**Tip of the Month**

**Holiday Tips**

To be Safe for the Holidays, Remember the Three A’s of Crime Prevention:

**Be Aware of Your Surroundings, Be Alert to Suspicious People and Vehicles, Avoid Dangerous Situations.** Your goal is to avoid being injured. There is nothing in your purse or wallet worth serious injury or death!

- Is it absolutely necessary to carry a purse at all times? A wallet or credit card in a pocket would be less tempting.
- Carry only the amount of cash or credit cards that you need.
- Zip or close purse securely to avoid pickpockets. Carry purse or shoulder-bag in front of you and close to your body. Do not carry spare keys in your purse.
- Keep your purse on your lap when dining or at meetings.
- Avoid carrying a lot of packages; it can make you look defenseless. Place all packages and gifts in the locked trunk of your vehicle.
- In the supermarket, do not leave your purse in the shopping cart. REMEMBER: Out-of-sight, out-of-mind, out-of-purse!
- Avoid displaying valuables such as jewelry or large sums of money. Also, dress so you can walk or run easily to avoid an attack.
- Throughout Florida, citizens are facing follow-home strong-arm robberies. As you drive home day or night, look for potential danger before entering your driveway. Walkways, doorways, and driveways should be well-lit around your home.
- Do not enter your driveway if a suspicious vehicle has followed you. Go to the nearest safe location, or an area where there are people and call the police. If you are confronted in your driveway, remain in your locked car with your windows up and blow your horn. The distance from your car to your front door is no man's land.
- If attacked outside, just give up the property and when attacked, if you are going to be knocked down, sit down.
- When using the ATM, make sure that it is not in a secluded location and is well lighted. Also, use the “buddy system”. Go directly to your car and count the cash in your vehicle, not at the ATM.
- At home, do not display all your gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway.
- Going on vacation for the Holidays – have a friend or family member check on your home and leave emergency contact information with them.
- Beware of con-games and fraud schemes; only give to charities that you have dealt with before.
- Be aware of where you are and where you are going at all times. Stay away from a potentially dangerous area or situation.
- Trust your instincts. If you suspect something is wrong, or if a situation seems dangerous, you may be right! Don’t dismiss suspicious people, cars, or situations. Report them immediately.
Thefts

10/11 Mental Health Hospital Center
Employee reported that a radio was missing from a secured 3rd floor office. Item valued at $20.00.

10/08 Professional Arts Center
Employee reported that a new computer monitor just received and wanting to be installed was missing from a 4th floor office. Item valued at $500.00. Security investigator located the monitor in another room. (Solved)

10/11 UM Hospital
Employee reported that on 11/08 while walking on NW 14th Street a male snatched her lunch bag which contained $20.00.

10/15 Sylvester Cancer Center
Patient reported that she left her black canvass hand bag in a 2nd floor recovery room while out for a cat scan. The bag was gone when she returned. Bag contained $40.00 cash, prescription glasses. It was reported later that staff located the bag. (Solved)

10/15 14th Street Garage
Employee discovered the rear passenger side window broken out and a Garmin navigation system missing from the center console. The vehicle was parked on the 7th floor.

10/15 UM Hospital
The brother of a patient in an 11th floor room reported that a gold bracelet, gold chain, debit card and IPhone were taken approximately two weeks ago.

10/19 UM Hospital
Administrator reported that a tray of surgical instruments was missing from a 3rd floor surgical area. Items valued at $5,000.00.

10/19 Hope Lodge
Employee reported that 9 rubber stamps were missing from a 2nd floor locked office. The items were valued at $360.00. Security investigator determined the items were unintentionally taken out with the trash. (Solved)

10/20 UM Hospital
Employee reported that his bicycle was taken from the loading dock area. Item valued at $150.00.

10/20 Dominion Garage Building
Administrator reported that an envelope containing $699.50 was missing from a secured office in a ground floor office.

10/21 UM Hospital
Nursing supervisor reported that a bottle of Botox was missing from a locked safe in a refrigerator located in a 2nd floor, South Building suite. Item valued at $550.00.

