

# **University of Miami Medical Campus Crime Summary Report March 2012**

## **\*\*Tip of the Month\*\***

At tax season, be alert for phishing emails that appear to be messages from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Scammers use email, websites and even social media to trick taxpayers into sharing personal and financial information, which they can then use to steal your identity. Meant to either frighten or entice, these fraudulent messages may threaten a tax audit or offer a tax refund.

**But know this:** The IRS does not generally send unsolicited e-mails to taxpayers or request financial account security information, such as PIN numbers. Further, they will not discuss tax account information with taxpayers via e-mail or use it to request sensitive financial and personal information from taxpayers.

### **Signs of a tax scam**

Scams may appear legitimate and some may even use the IRS logo. Warning signs that you've received a fraudulent message include:

- Requests for personal and/or financial information, such as your Social Security number and bank or credit card account numbers.
- Tempting offers that might persuade readers to click on links or respond to messages.
- Threats that suggest consequences for not responding to the email.
- Incorrect grammar, spelling or phrasing—especially when referencing the IRS or other government agencies—and links to inaccurate URLs. Rather than relying on links listed in the message, manually type the official IRS website directly into your search engine address bar to follow up.

### **Reporting scams**

If you receive an online message you suspect is a scam, the IRS suggests taking the following steps:

- Do not open any attachments or links. These could lead you to a fake IRS website, where opening a link could download malware or allow someone to hack into your computer.
- Ignore messages that offer a refund. Instead, go to the IRS's Where's My Refund? site to determine if you are actually receiving a refund.
- Forward the message or web address to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov).
- Delete the message.

Learn more about scams that impersonate the IRS. The IRS also provides additional information about precautions to take if you receive messages that appear to be from the agency.

# Thefts

## 03/01 UM Hospital and Clinics

A patient in a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor recovery area reported that a gold and silver ring placed in a plastic bag containing other jewelry before surgery was missing. Item valued at \$150.00.

## 03/01 MRI Center

Patient reported that a silver ring was missing from the changing room.

## 03/01 UM Hospital

Vendor reported that three anterior cervical plates disappeared from the surgical sterilization room. Items valued at \$7,500.00.

## 03/05 Medical Training and Simulation Laboratory

Unicco employee reported that an umbrella was missing from a picnic table in the garden area. Item valued at \$335.00.

## 03/07 UM Hospital and Clinics

Employees in a ground floor office reported that miscellaneous small items were missing from their desks.

## 03/07 UM Hospital

A patient in a Penthouse floor room reported that their watch was discovered missing after they took a shower. Security investigator learned that the watch was found on the floor by staff and returned to the patient. (Solved)

## 03/08 UM Hospital

A patient in a 6<sup>th</sup> floor room reported that a gold wedding band was missing. Item valued at \$300.00.

## 03/08 UM Hospital Parking Garage

A visitor reported that their vehicle parked on the 5<sup>th</sup> level was broken into and the radio was removed.

## 03/09 14<sup>th</sup> Street Garage

Employee reported that their bicycle left locked to the ground floor bike rack was missing. The item was valued at \$300.00.

## 03/10 UM Hospital and Clinics

An employee reported that a TV in a 4<sup>th</sup> floor lounge was not working. Security discovered that the cable adapter was missing.

## 03/12 Civic Center Metrorail Station

Visitor reported that while waiting for a ride a male approached and snatched a gold chain from around their neck. The male fled east on NW 16<sup>th</sup> Street. There were no injuries and the visitor refused to report the incident to the police.

**03/13 McKnight Vision Research Center**

Researcher reported that their leather jacket was missing from the back of a desk chair in an unsecured 5<sup>th</sup> floor office. The item was valued at \$400.00. 03/14, Security located the jacket and it was returned to the owner. (Solved)

**03/14 UM Hospital**

The daughter of a patient reported that the patient's gold and pearl ring was missing from a Penthouse floor room. Item valued at \$1,000.00.

**03/19 UM Hospital**

Physician reported that an Apple Mac desktop computer was missing from a secured 1<sup>st</sup> floor office. Item valued at \$2,259.00.

**03/19 Professional Arts Center**

Physician reported losing an iPhone in a 3<sup>rd</sup> floor office suite.

**03/20 UM Hospital and Clinics**

Employee reported that their vehicle, parked on the north side of the building, was broken into. There was no forced entry. An envelope containing \$65.00 cash was missing.

**03/22 UM Hospital**

Visitor reported that the keys to their vehicle that had been in possession of the valet were missing.

**03/22 UM Hospital**

Patient in an East Building Penthouse floor room reported that all their personal clothing and a purse were missing from the room when they returned from a treatment area.

**03/24 UM Hospital**

Patient's relative reported that several clothing items, walking cane, wallet and \$130.00 cash was missing from a 7<sup>th</sup> floor room.

**03/24 UM Hospital Parking Garage**

Employee reported that their vehicle left parked on the 3<sup>rd</sup> level was broken into. A pair of sunglasses, bottle of cologne, iPod cable and \$2.00 in quarters was missing. The vehicle was left unlocked.

**03/26 UM Hospital**

Patient in a 6<sup>th</sup> floor room reported that his wallet containing \$70.00 cash was missing from the room when he returned from treatment.

**03/28 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute**

Materials Management reported that 16 red chairs, valued at \$25.00 each, were taken from the loading dock.

**03/30 Professional Arts Center**

Contractor reported that a Makita drill left unsecured on a cart in a 1<sup>st</sup> floor room missing. Item valued at \$300.00.

# Assault

## 03/14 UM Hospital

A contract employee upset with a parking supervisor's decision to redirect the employee shuttle grabbed the parking employee by the shirt breaking their ID holder. There were no injuries.

# Burglary

None

# Vehicle Incidents

## 03/01 14<sup>th</sup> Street Garage

A patient reported that their vehicle was struck by another vehicle on the ground level causing minor damage.

## 03/16 15<sup>th</sup> Street Garage

Employee travelling southbound on the 5<sup>th</sup> level was struck by a visitor's vehicle travelling in the opposite direction. There was minor damage and no injuries.

## 03/23 UM Hospital and Clinics

Visitor reported finding scratches on their vehicle, left with the valet, after returning home to Ft. Pierce on 03/15.

## 03/28 UM Hospital Parking Garage

Physician reported that he discovered a key scratch on the driver's door of his vehicle parked on the 4<sup>th</sup> level. Security video showed the vehicle entering the garage with the scratch.

# Trespassers

## 03/01 McKnight Vision Research Center

Security observed a known trespasser panhandling in front of the building. The male entered the building by following an employee and was contacted by security and escorted away from the building.

## 03/02 Lois Pope Life Center

Security observed a suspicious male looking inside of the building in the early morning hours. The male was contacted and escorted away from the area.

## 03/08 McKnight Vision Research Center

Security alerted to a male sleeping on the northwest side of the building. The male was contacted and escorted away from the area.

## 03/22 Dominion Garage

Security called regarding a suspicious male on the north side of the  
[Security.med.miami.edu](http://Security.med.miami.edu)

building harassing passersby. When security arrived the male was observed leaving the area on foot.

03/22 **Bascom Palmer Eye Institute**

Security observed a suspicious male enter the loading dock area. The male was contacted and after giving an explanation was allowed to leave.

03/24 **Bascom Palmer Eye Institute**

Staff reported a suspicious male on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor in an empty patient room using the rest room. The video indicated the male left the building two minutes later.

## **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 March, security officers provided 141 escorts with an average waiting time of 3:43 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.