

# The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

December 2008

## December 2008 Crime and Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

The high number of bicycle thefts seen this semester continued in December, with almost three times the number of bicycles reported stolen compared to the past few years. As has been the case, a large majority (9 of the 13) of the bicycles were locked with cable locks that were cut. Only one of the bicycles was locked with a U-lock, and that lock was recovered with no indication of cutting or other damage, indicating an incorrect application of the lock. More concerning are the several instances of thefts, mostly of cash, from locked areas (safes, desks, offices, etc.) In several of these cases, the victim reported that only a limited number of people had codes or keys necessary to access the area or knowledge where the money was stored. These situations are understandably more difficult to prepare for and prevent, although the exceptionally large sums of cash stolen in certain cases do indicate a need for more frequent deposits, or at least a wider range of hiding places, with less cash in any one given area.

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### December 2008

#### Selective Incident Summary, December 1—31

- A student reported that her laptop was stolen from a dorm lounge.
- A student reported that several CDs were stolen from the interior of his vehicle and his laptop and a CamelPak were stolen from the trunk of his vehicle.
- A student reported that her cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near her dorm.
- A student reported that his laptop computer was stolen from his locked dorm room.
- Several employees reported receiving harassing phone calls from an unidentified female.
- A Campus Safety officer reported three off-campus subjects smoking marijuana in a car near an academic building. Claremont Police officers responded, and one subject was arrested for possession of marijuana and possession with intent to sell psychedelic mushrooms.
- A student reported that his bicycle was stolen from near a dorm. The cable lock that was securing the bike was cut and left at the scene.
- An employee reported that two male students stole his cart from near an administrative building. Campus Safety officers located the subjects, who abandoned the cart and fled into a wilderness area.

- A professor reported that an overhead projector was stolen from an unlocked art studio.
- An employee reported that tools from an art studio were stolen over a break. The studio was locked, but a broken door allowed access.
- A student reported that an iPod and a cell phone were stolen along with a laptop reported stolen in November.
- An employee reported a tool set and a computer stolen from a lab. Because a student may have been involved, the employee declined to file a crime report for the stolen laptop at the time, but filed a report for the tool set.
- A student reported four off-campus subjects chasing females near a dorm. Campus Safety officers responded, and located another subject who claimed to have been hit in the head by the subjects, but declined medical attention. The subjects left campus prior to Campus Safety officers' arrival.
- A student reported that her laptop and digital camera were stolen from an unsecured dorm room by two male Hispanic subjects. Responding Campus Safety officers were able to locate possible vehicle information on the suspects, and gave the information to the Claremont Police Department for follow-up. The camera was later found on an athletic field, and was returned to the victim.
- A Campus Safety officer reported a student smoking marijuana. Professional staff responded and confiscated the paraphernalia.
- A student reported that a white male subject in his mid-20s stole a friend's unlocked bike from near a dorm.
- A student reported that his unsecured bicycle was stolen from a dorm courtyard.
- An employee responding to a report of a power outage reported a backpack of tools near a children's area. Several locks and chains, including locks to several storage areas, were found broken and discarded. The power outage was determined to be deliberate, and the tools in the backpack were classified as burglary tools.
- An employee reported that a wallet containing cash and credit cards was stolen out of her purse, which was left in a lab. The victim locked one door to the lab, but may have left a connecting door unsecured.
- A professor reported that a large envelope containing personal identity information was stolen from a mailbox at an academic building.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near his apartment.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near an academic building.
- An employee reported a disturbance at a library. Campus Safety officers responded, and determined that a student became agitated when two off-campus subjects attempted to sit near him. The subjects agreed to stay away from each other.
- A student reported that her cable-locked bicycle was stolen from a dorm courtyard.
- A student reported three Asian males smoking marijuana in a dorm parking lot. A Campus Safety officer responded, and the subjects fled off-campus.

- A student reported that her cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near an academic building.
- A dean reported several thousand dollars stolen from a drawer in a secured office. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded.
- An R.A. reported that he was punched in the face while trying to break up a fight between two students. Campus Safety officers responded, but the students had fled the area.
- A student reported having been assaulted at a party. A Campus Safety officer responded, but the student declined to file a report.
- A student reported that his unsecured bicycle was stolen from near a library.
- A student reported that another student and he were off campus with an alumnus, who began acting irrationally and assaulted the other student. Claremont Police officers responded and the alumnus was eventually subdued and arrested.
- Several students reported the odor of marijuana in a dorm. A Campus Safety officer and an R.A. responded, but were unable to locate the offenders.
- A student reported that her car was stolen the day after she lost her car keys. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded. The car and keys were later returned. A Claremont Police officer was able to obtain fingerprints from the returned vehicle.
- A student reported that the screws to his window screen were removed and the screen was cut. Nothing was taken from his room.
- A student reported that his laptop and iPod were stolen from his unlocked dorm room.
- An unknown caller reported an unwanted subject in her room, then hung up. A second student reported a male subject refusing to leave a dorm room. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, and the off-campus subject was eventually located and arrested for domestic violence.
- A student reported seeing an off-campus subject from a security alert walking by a dorm. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subject, who fled through the campuses to a white van. Claremont Police officers were notified.
- A professor reported that two computers were stolen from a locked room in an academic building, and a laptop and two cameras were stolen from unlocked rooms in the building.
- A student reported the odor of marijuana in a dorm courtyard. A Campus Safety officer and an R.A. responded, and a student in the room advised that the subjects who were smoking left the area.
- An employee reported several hundred dollars stolen from an unlocked desk drawer in a locked room.
- An employee reported that a white male in his late 30s or early 40s attempted to break into her office at a student center. The door showed signs of attempted forced entry and was damaged, but nothing was taken.
- An employee reported that her purse, containing cash, credit cards, a cell phone, and car keys was stolen from an unlocked office. The purse was later located in a nearby men's restroom.