Security.med.miami.edu
10/21  **UM Hospital**  
Employee from a South Building doctor’s office reported that a DVD/VHS player was missing. Item valued at $100.00.

10/21  **Fred Cowell Mall**  
A student leaving the Rosenstiel Building observed a male taking his bicycle from the bike rack. The student ran after and yelled at the male who dropped the bicycle and fled.

10/26  **Fred Cowell Mall**  
Student reported that the seat from his bicycle, locked to the south end bike rack was missing.

10/28  **Wellness Center**  
Member reported their wallet containing $100.00 cash and credit cards along with a cell phone were missing from a secured locker in the men’s locker room.

10/28  **UM Hospital Parking Garage**  
Employee reported that her vehicle parked on the 2nd level had been broken into. The passenger window was broken out and a GPS system was missing from the center console.

**Assault**

10/19  **Rosenstiel Medical Science Building**  
A male yelled at and then threw a cigarette butt at a JMH physician walking past the building. The physician was able to avoid the cigarette and was then struck by a piece of paper thrown by the male. Miami Police responded and transported the male to Crisis. The physician was not injured.

10/20  **UM Hospital**  
Security officer observed that a patient did not return a borrowed wheelchair. When the officer approached the patient who was attempting to leave he struck the officer in the head with his cane.

**Burglary**

10/10  **14th Street Surface Parking Lot**  
Contractor reported that a storage container was broken into. It was unknown if anything was missing.

**Vehicle Incidents**

10/12  **14th Street Garage**  
Employee backing out of a space on the 1st floor struck another employee passing by. There was minor damage and no injuries.
10/15 **Park Plaza West**

Employee parked on the east side of the building to load vehicle with items from office. The vehicle was struck by objects that fell off a tractor trailer unloading. The object caused minor damage and there were no injuries.

10/20 **UM Hospital Employee Parking Lot**

Shuttle bus struck a parked vehicle while backing out of the lot. There was minor damage and no injuries.

---

**Trespassers**

10/03 **15th Street Garage**

Security observed a suspicious male loitering on the west side of the building. The male left the area.

10/07 **Mailman Center Debbie School**

Security observed a male shouting at a female near NW 12th Avenue. The male left the area when he observed security approaching.

10/11 **Sickle Cell Center**

Staff advised that two males were sleeping on the south side of the building. Security responded and was unable to locate the individuals.

10/13 **14th Street Garage**

Security discovered a male sleeping on the southwest corner of the building. The male was escorted off the property.

10/17 **Calder Library**

Library staff reported a male that was refusing to leave. Security contacted that male and he left the building.

10/19 **UM Hospital**

A known trespasser attempted to enter through the South Building lobby. He was stopped by Security and denied entry.

10/21 **Bascom Palmer Eye Institute**

Security observed a suspicious male entering the building. The male was contacted and escorted out of the area.

10/28 **Fred Cowell Mall**

Security observed a male riding a bicycle circling around the bike racks. The male was contacted and escorted off the property.

10/29 **Magnetic Resonance Imaging**

Security called regarding a female yelling and protesting in the parking lot. Security contacted the female who left the area without incident.
Escorts

University of Miami Security Officers provided escorts to any place on campus, including Metrorail. We encourage you to use this service when walking alone and particularly after hours. Security Officers will meet you at your work location and escort you safely to your vehicle, Metrorail, or any other building on campus. Call 243-SAFE (7233) to request an escort. You may be able to reduce your waiting time if you call a few minutes before you are ready to leave.

During October, security officers provided 154 escorts with an average waiting time of 2:51 minutes.

General Information

FREE SECURITY SURVEYS or CRIME PREVENTION SEMINARS
Conducted on an individual or group basis. To make an appointment or to request information, call Lee Michaud, Crime Prevention & Training Manager at 243-5084.

CRIME TIP HOTLINE (243-6280)
Caller can remain anonymous. All information kept confidential. Ask for Craig Hopkins, Investigator at 243-6280.