

# The Claremont Colleges

The Department of Campus Safety

April 2009

## April 2009 Crime and Incident Report

### Trends and Analysis

April was a bad month for the campuses as a whole. Crimes against persons, which frequently are nonexistent or nearly nonexistent in any given month, were unusually high this month. Two students were robbed during a walk, although thankfully the suspects did not use a weapon or harm either student. One subject, the victim of a battery, was sufficiently injured to require transport to the hospital. Three separate, though related, bias related incidents later spawned multiple copy-cat vandalisms. Two current students were arrested after being found with keys, IDs, and other personal property belonging to students of multiple different campuses. All of these crimes serve as reminders that, while the campuses are generally a safe and hospitable area, precautionary steps must be taken to keep yourself and your property safe.

Despite a decrease in bike thefts over this semester, April once again showed an increase in bike thefts, with eight reported. While this is high when compared to other months this

semester, it is about average for April when compared to years past. Of the eight bikes, five were locked with cable locks which were defeated and stolen as well. Three, however, were locked with U-locks. At least one of these was not locked to a secured area such as a bike rack, but instead was merely secured to itself, making it much easier to remove the bike and defeat the U-lock in a more private setting.

### April 2009 Selective Incident Summary, April 1—31

- A dean reported that several signs were removed from a student center.
- A dean reported that a student center was vandalized with a spray-painted stencil.
- A student reported that a female subject stole her wallet. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and located two students with the stolen property, along with various other properties, including keys, belonging to other students from across the 5Cs. Both students were subsequently arrested for public drunkenness and obstructing an officer after becoming physically agitated with the responding Claremont Police officers. In addition, one student was arrested for a prior warrant. The students on scene whose property was stolen declined to press criminal charges.

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- An employee reported finding a student and her off-campus boyfriend having sex in a storage room.
- An employee reported that a department golf cart was stolen and damaged, then abandoned.
- An employee reported a homophobic phrase written on an exterior mirror in marker. A Campus Safety officer responded and took a bias related incident report.
- An employee reported that an unknown subject entered an academic office and tried to remove a computer that was bolted down. The computer was not taken, but the security plating was bent.
- A student reported that her keys were stolen from the sidelines of an athletic field while she was playing.
- A student reported that she and another student were robbed. Two male subjects walked up behind them and removed cash, keys, and an iPhone from the students' pockets.
- An employee reported vulgar and derogatory vandalism on a student quad. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, but the Claremont Police officer determined that the vandalism was not sufficiently targeted for a hate crime report.
- An employee reported that a campus-owned golf cart was stolen from an exterior stairwell of an academic building. Claremont Police and Campus Safety officers responded.
- A student reported that someone broke into his room, but nothing was taken. The handle to the window was broken.
- An officer reported that an administrative building was vandalized with a spray-painted stencil.
- A student reported that his laptop and its bag were stolen from a table at the library, along with three books.
- A student reported that her bicycle and U lock were stolen from a bike rack near a dorm.
- A student reported that her vehicle was involved in a hit-and-run while parked in a dorm lot.
- An employee reported that a student's art sculpture was vandalized and a part that was broken off was stolen.
- An employee reported that two unsecured offices in an academic building were burglarized. Four computers and assorted equipment were stolen.
- An employee reported that a window at an academic building was broken, possibly by a BB gun.
- A student reported that his laptop was stolen from his dorm room. Both doors were locked, but the window was left open.
- An R.A. reported a large fight near a dorm. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded, and one subject was transported to the hospital.
- Students reported several instances of chalk graffiti across the campuses.
- An employee reported that two computer tower and associated monitors were stolen from an academic building. The door was pried open and the door handle was removed.
- An employee reported that five doors in an academic building showed pry marks or other signs of tampering. Nothing was taken.
- A student reported that her bike and the cable lock that was securing it were stolen from near an auditorium.

