

**UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Alert – January 16, 2021**

**ALERT:**  
Critical / Major Incident

**ADVISORY:**  
Important Incident

**BULLETIN:**  
General Information

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Public Safety would like to alert the University of St. Thomas community of a robbery that occurred off campus in St. Paul on Cretin Avenue between Selby and Dayton Avenues on 01/16/2020 at approximately 02:56 AM.

On 01/16/2021 at approximately 08:29 AM, Public Safety became aware that St. Thomas students were apparent victims of an armed robbery involving a firearm. According to subsequent information gathered, five St. Thomas students were walking westbound on Selby Avenue from Finn Street when they noticed an unknown male in a black ski mask following them on foot. As the students later approached the alleyway between Selby and Dayton Avenues, a vehicle pulled up next to them with very bright lights. Three suspects in black ski masks got out of the vehicle, one displaying a gun. The students were forced to turn over personal property. One of the suspects fired a single gunshot into the air, and all suspects got back into the vehicle and drove northbound on Cretin. The students went to a nearby house and were assisted with reporting the incident to the St. Paul Police Department.

Through video investigation, Public Safety determined a second vehicle with its lights off appeared to be involved in the incident. The two vehicles appeared to be a Ford truck and a small dark colored sport utility vehicle. No further information or suspect descriptions are known at this time.

**The University of St. Thomas believes that descriptors alone are not a valid reason to profile or cast suspicion on any individual. They are included here because they may reasonably assist in identifying the perpetrator of this incident.**

If you have any information regarding these crimes you are urged to contact  
Public Safety at (651-962-5100) and the police (911).

**Report crime confidentially or anonymously:**  
**by e-mailing [PSTIPS@stthomas.edu](mailto:PSTIPS@stthomas.edu),**  
**or calling 96(2-TIPS).**

Crime prevention tips:

- Call Public Safety to escort you to your destination.
- Report crimes immediately to Public Safety and the St. Paul Police Department.
- Do not wear earphones when walking or running alone outside, especially if it is dark. This potentially cuts off audible signals of threats to your safety.
- Walk in groups – there is safety in numbers.
- Don't take unnecessary risks. Stay in populated, well-lit areas.
- Remember suspect information, including direction of travel, vehicle information, approximate age, height, weight and details on hair, clothing, jewelry, scars, tattoos – anything noticeable.
- If you see something, say something.

**Removal Date: 1/30/2021**