

University of Miami Medical Campus Crime Summary Report August 2007

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

STALKING

Stalking is a pattern of repeated, unwanted attention, harassment, and contact. It is a course of conduct that can include:

- Following or laying in wait for the victim
- Repeated unwanted, intrusive, and frightening communications from the perpetrator by phone, mail, and/or e-mail
- Damaging the victim's property
- Making direct or indirect threats to harm the victim, the victim's children, relatives, friends, or pets
- Repeatedly sending the victim unwanted gifts
- Harassment through the Internet, known as cyber stalking, online stalking, or Internet stalking
- Securing personal information about the victim by: accessing public records (land records, phone listings, driver or voter registration), using Internet search services, hiring private investigators, contacting friends, family, work, or neighbors, going through the victim's garbage, following the victim, etc.

Who are the victims of stalking?

- The overwhelming majority of victims (78 percent) are women.
- Most female victims are stalked by current or former intimate partners such as spouses, cohabiting partners, or dating partners.
- A minority of victims are stalked by strangers.

Who are the perpetrators?

- Nearly 90 percent of stalkers are men.
- Stalkers can be strangers, acquaintances, friends, co-workers, or current or former intimate partners, including spouses, boyfriends/girlfriends, and dates.
- Current or former intimate partners stalk the majority of female victims.
- A minority of stalkers target victims with whom they have no prior connection or relationship.
- Stalkers are often socially maladjusted, emotionally immature, insecure and jealous by nature. Like perpetrators of domestic violence, who often stalk their partners, they seek to exert power and control over the victim.
- The majority of stalkers are not mentally ill. A minority (usually stranger stalkers) suffers from mental health disorders (such as paranoid schizophrenia or manic depression) and exhibit delusional thought patterns or behaviors.

Is stalking dangerous?

- Stalking can lead to physical violence resulting in serious injury or even death.
- It's often difficult to predict when and how a stalker will act or whether the unwanted intrusions into the victim's life will escalate into physical or sexual assaults.
- Some stalkers never move beyond threats and intimidation, while others do so with little warning.
- Victims may not know if action they take will stop the stalking or make things worse.
- Stalking is unpredictable. Victims should talk to trained victim assistance professionals about ways to improve their safety, their options, and resources available to help them and important to report stalking behavior to security and/or law enforcement.

Thefts

08/01 Professional Arts Center

Employee reported that a credit card checkbook containing six checks was missing from her unsecured desk drawer in a 5th floor office. The checks were canceled by the bank.

08/02 Jackson Medical Towers

Employee reported that his cell phone and the office petty cash, between \$50 and \$60 cash, were taken from his unsecured 8th floor office.

08/03 Kendall Medical Center

Employee reported that someone switched her computer monitor.

08/05 Calder Library

Medical student reported that he parked his 2000 black scooter secured to the bike rack in front of the building on 08/04. When he returned in the morning the scooter was gone.

08/06 Sewell Building

Employee reported that his checkbook was taken out of a fanny pack in an unsecured 3rd floor office.

08/07 Professional Arts Center

Employee notified Security that a male took six dollars from a wallet in a 7th floor office. Security found the male and detained him for the arrival of Miami Police. The male was arrested. (Solved)

08/09 Park Plaza East

Employee in a 1st floor office reported that she discovered her wallet missing from her carrying bag. The wallet contained her driver license, Social Security card and other personal documents.

08/11 UM Hospital and Clinics

Patient reported that his Motorola cell phone was missing from next to his bed in a 2nd floor room. Item valued at \$250.00.

08/18 UM Hospital and Clinics

Patient reported that his Nokia cell phone was missing from his 2nd floor room.

08/23 Debbie School

Physician reported someone removed a laptop computer, digital camera, files and other miscellaneous items valued at \$2,000.00 from his vehicle parked in front of the building. The doors may have been left unlocked.

08/28 Rosenstiel Medical Science Building

Contractor reported that 12 copper cables, 50 feet each, connected to a temporary emergency generator were cut and removed.

08/28 Dominion Garage Building

Employee reported a missing laptop computer that was delivered to a 1st floor office on 07/30 and discovered missing on 08/28. Item valued at \$1,300.00.

08/30 Batchelor Children's Research Institute

Employee reported that a platform scale valued at \$900.00 was missing from a temporary building on the north side of the BCRI building.

08/30 Batchelor Children's Research Institute

Employee reported that several office supply items were missing from an unsecured desk on the 5th floor.

Assault

None

Burglary

08/13 Florida Glass Building

A UM transport van was broken into and vandalized.

Vehicle Incidents

08/15 Schoninger Research Quadrangle

A minivan driven by an unknown female struck and knocked over a tree in the passenger drop off drive way. Minivan fled after striking the tree.

08/16 14th Street Garage

Employee reported that his vehicle was struck while parked on the 1st level.

08/17 UM Hospital and Clinics

Two valet employees were involved in a minor collision while parking cars in the valet lot.

08/20 UM Hospital and Clinics

Visitor struck another vehicle in the drive way. No injuries and minor damage.

08/24 Rosenstiel Medical Science Building

Visitor struck the parking gate at the entrance/exit of VIP parking lot.

Trespassers

08/03 Batchelor Children's Research Institute

Security observed a male on a bicycle soliciting cigarettes from an employee. The male was advised to leave the property.

08/03 National Parkinson Foundation

Employee reported that a male stopped in the drive way and urinated. Security located the male down the street and advised him not to return to the building.

08/08 Mailman Center

Security discovered a male and female selling candy in the building and they were escorted off the property.

08/10 Sylvester Cancer Center

Security advised of a suspicious male on the south side of the building. Male contacted and advised to leave the area.

08/11 Ambulatory Care Center East

Security discovered a female sleeping in front of the building. The female was escorted off the property.

08/18 UM Hospital and Clinics

Security discovered a male sleeping on the west side of the building. Male was escorted off the property.

08/18 Diabetes Research Institute

Security discovered a male attempting to open a door on the west side of the building. The male is a known trespasser and has a mental condition. He was escorted away from the property.

08/19 Sylvester Cancer Center

Security discovered a male sleeping on a bench on the east side of the building. The male was escorted off the property.

08/20 Ambulatory Care Center East

Security discovered a male sleeping near the front entrance. The male was escorted off the property.

08/27 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute

Security observed a suspicious male asking people for money in the main lobby. The male was escorted out of the building.

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 243-6079 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 August, security officers provided 350 escorts with an average waiting time of 3:52 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.