

# The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

Summer 2004

## Summer 2004 Crime and Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

This summary of summer activity highlights a major vulnerability throughout the colleges. The relatively serene atmosphere of Claremont tends to help students, staff, and faculty alike forget that not everyone is here with the best of intentions. A rash of thefts and burglaries across several of the Claremont Colleges reminds us of the need to lock the doors to our labs, offices, and dorm rooms, and to never allow “follow-throughs” into buildings. Whether the building is locked or able to be opened with a card key, anyone who should be in the building will have the ability to access it, no matter how much the person may look like they “belong” here. Thankfully, due to the diligence of the Colleges’ employees and help from some outside agencies, the likely perpetrator of most of these thefts and burglaries has been apprehended, but that should not be seen as a cue to decrease our diligence. On the contrary, we should recognize that next time, we may not be so lucky as to recover the stolen goods, and that a proactive, preventative approach is the best way to avoid the financial and personal repercussions of property thefts.

### Summer 2004

#### Selective Incident Summary, June 1—August 31

- An employee reported that he was stabbed on campus. Campus Safety and CPD responded, only to discover that the incident occurred outside of Claremont. The appropriate police department was advised, and officers responded to take a report. The victim was airlifted to the hospital after stating that his girlfriend stabbed him.
- A student reported that her car was broken into and her laptop was taken. The window was broken and there were fingerprints, CPD responded and took prints.
- An employee reported that a lawnmower was stolen from a cart.
- A summer conference counselor found marijuana in the room of an attendee. The parents were notified and the attendee sent home. The marijuana was confiscated.
- Several pieces of scientific equipment were reported stolen from various teaching labs and offices across the campuses. Many of the articles were later discovered for sale on e-Bay.

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- A staff member reported a computer stolen from a gym.
- A housekeeper reported a woman allowing her unleashed dogs to swim in a campus fountain. The housekeeper said the woman had been advised of the campus leash policy in the past. Campus Safety responded, and the woman leashed her dogs.
- A fire alarm was activated at a dorm. A student advised that he had burned food in his toaster, activating the smoke detector.
- Campus maintenance reported vandalism in a men's restroom, possibly related to gang tagging. Campus Safety Officers inspected the graffiti and determined that it was not gang related. Students had carved their names into the bathroom stall doors.
- A fire alarm was activated in an academic building. A Campus Safety Officer responded and made contact with a professor in the building. The professor said that he was doing an experiment with a fog machine in preparation for a class demonstration, and it activated the alarm. He advised he probably would not do that particular demonstration during class time.
- A male reported that he saw three males taking things from the rear of a dorm. Campus Safety responded and located the subjects, who were leaving campus. They said they thought the items near the dorm were trash, because school was out for the summer, they returned the articles when they learned it was not trash.
- A student reported 100 CDs were taken from his locked car. There were no signs of forced entry.
- An intrusion alarm was activated at a storage shed. A Campus Safety Officer responded, and discovered that several squirrels in the area caused the alarm activation.
- A construction crew broke a water pipe while working, and requested the water be shut off. Maintenance was advised, and they responded to handle.
- An employee reported a male in his 50s or 60s was seen wandering around an academic building. Campus Safety responded, and discovered the subject in another academic building. He advised them he was waiting for his daughter, who worked in the building.
- A Campus Safety Officer discovered the passenger side door to a vehicle ajar. While the officer was attempting to secure the door, the roommate of the owner showed up and locked the car.
- A fire alarm was activated in a dorm. Campus Safety responded, and discovered a heavy odor of marijuana smoke in the area, which activated the detector. The dean was advised, and responded.
- A female reported two possibly homeless subjects sleeping in a grassy area. The subjects told Campus Safety that they were just passing through, and then they left campus.

- A student reported seeing two male teens leaving a dorm late at night. Campus Safety responded and located the subjects. CPD responded for a curfew violation. One subject was a juvenile, who was held by CPD until he could be released to an adult. The second subject was arrested for trespassing.
- A conference director reported that a female conference attendee noticed a male standing on a bench trying to gain access to a building. When he saw her, he ran away off campus.
- A student reported that his vehicle was broken into while parked in a campus lot. A Campus Safety Officer responded and discovered several other vehicles had had their stereos removed.
- A Campus Safety officer saw two male subjects removing two televisions from a dorm and place them in a truck. CPD responded, and discovered one subject had warrants and was on probation. Both subjects were arrested, and the vehicle was impounded.
- An employee reported that a laptop was stolen from an academic office. Campus Safety responded, and a construction worker in the area told them that he saw a male with a backpack jump the fence and leave the area. searched the area, but were unable to locate the subject.
- CPD requested that Campus Safety respond to the organic farm to look for a runaway juvenile. Campus Safety responded and made contact with six subjects. CPD arrived and took the runaway and two other juveniles into custody until they could be released to adults. One adult subject was arrested for trespassing.
- A Campus Safety Officer stopped four subjects near an academic building. One juvenile subject was behaving erratically, and the subjects admitting to having ingested hallucinogenic mushrooms. Three of the subjects were transported to the hospital, and then released into CPD's custody.
- An employee reported that a car was stolen from a dining hall loading dock. The victim was dropping off his brother, and was inside the dining hall for about a half-hour. When he returned, his car was gone.
- A student reported seeing a male subject removing a wheel from a bicycle locked to a rack near a dorm. Campus Safety responded, but were unable to locate the subject.

## Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Never allow people to follow you into buildings. Even if someone has an explanation for their presence, if anything seems out of place or suspicious, call Campus Safety *immediately* at x72000.
- Make sure to always lock your doors and windows whenever you leave the area, even for a few minutes. If you're "just" going down the hall to the shower or to a friend's room, lock

the door and keep your keys with you.

- Keep all valuables—purses, wallets, keys, money—in locked drawers at all times. Thieves know where to look, but a simple lock can easily thwart most.
- Never leave your laptop unsecured. If you aren't physically holding it, make sure it's in a locked cabinet or locker. Even cable locks can be defeated.
- If you see anyone on the campuses who seem preoccupied with looking at bike racks or vehicles in the parking lots, or who are carrying bolt cutters or similar burglary tools, call Campus Safety.
- Do not prop exterior doors. If you see a propped door, remove the prop and make sure the door latches securely.
- Do not park in fire lanes. If there is a fire or a medical emergency, the responding vehicles will be delayed, and your car may be towed.

Other	0
<b>Crimes Against Property</b>	
Arson	0
Burglary	20
Theft (from vehicle)	4
Theft (Bike)	1
Theft (from building)	7
Theft (Other)	1
Grand Theft Auto	1
Trespass	5
Vandalism	0
Other	0
Arrests	7

## Summer 2004 Statistics

### Crimes Against Persons

Annoying Call	1
Assault	0
Assault w/Deadly Weapon	0
Disturbance	1
Hate Incident	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	0

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