- A student reported that over \$6500 in cash and checks were stolen from a cash box in a locked office. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked with a U-lock, was stolen from near a dining hall.
- A student reported that her bicycle and the cable lock that was securing it were stolen from near a dorm.
- A professor reported that a student and his wife were engaged in a verbal confrontation with another professor regarding work from a previous semester. Campus Safety officers responded, but the subjects had already left the office.
- An employee reported that three prospective students were robbed at gunpoint on a city street. Claremont Police officers responded for a report.
- A student reported he found the strike plate of a door to a computer lab in an academic building blocked by tape and a strip of hard plastic in order to prevent the door from securing.
- A student reported graffiti in the bathroom of a student center.
- An R.A. reported a large fight at a party. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and dispersed the crowd.
- A coach reported that someone walked on a new athletic facility in unapproved shoes, causing \$3000 in damages.
- An employee reported witnessing a hit and run accident near an academic building. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded. The victim declined to press charges, and was put in contact with the student who hit her vehicle so personal information could be exchanged.
- An employee reported a suspicious male at a student center. Campus Safety officers responded and determined that he was a student at one of the other consortium campuses. The subject left the area.
- Another employee later reported that the same subject had returned to the student center, and was making student staff members feel uncomfortable. The student fled upon Campus Safety's arrival.
- A third employee reported the same subject returned, yet again, to the student center. The employee requested, per a request from the deans, that the student be arrested if he will not leave. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded and explained private property rights to the subject. He was advised he would be arrested if he returned to the campus, and he returned to his off-campus residence.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked to itself with a U-lock, was stolen from outside a dorm.
- A student reported that her iPod and a heart monitor watch were stolen out of her backpack. She did not know exactly where she was when they were stolen, as the backpack was with her all day on various campuses, but was briefly left unattended in multiple buildings.
- An employee reported that a male, possibly a student, took two to-go boxes from a dining hall cashier and filled them with food without paying for the meals.
- An R.A. reported that a student was possibly assaulted. The dean on call was advised, and he declined Campus Safety response.

- A student reported that several people were throwing water balloons from a dorm. A Campus Safety officer spoke with the students involved.
- A student reported a male subject possibly casing bike racks near a dining hall. Campus Safety officers responded and located the subject. He was warned of private property rights, and was escorted off campus.
- A Campus Safety officer, responding to a burglary alarm at a student eatery, witnessed multiple students fleeing the area. The deans were notified, and several students were later identified.
- A Campus Safety officer reported a fight at a party. Campus Safety officers responded, but the aggressor fled the area.
- A student reported that his vehicle was stolen from near a dorm. Campus Safety and Claremont Police officers responded. The Claremont Police Department later reported that the vehicle was located in Ontario.
- A student reported that her bicycle, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near a dorm.
- An employee reported that a student service building was vandalized with a spray-painted stencil.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near a dorm.
- An employee reported that a wireless network device was stolen from an unsecured student lounge.
- A student reported that her bike, which was locked with a cable lock, was stolen from near a dorm.
- A student reported that his backpack, which contained a laptop, books, and a wallet with credit cards, was stolen from a student store. Surveillance camera images showed a white male, in his late 30's or early 40's, approximately 6', with black hair that was graying on the sides. The subject was wearing a grey sweater and sunglasses, as well as reading glasses on his head.
- A dean reported that an office was ransacked and candy was stolen.
- A staff member reported that a student complained about a male who was possibly masturbating in a library. Campus Safety and Claremont Police responded and located the off-campus subject, who was arrested for multiple prior warrants.
- An employee reported that a laptop was stolen from a secured office.

## Crime Prevention Strategies and Tips

- Always remain aware of your surroundings, even when walking in a group. If someone is too close to you, tell the person in no uncertain terms to back off.
- Do not leave valuable personal items in common areas, even briefly. This includes dining halls, dorm and office lounges, and party areas. Just because there are several other people around does not mean that thieves will be intimidated by the chance that someone might realize the item they are taking does not belong to them.

- Particularly as the campuses empty for summer break, remember that it is important to be aware of who is in your area of work or residence. Learn who works or lives near you, and report anyone inside a building that you do not recognize and who is acting suspiciously.
- Do not rely on those who live or work around you to keep your belongings safe if you are not present. Lock your doors and windows, even if you're just going down the hall briefly.
- If you are going to be away from campus for an extended period, ask someone you trust to check on your vehicle, dorm room, or office periodically to make sure it is secured and there are no indications of forced entry.
- 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.

## April 2009 Statistics\*

### Crimes Against Persons

Annoying Call	0
Assault	0
Assault w/Deadly Weapon	0
Battery	1
Disturbance	0
Hate Crime	3*
Indecent Exposure	0
Prowling	0
Rape	0
Robbery	1
Sexual Battery	0
Other	0

### Crimes Against Property

Arson	0
Burglary	6
Theft (from vehicle)	0
Theft (Bike)	8
Theft (from building)	4
Theft (Other)	2
Grand Theft Auto	1
Trespass	0
Vandalism	5
Other	0

Arrests 3

\* 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 bias related incidents

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