

University of Miami Medical Campus Crime Summary Report October 2012

****Tip of the Month****

5 Ways To Avoid Getting Robbed While Shopping

It's common to get distracted when at the mall with children. While a great deal or a disgruntled tot can steal a parent's attention for a moment or two, it also may make you a target for theft. In the hustle and bustle of holiday shopping, a parent should be aware of their surroundings and susceptibility. Avoid being robbed by following these five practical tips!

Keep Items Off the Fitting Room Floor

You might be searching for the perfect outfit, but the person in the next fitting room may be looking for a prime opportunity! Avoid having loot slipped out from under you by hanging personal items on door or wall hooks (or setting them on the seat). This rule also applies to public restrooms. Just make sure the hooks aren't high enough that a stranger could reach over and snatch the goods from above either.

Don't Turn Your Back

A stroller carts a lot more than the kiddo! Parents also toss diaper bag, phone, and purchases into the buggy's storage bin so they should be conscious of that container at all times. If the pushchair makes perusing store racks cumbersome, park the pram in a safe place, and carry your tot and valuables.

Check Your Receipt

In a mad dash, you likely don't take the time to run the numbers — but this could affect your bank account balance! Watch the register as the clerk rings up your items, eyeball the receipt, and check your change to ensure that you aren't overpaying for your purchases.

Don't Shop and Drop

Parents got babe in the sling, a tot in the stroller, and another wee one walking beside them. You only have so many hands so it's tempting to shop and drop bags in the car when your arms tire and then return to the mall to finish gathering goods. Unfortunately, parking lot lurkers prey on people who do this so split up your shopping trips or enlist a friend to help you handle the loot.

Have a Parking Lot Plan

Once you leave the mall, you should have your key in hand and a plan. Parking lots and garages aren't places to lollygag — particularly at night or when they are sparsely populated. Get the kids in the car, then the other items, before collapsing your stroller and stowing it. Locking the doors in between each load gives a thief limited access to your vehicle.

Thefts

10/01 Dominion Towers

Employee reported that a projector, last seen on 09/17, was missing from a 2nd floor conference room. Item valued at \$600.00.

10/02 UM Hospital Parking Garage

Employee discovered that the left rear passenger window of their vehicle was broken out while parked on the 5th floor. A black computer bag and a red hand bag were taken. The bags contained a Toshiba laptop computer and check book.

10/02 Dominion Garage

Employee discovered the driver's side window broken out of their vehicle left parked on the 5th level. A GPS device was taken...

10/05 UM Hospital

A patient in an 8th floor room reported that an unknown male entered their room and took towels and gloves.

10/05 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute

A visitor plugged their iPhone into an outlet in a 4th floor waiting area to charge. They left momentarily and when they returned the item was gone. Video revealed another visitor took the item and was exiting the building when summoned back by security the phone was recovered. (Solved)

10/07 UM Hospital Parking Garage

A visitor reported that a Toshiba laptop computer was missing from their vehicle left parked on the 4th floor. The visitor was not certain that they locked the vehicle. Item valued at \$400.00.

10/09 UM Hospital

Physician reported that their black computer bag containing medical scrubs, surgical loupes, and a set of keys was missing. The items were valued at \$300.00. With assistance from the security investigator viewing the video the physician was able to locate the items in a patient's room. (Solved)

10/09 Diabetes Research Institute

Employee reported that approximately \$250.00 in cash was missing from a zippered bag left in a locked desk drawer in a 1st floor clinic. There were no signs of forced entry.

10/10 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute

A patient checking out from an appointment left their wallet on the desk in a 2nd floor cubical. The wallet was gone when the patient returned. The wallet contained debit, credit cards and \$30.00 cash.

