

Honeydew Community Police Forum Crime Update 28 July 2008

Herewith some of the incidents from the passed week:

HIJACKING:

- We are currently experiencing an increase in hijackings and would like residents to be vigilant at all times. Do not let down your guard especially if you are parked in your vehicle and relaxed. Most hijackings occur when people are waiting in their vehicles, either parked at school or when returning home waiting for the gate to open.

In an incident in **Little Falls** at about 18h50 the complainant was stopped at her gate when she was approached by 5 suspects with pistols. They demanded jewellery and cash and pulled the complainant and her two children out of the vehicle. They then drove off in the vehicle.

In another incident in **Allen's Nek** at about 12h30, the complainant was at her children's school waiting for them when she was approached by one male with a firearm. He instructed her to open the door. He then got into the vehicle and told her to drive to her home, where she parked the vehicle in the garage. She was tied up in the bedroom. The suspect ransacked the house and packed various household appliances in the vehicle and he fled the scene. The vehicle was later recovered in Randburg.

STREET ROBBERY:

In an incident in **Alsef (Johan Road)** at about 10h30 the complainant was walking when she was approached by one suspect armed with a knife. He grabbed her and pushed her to the ground. The complainant started to scream, when a passing motorist heard her screams and stopped. The suspect then ran away.

In another incident in **Struben's Valley** at about 07h15 the complainant was walking in the street when she was approached by two suspects who held her up with a plastic firearm. They took her cell phone and cash. The complainant screamed and a passing security vehicle from Paracops stopped and she gave them a description of the suspects. Two Mozambican citizens (aged 18 and 19) were arrested and the complainant's property as well as the plastic firearm were recovered.

SAFETY ON THE STREET

- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- If people start milling around you - beware- it could be a set up for a robbery.
- Never overload yourself with parcels - it makes you a target.
- Do not carry large sums of money, try to carry your wallet/purse in an inside or front pocket.
- Let someone know where you are going as well as letting them know when you expect to return.

HOUSE ROBBERY:

In an incident in **Bromhof** at about 12h00, the complainant was inside the house with her daughter and domestic worker. She was busy working when suddenly there was somebody behind her. A second suspect went to where her daughter was. The complainant was hit over the head. The domestic worker came in and saw what was happening and she rushed to the bedroom and pressed the panic button. The suspects then fled. Honeydew SAPS managed to arrest the one suspect and the second suspect was arrested with the help of a community member and ADT Security. After further investigation the suspects were linked to another house robbery in Bromhof earlier in the day.

In another incident in **Weltevreden Park** at about 19h00 the complainant was watching television in his house when he was confronted by three suspects with firearms. They ransacked the house fleeing with the stolen goods.

THEFT OUT OF AND THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE:

Residents are once again requested to ensure that all security measures have been implemented especially when you are parking your vehicles at shopping complexes, schools etc. All valuables must be removed from the vehicle or placed in the boot where they are not visible.

Due to the vigilance and alertness of a carguard at the **Northgate Shopping Centre** two suspects were arrested after they had tried to steal a vehicle. The guard saw the Red Fiat Uno attempting to steal a silver Honda Ballade. He immediately radioed the Control Room who dispatched a vehicle and they gave chase out of the shopping centre. The suspects skipped several red robots but the security managed to pull the vehicle over. The vehicle was searched and several car breaking implements were recovered as well as counterfeit money was recovered. The case is presently being investigated by Honeydew Detectives who are trying to link them to other cases of vehicle theft.

SUCCESS

At about 02h00 two properties in the Struben's Valley area were raided and four suspects (three females and one male) were arrested for the possession of fraudulent and cloned passports (from South African, Botswana, Eritrea, Somalia and Great Britain etc.) as well as 72 cloned and stolen credit cards. A stolen motor vehicle (stolen in Namibia) was also found in their possession, as well as equipment used to produce passports and clone/skim credit cards.

In another incident three suspects have been arrested for fraud. They purchase vehicle with false documents. All second hand dealers need to check all documentation that is presented to them (in the way of identity documents, bank statements etc.) to ensure that it is verified through the relevant authorities.

The house robbery task team arrested three suspects for a business robbery in Cosmo City. Another suspect was arrested in Soweto for a house robbery that took place in Little Falls in April 2008. A complainant who reported a hijacking has been arrested for perjury. After investigating the case it was established that the complainant's vehicle had in fact been stolen, not hi-jacked and he was afraid to tell his boss.

Regards

Insp. (f) Karen Jacobs
Honeydew SAPS Communications Officer
011-801-8507

Carmel Wassman
Honeydew Community Police Forum Admin. Office
011-801-8495