

# **University of Miami Medical Campus Crime Summary Report August 2008**

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

### **Cell Phone Theft**

Although there is a small black market for stolen cellular telephone handsets, cell phone theft is overwhelmingly a theft of service. Thieves don't really want your handset, cell phones are so cheap and ubiquitous that hot phones aren't worth much: they want to use your wireless service to make free calls and stick you with the bill. Reporting your stolen handset's phone number to your service provider will cut off the thief's ability to charge calls to your account.

Unfortunately, what cell phone thieves primarily take advantage of is the time lag between their stealing your phone and your noticing the loss and reporting it to your service provider (and in some cases, your service provider's delay in disabling the account), during which they can largely make as many phone calls as they want for free, with little fear of being caught. As long as these windows exist, thieves will continue to pilfer cell phones, whether or not they can re-use or re-sell them afterwards.

## **Thefts**

### **08/04 Sewell Building**

Patient reported that a power drill, valued at \$120.00, was missing from the back seat of his vehicle when it was returned by the valet.

### **08/13 Elliott Building**

Employee reported that a bag containing make up and an Apple iPod was missing from her unsecured desk drawer. Items valued at \$250.00.

### **08/21 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute**

Contractor reported that one of his employees has been taking cash from patient's payments in a 3<sup>rd</sup> floor department.

### **08/24 Warehouse 2200 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue**

Security discovered a storm drain cover missing from inside the front gate.

08/25 Rosenstiel Medical Science Building

Researcher reported that an external hard drive was missing from the unsecured top drawer of his desk. Item valued at \$200.00.

08/26 UM Hospital and Clinics

Security reported that four traffic cones were taken from the receiving area.

08/28 Magnetic Resonance Imaging

Patient reported that a bag containing his jewelry left on a table was gone when he returned from an MRI. Items valued at \$4,000.00.

## Assault

None

## Burglary

08/11 Dominion Parking Garage

Employee reported that her vehicle was broken into and the radio taken. Vehicle parked on the 4<sup>th</sup> level and there were no signs of forced entry.

## Vehicle Incidents

08/26 Clinical Research Building

Employee attempting to enter the 14<sup>th</sup> Street Parking Garage from the rear of the building struck the open rear door of a delivery truck. Minor damage and no injuries.

08/29 14<sup>th</sup> Street Garage

Employee reported that she struck another employee's car while backing up, causing minor damage.

08/31 Dominion Parking Garage

Employee found damage to the driver's door lock. Vehicle was left on 2<sup>nd</sup> level.

## Trespassers

08/02 Dominion Towers

Security discovered a male loitering on the 3<sup>rd</sup> level. The male was escorted out of the building.

08/06 Au Bon Pain Restaurant

Security called regarding a male drinking water from the soda fountain machine. The male was escorted out of the restaurant.

**08/12 Clinical Research Building**

Employee reported that there was a suspicious male on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor. Security responded and escorted the male out of the building.

**08/14 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Patient Lot**

Security observed a known male trespasser walking in the area. The male stated he was just released from Mental Health. The male left the area.

**08/20 Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Valet Lot**

Security called regarding an unauthorized female in the lot. The female left the area when the security officer arrived.

**08/21 Sylvester Cancer Center**

Security observed a suspicious male sitting on a courtyard bench. The male was escorted off the property.

**08/29 Batchelor Research Institute**

Security observed an unauthorized male enter the building after hours. The male was contacted and Miami Police responded. The male was escorted off the property.

**08/31 Warehouse 2200 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue**

Security discovered a male going through the dumpster. The male was escorted off the property.

## **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 419 escorts with an average waiting time of 4:07 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.