian and bike rider collided on a campus street. Both were checked at Baxter Medical and released without serious injuries.

17. Staff reported the theft of a utility cart which was later recovered by housekeepers who also stopped two students who denied taking the cart. However, other staff witnessed the incident and identified the students who were reported to the dean.

18. At 2146 hrs. a Security officer checked four off-campus subjects in a parking lot. They had small amounts of marijuana and destroyed it then returned to the open social event nearby.

19. An hour later Security found two different off-campus subjects, who smelled of marijuana, in a dorm interior courtyard. They tried to avoid the Security officer but were told to return to the social event.

20. Four additional non-injury accidents occurred in a two day period. Reports were written and the involved parties exchanged information.

21. Staff reported a dining hall window smashed by a thrown rock. Security observed upturned trash cans and a mess in the area as well as a trash can in a fountain. Damage estimate --- over \$400.

22. At 0036 an RA reported a black female transient walking across campus soliciting sexual activity. Security UTL.

23. At 0443 a student in a dorm reported the sound of gunshots from the direction of another dorm. A Security officer also heard the sounds but was unable to determine the source.

24. A Security officer observed two Hispanic male juveniles walking through campus at 0303 hrs., possibly casing vehicles. When he approached them they gave spurious names for identification then fled after throwing a black marker and a hacksaw blade at the officer. A retroactive search of the area disclosed the application of gang graffiti in at least six locations. The graffiti included the gang "monikers" of five subjects and indicators of their gang affiliation, CMR Sur, 13, Surenos, etc., a local criminal gang.

25. At 2211 hrs. a Security officer stopped 4 male subjects in a vehicle whom he had seen approaching a female who walked away. They then tried the doors of a nearby building before being identified and escorted off campus.

26. A Macintosh 4400 CPU valued at \$2000 was stolen from an unlocked dorm office.
27. A Physical Plant truck parked over the weekend was damaged in an apparent attempt to pry open a window.
28. At 0546 A Security officer observed a black female under blankets in a parked white Oldsmobile she might be living in. She was advised to leave and complied.
29. CPD responded to a 911 call from campus and took a mentally unstable middle-aged, female, who made the call, into protective custody. CPD initially had a locator address of the campus phone office. They had to call the number back to gain the correct address.
30. More gang graffiti was found on several campus buildings, including the words: "Gangstas 4 life" and the "monikers" of the writers or members.
31. Staff reported frame and latch damage resulting from a forced door to a communications room in a dorm.
32. During "spring break" a Security officer saw three males looking into dorm windows, one was, possibly, urinating in the bushes. The subjects went into the dorm lounge where Security found six intoxicated subjects in the group, and another student, in a haze of marijuana smoke. Of the six, one was an off-campus student who took responsibility for the alcohol in their possession and another of the group admitted to owning the marijuana and pipe also in their possession. The subjects, several of which were underage, were interviewed by CPD rather than being allowed to drive away. One subject was arrested for an outstanding warrant for weapons possession. The others left on foot.
33. A Security officer discovered an abandoned Camry in a student lot that had been "hotwired" and had the stereo system removed. CPD reported that it had been stolen from Compton in July 1998.
34. A student's vehicle parked in a lot suffered hit-and-run damage from a vehicle on the other side of the lot median when it jumped the median strip and collided with the rear of the student's car, then fled the scene.
35. LACFD responded to a science building after a faulty or dirty autoclave, which was emitting large amounts of seemingly noxious steam, was reported. Qualified campus staff were located to handle the situation.
36. There were many incidents of reported or observed skateboarders on campus doing tricks and causing damage. Apparently, the skateboard park is inadequate for the numbers of persons showing up and some of the flow-over is coming onto campus.
37. A Security officer observed 2 Hispanic males leaving the alley near a ceramics studio with ceramic objects taken from the studio. They deposited the items in the bushes and attempted to flee in a vehicle when they saw the officer, but were stopped. They were ultimately interviewed by CPD and arrested for drunk in public since it was difficult to determine the owners of the stolen ceramic pieces.
38. At 0304 Security officers heard the sound of shots fired from an area southeast of the campus. CPD was advised and had received other calls regarding the incident.
39. A female student, returning to her room found an older male Hispanic subject leaving with items of her clothing. He gave her the story that he had been sent to clean a room and must have gone to the wrong one. She checked with the custodial dept. and discovered that nobody was sent to clean a room in her area. A report was written.
40. A woman reported that a blue pickup hit her parked vehicle and sped away causing minor damage.
41. A student reported the theft of an unlocked bike from a dorm upper level, exterior hallway.
42. A Security officer noticed two males sitting on a wall smoking marijuana and identified them as campus workers. The activity was stopped.
43. A bicyclist collided with a jogging arm on a track, fell, was injured, and was transported to PVHMC.
44. At 0059 hrs. Security officers responded to a dorm where vandalism had been reported and found toilet paper, cardboard boxes, and trash littering one hallway and 5 or 6 fire exit signs broken, as well as an emergency phone pulled off the wall in the laundry. Intoxicated students were suspected. The dean's office is handling the investigation.
45. "Tagger" spray painted graffiti was found in two places in a campus alley.

