

# UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



## ***PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY – JANUARY 29, 2004***

### **ALERT:**

Critical / Major Incident

### **ADVISORY:**

Important Incident

### **BULLETIN:**

General Information

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Public Safety would like to inform the UST community of several recent thefts from motor vehicles on and near university property.

Since January 7th, four vehicles either had side windows smashed or were entered through unlocked doors. Once inside these vehicles, criminals stole stereo equipment and personal property, including purses, briefcases, cash and financial transaction cards.

In the most recent crime, a witness told Public Safety and the police that shortly after 5:00 p.m., two young black males drove into LOT J in a four-door Chevrolet or Oldsmobile "box-type" sedan, red or maroon in color, and parked near the Child Development Center. One of the suspects, described as being in his late-teens to early twenties, 5' 8" tall, clean shaven, with short black hair and wearing a black "puffy" coat, exited the vehicle and took three swings at a side window until it broke. The suspect then took a purse from the front passenger seat of the vehicle, entered the waiting suspect vehicle and fled the area eastbound towards Cleveland Avenue.

The above noted crimes take mere seconds to commit and are aimed at gathering as much property as possible before fleeing from the area. The University of St. Thomas community periodically experiences these break-ins, and requests assistance with solving and preventing these crimes.

The following tips will assist you in protecting yourself from becoming a victim of these crimes.

- Always lock your doors
- Keep windows closed and rolled up tight
- Never leave personal property in plain view in your vehicle
- Never leave valuables anywhere in your vehicle, including your trunk
- Clearly label CD's with an identifying mark to aid investigators in the recovery of property
- Always report suspicious activity to Public Safety and the police:

**Public Safety Emergency Line - (651) 962-5555, or 5555 from any campus phone**

Public Safety (non-emergency) - (651) 962-5100

**Police Emergency Line – 911**

St. Paul Police Department (non-emergency) - (651)-291-1111

Minneapolis Police Department (non-emergency) - (612) 348-2345

Immediately call the Department of Public Safety at (96)2-5555 if you see suspicious people loitering or lurking on and around campus. **Please note the physical description of the suspect(s), the last known location and direction of travel, and a vehicle license plate number.**

**Public Safety urges you to be pro-active and alert. You can help prevent crime!**