- An employee reported that an off-campus subject may have stolen pages out of books at a library. The subject was banned from the area and escorted off campus.
- A student reported that his laptop, which was in a backpack in a dorm courtyard, was stolen.
- An employee reported that a white male in his 40s jumped out of the bushes, but left the area when he saw she was with several other people.
- A student reported that several items of clothes and a necklace were stolen from her room, which was potentially left unsecured.
- A student reported that her unsecured skateboard was stolen from inside an academic building.
- A student reported that her bicycle was stolen from an academic building. The cable lock that was securing it was cut and left at the scene.
- A student reported that two bicycles were stolen from near her dorm. The bicycles were locked together by a cable and a U-lock.
- A student reported that two plastic containers, containing a purse and other assorted items, were stolen from near her car.
- A Campus Safety officer reported that crosswalk signs reported stolen in September were located at a dorm.
- A Campus Safety officer reported three off-campus subjects spray painting an expression wall. Claremont Police officers responded and confirmed that the tagging was not gang related. The subjects were warned of private property rights and escorted off campus.
- An employee reported that several hundred dollars were stolen from an unsecured safe in a secured room.
- A dean reported that cash was stolen from a locked cabinet in a locked office.
- The Claremont Police Department reported that an off-campus subject admitted to stealing a golf cart from the campus, but claimed it had since been returned. He also claimed there were three or four other golf carts also stolen. The campus was notified, but did not report any missing golf carts.
- A Campus Safety officer reported several subjects inside a secured dorm area that was closed for break. The subjects claimed to be local high school students. Claremont Police officers responded and located marijuana and a glass bong. The subjects were warned and escorted off campus.
- Campus Safety officers reported two subjects in a closed computer lab. One subject claimed to be a student, but was not in the roster. Claremont Police officers responded, and the subject was determined to be an alumnus. Both subjects were warned and escorted off campus.
- A student reported that his cable-locked bicycle was stolen from near an academic building.

## Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- If an area is routinely used to store cash, speak with the head of the department or maintenance about surveillance options.

- Do not leave bicycles or cars in dark or hidden areas. The more out of the way the area is, the less a thief has to worry about being noticed while cutting open a lock, prying open a door, or otherwise gaining access to your belongings.
- Do not lend your keys to friends, roommates, or coworkers. If someone needs to access your room or office, accompany them to the area and assist them, then confirm that your door is secured before leaving the area. While you may feel you can trust your acquaintances, there is always the risk that they will mistakenly leave your belongings unsecured.
- Do not park in red zones or fire lanes, even if “just unloading” or “running in for a minute.” These areas are for emergency vehicles, and are not loading zones. (Those curbs are yellow.) If an emergency arises, it is unlikely that you will know in time to move your car out of the way of the emergency vehicles.
- Campus Safety provides an anonymous “Silent Witness” program available through the website at [http://www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs/silent\\_witness\\_program.htm](http://www.cuc.claremont.edu/cs/silent_witness_program.htm). If you have seen or have information about any sort of criminal or inappropriate behavior, please contact Campus Safety. If for whatever reason you are uncomfortable reporting the situation in person, use the Silent Witness reporting form, which is not traced or tracked. For those who have utilized this program, we appreciate your assistance. The information provided is being investigated, and the department is working in conjunction with school administrators to resolve the issues brought to our attention.

## December 2008 Statistics\*

<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>	
Annoying Call	0
Assault	0
Assault w/Deadly Weapon	0
Battery	0
Disturbance	0
Hate Crime	0
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	0
Sexual Battery	0
Other	1**
<b>Crimes Against Property</b>	
Arson	0
Burglary	13
Theft (from vehicle)	1
Theft (Bike)	13
Theft (from building)	3
Theft (Other)	2
Grand Theft Auto	1
Trespass	0
Vandalism	0
Other	0
<b>Arrests</b>	<b>2</b>

\* These numbers reflect crime reports filed by the victims. In some cases, crimes reported in the above incident blotter will not be reflected in these statistics due to the victim's decision to not file a crime report.

\*\* Includes domestic violence

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