

The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

June 2006

June 2006 Crime and Incident Report

Trends and Analysis

June has been relatively quiet, as one might expect for the beginning of the summer. The northern campuses have been the most affected by crime this month, with several burglaries from both secured and unsecured areas. As always, it remains critically important that you secure items of value, even in areas where you feel secure. The reduction of people on campus tends to give a feeling of intimacy, as though out-of-place persons will be more recognizable due to the relatively few authorized people knowing each other. What is overlooked, however, is that the decrease of people on campus also decreases the possibility that someone will notice and report suspicious activity. Delays in reporting suspicious persons continue, with anywhere from 10 minutes to a few days elapsing before situations are reported. Any amount of time decreases the chance that officers will be able to locate suspicious subjects and determine the legitimacy of their business on campus.

The need for follow-up in reports also continues, as two dorm burglaries showed. In both cases, credit cards stolen from locked dorm rooms were subsequently used by the thieves prior to the victims' cancelling the cards. In both of those cases, as well, the residents locked the main entrance, but unwittingly provided access via other alternatives, such as a propped door or an unlocked adjoining bathroom. Especially in situations where living quarters are shared with several people, it is important to agree on security precautions such as not propping doors and always carrying keys, and then hold each other accountable for upholding that agreement. One subject who had various property stolen had worked toward getting a broken lock fixed so that his suite common room would be securable, and then another suitemate left the door propped open, resulting in his loss of property.

June 2006 Selective Incident Summary, June 1—30

- A facilities employee reported that storage bins had been broken into. The locks were broken and the items inside were rifled through. No items were reported stolen.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from a bike rack outside her dorm. The cable lock that was locking her bike was cut and left at the scene.

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- A Campus Safety officer reported a hostile male yelled at him and then fled on bicycle. The male was later located near an academic building. He again fled Campus Safety officers, and Claremont Police officers located him off-campus. He was arrested for outstanding warrants.
- A student reported that his wallet, cell phone, and sunglasses were stolen from the common room of his locked suite. The student advised that approximately \$300 in fraudulent charges were charged to his credit card prior to cancelling the card.
- A facilities employee reported that a golf cart was stolen from a loading dock of an academic building.
- A student reported that her backpack, containing her laptop, was stolen from her unlocked dorm room. The student later reported that her wallet, including credit cards, were also in the backpack, and her credit card was used twice the morning it was stolen.
- A facilities employee reported that the hose to his gas tank was cut and gas was stolen from his vehicle while it was parked on a city street near campus.
- A student reported a male subject urinating off of a second floor dorm balcony. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subject. The subject, who was located in the roster for a summer program at a different college, apologized and claimed that he could not make it to the bathroom, and did not realize that anyone else was around.
- A lifeguard reported a hawk with a broken wing at a pool. The bird was turned over to a professor whose wife works to rehabilitate birds.
- A high school student reported that while he and teammates were attending an athletic tournament on campus, four cell phones were stolen out of their unlocked lockers in the locker room.
- A student reported that, during a burglary reported in May, his digital camera was also stolen.
- An employee reported that an irate driver was trying to chase down a facilities employee. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded, and determined that the off-campus driver was angry about a perceived traffic violation occurring off-campus. The issue was resolved and the driver left campus.
- A contractor reported that unknown subjects were seen removing wire spools and a hand truck from a construction company truck. They placed them in their own truck, and drove away. The report was made approximately two and a half hours after the incident.
- A student reported that his PlayStation 2 and assorted peripherals and games were stolen from his suite common area, which had the door propped open. His roommate later reported that his GameCube, peripherals, and games were also stolen.
- An employee reported that ongoing vandalism to her office continued. The perpetrator left pencil lines and scribbles on victim's office wall.
- A conference attendee reported that her laptop and a large amount of expensive, custom-made jewelry were stolen from her vehicle. It is unknown whether the car was locked or unlocked. Staff members later reported finding a laptop and seeing the jewelry.

- An off-campus visitor reported that her vehicle was hit while parked in a campus lot. Campus Safety and CPD officers responded and took a hit-and-run report.
- The parent of a student reported that she had mailed her daughter a letter with cash and a Social Security card enclosed. The envelope was returned to her, opened, with the cash removed. The parent stated she will file a report with the Postal Inspector.
- A staff member reported vandalism in the bathroom of a library. An unknown subject wrote on the men's bathroom wall with a black marker.
- Report any maintenance problems immediately. A door that does not fully secure or a window that jams is an invitation to prowlers who knows how to look for easy targets.
- Do not sneak into pools when they are closed. They are alarmed, and for a reason. Swimming without a lifeguard on duty can be dangerous, even for an accomplished swimmer. Additionally, activating those alarms occupies officers' time that could be spent responding to other calls and preventing crime, and may result in sanctions depending on your campus.
- Remember that alarmed areas are alarmed for a reason, and officers respond expecting to encounter intruders and burglars. If you accidentally activate an alarm, contact Campus Safety immediately and notify the dispatcher of the circumstances, so that responding officers are alerted to your legitimate presence. Wait in the area for the responding officer to verify your ID.
- Carry your school ID at all times, whether you are a student, staff, or faculty member. Not only does it provide positive proof of your identification, which can help prevent the need to call CPD officers, it also indicates your affiliation with the campuses.
- Do not light any unauthorized or unattended fires. If there is a need for a fire, be sure to contact the deans for prior permission, and keep that permission, in writing, on your person while you are attending the fire. During the summer, this applies to ALL campuses.

Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Discuss the importance of securing areas with everyone who shares the common space. Draw up a formal agreement on the responsibilities of sharing a living space, including security measures, and hold each other to that agreement.
- If you are leaving your car on campus over the summer, be sure that the dean's office and facilities are aware of where your vehicle is parked. Additionally, be sure to verify your contact information with Campus Safety, in case there is a problem with your car. If you are going to be out of the area, leave a set of keys with a trusted friend, and give Campus Safety their contact information, in case the vehicle needs to be moved for maintenance reasons.

June 2006 Statistics

Crimes Against Persons	
Annoying Call	0
Assault	0
Battery	0
Disturbance	0
Hate Crime	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Assault	0
Other	0
Crimes Against Property	
Arson	0
Burglary	5
Theft (from vehicle)	2
Theft (Bike)	1
Theft (from building)	0
Theft (Other)	0
Grand Theft Auto	0
Forgery	0
Trespass	0
Vandalism	1
Other	3*
Arrests	1

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* Includes credit card fraud and hit-and-run.