46. A female student described an older male subject who has advertised for models on campus who seems to be running a photography scam for prurient reasons, although he is believed to be a photography student in an area college. He sometimes has other male “photographers” accompany him on the photo sessions and cajoles females to pose erotically.
47. A student reported the theft of an unlocked bike from a snackbar arcade.
48. An RA reported a fire on an athletic field. LACFD responded but the RA extinguished the gasoline fueled fire with an extinguisher. A 45 foot area of grass was burned.
49. Security stopped a student who had stolen a fire lane bollard and taken it to his room. He apologized and returned the bollard.
50. A dorm fire extinguisher was discovered missing and the holder is torn off of the wall and the glass broken. Maintenance advised.
51. Gang graffiti was applied to a large exterior electrical power box near a dining hall.
52. An unlocked bike parked outside of an administration building was stolen within 75 minutes.
53. Two female students saw an unknown, older Hispanic male leaving the dorm room of their female friend, leaving some of her clothing at the door as he left. Security responded and apprehended the subject after he was seen discarding something from his pocket into the bushes. CPD arrested the subject for burglary after the item in the bushes was identified as a watch belonging to the boyfriend of the room’s tenant and the witnesses confirmed that he was the subject they saw exiting the room. CPD also towed the subject’s car to the impound lot. The burglar’s description fits that of the suspect previously reported taking clothing from a female’s room in a different dorm.
55. A student reported the theft of a Sony Playstation and video games from his unlocked room.
56. A cable-locked bike was stolen from a dining hall bike rack between 1200 & 1500 hrs.

## Crime Prevention Strategies/Tips

**B**ike thefts, in particular, and theft in general continue to be problems for us. Most of the thefts have occurred because bikes, rooms, offices, etc. have been unsecured. While it may be true that other students, faculty and staff are honest, outsiders are constantly on campus. Some of them come here to steal things from us. That’s why bikes parked for minutes are stolen. The thieves are “trolling” (as a local police officer described it), looking for opportunities. They’re finding too many because so many of us are oblivious or careless.

When we get better at reporting suspicious activity ( which we continuously have been) the thieves try to reduce their profile by refraining from carrying burglary tools, cutting instruments, carrying bags, etc. , trying to blend in. So, continue to report suspicious activity based on what you know. Security will take it from there. Remember, we are open 24 hours daily.

Otherwise:

- Use a really good U-lock for bikes. ( \$40.00 range)
- Lock your room, office, building, vehicle when you leave. Please!
- “Intervene” when things don’t look right by judicious reporting to Security. (ext. 7-2000)
- Secure petty cash — it’s an easy mark.
- Be alert to “casing” activity. (hanging around bike racks, peering into car windows, being surreptitiously watchful around offices, walking in parking lots in illogical traffic patterns, “accidentally” entering the wrong room, etc. )
- Relate your observations of activity to the time of day, age of the subject(s), what they’re carrying, if anything, to determine whether the activity is normal or suspicious. Just because you call Security does not mean that the subject(s) will be harassed. Our approaches and inquiries are respectful and professional, not accusatory.

## Reminder

Effective July 1, 1999, the name **Campus Security** will be changed to **Campus Safety** and will be known formally as *The Department of Campus Safety for The Claremont Colleges/Claremont University Center*.

Over the years, the transition of Campus Security from "night watchmen/security guards" to professional purveyors of services, both service and law enforcement related, has been constant and continuing. The name, **Campus Safety** more accurately reflects the inherent combination of services and law enforcement functions/responses for which the department is responsible. This name change is one logical step forward in a continuing improvement process.

Please make appropriate changes in your literature when referencing our department.

## March 1999 Statistics

Annoying Call	2
Assault	0
ADW (assault w/deadly weapon)	0
Disturbance	0
Hate Incident	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	0
Other	1
Arson	0
Burglary	3
Theft (From Auto)	1
Theft (Bike)	7
Theft (Building)	3
Theft (Other)	0
Grand Theft Auto	0
Trespass	0
Vandalism	6
Other	0

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