10/11 Sylvester Cancer Center

A visitor reported that a silver choker valued at \$1,500.00 was left on the passenger seat of their vehicle when parked by the valet. The item was gone when the vehicle was returned. When contacted by the security investigator the visitor advised the item had been returned. (Solved)

10/17 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute

A patient left a \$260.00 Samsung Tablet 2 with their seven year old child in a 4th floor waiting area. When the patient returned from their exam the item was gone. The video identified the perpetrator as another patient who took the item. The perpetrator was contacted and the item was recovered on 10/24. (Solved)

10/19 UM Hospital and Clinics Parking Lot

Security discovered a vehicle with an open driver's side door. The owner was located and advised a book bag, physical education uniform and a non-working cell phone was missing.

10/20 UM Hospital

Food Service employee reported that their Samsung cell phone was taken from the Dietary Office. Item valued at \$500.00.

10/22 Batchelor Children's Center

Employee reported that Winn Dixie gift cards valued at \$300.00 were missing from the top of a desk in a 2nd floor office.

10/23 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute

Contractor reported that a company Dell lap top computer was missing from a 1st floor fire panel room. Item valued at \$600.00.

10/26 UM Hospital

Patient in a 6th floor room reported that a hearing aid was missing from their room.

10/30 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute

A patient reported that their iPhone 5 was missing after an exam. Item valued at \$600.00.

Assault

10/03 Sylvester Cancer Center

Visitor reported that another visitor in a motorized wheelchair took her daughter's teddy bear. There was an argument and it was alleged that the wheelchair bound visitor ran over the foot of the reporting visitor as they were leaving. There were no signs of injury.

10/02 Clinical Research Building

Two male visitors were arguing about a coffee machine on the 5th floor. One visitor alleged the other slapped them on the hand. There were no signs of injury.

Burglary

None

Vehicle Incidents

10/03 15th Street Garage

Employee reported finding a scratch on the left rear door of their vehicle parked on the 2nd floor.

10/05 UM Hospital Parking Garage

Employee reported finding minor damage to the rear bumper of their vehicle left parked on the 7th floor.

10/04 14th Street Garage

Visitor reported finding damage on the front and rear driver's side doors of their vehicle left parked on the 6th floor.

10/06 UM Hospital and Clinics

A contractor's employee reported finding a dent on the driver's door of their vehicle left parked near the valet ramp.

10/09 Sylvester Cancer Center

Visitor reported discovering damage to the rear passenger door of their vehicle left with the valet.

10/09 UM Hospital Parking Garage

A visitor struck a parked vehicle on the 1st floor causing minor damage.

10/11 14th Street Garage

An employee backing on the 11th floor struck a vehicle behind it causing minor damage.

10/11 14th Terrace

Employee reported finding minor damage to their bumper while parked on the street.

10/17 UM Hospital Parking Garage

A visitor struck a parked vehicle on the 1st floor causing minor damage.

10/18 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Patient Lot

A visitor's vehicle was struck by the entrance gate causing minor damage.

10/19 15th Street Garage

A student and an employee struck each other while traveling in opposite directions on the 7th floor.

10/22 UM Hospital Parking Garage

A physician travelling up the ramp from 14th Street was struck by a vehicle that failed to yield on the 2nd level. There was minor damage and no injuries.

10/22 14th Street Garage

A taxi cab backed into a parked vehicle on the 1st floor causing minor damage.

10/29 UM Hospital Parking Garage

A visitor looking for a parking space on the 3rd floor struck a wall near the access gate to the physician's parking.

10/31 14th Street Garage

Contract employee struck a yellow crash bar next to the cashier's booth. There was minor damage to the driver's door.

Trespassers

10/09 Mailman Center for Child Development

An illegal vendor set up on the north side of the building refused to leave. Miami Police and Code Enforcement responded and the vendor left the area.

10/17 Fred Cowell Mall

Security observed a male soliciting for money near the Rosenstiel Building. The male was contacted and escorted off the property.

10/24 NW 14th Street and 12th Avenue

Security observed a male pushing a shopping cart with an oxygen tank inside. The tank was recovered and returned to its owner.

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 211 escorts with an average waiting time of 3:30 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.