

# Ann Arbor Police Department Weekly Crime Bulletin

## SIGNIFICANT CRIMINAL EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 8, 2009

### **MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY 800 Blk Hill St. 12-2-09 (2:35 am)**

Two suspects smashed the windshields and windows of vehicles in the Hill/Oakland area. Officers responded to the area and arrested two suspects. Pending a follow up investigation the subjects have been released.

**Investigation Continues**

### **ARMED ROBBERY S. Fifth Ave./Hill St. 12-6-09 (3:56 am)**

The victim was walking on S. Fifth Ave. when he heard someone from behind say "excuse me". The suspect who was armed with a knife robbed the victim of money, a driver's license, and credit cards. The suspect then fled the area.

**Suspect:** W/M approximately 25 yrs. and 6 feet tall.

**A REMINDER TO LOCK OUT CRIME  
HELP FIGHT CRIME!**

**LOCK YOUR DOORS AND WINDOWS AND REPORT ANY  
SUSPICIOUS INCIDENTS, PERSONS, OR VEHICLES TO 911**

**Deborah Cauffiel  
Police Service Specialist  
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## **Holiday Crime Prevention Tips**

When you're shopping, use the trunk of your car to keep your packages out of sight. Keep your car locked at all times. Be sure and make several trips to your car to deposit packages in the trunk. Don't allow yourself to become so burdened down with packages that you become a tempting target. When walking through parking lots, be sure that you are aware of your surroundings.

Walk with authority. Don't look like a victim! **Once you have placed your items in your car, move your vehicle if you plan to continue shopping.**

- When leaving your vehicle, make sure you remove any items out of sight; this includes GPS systems, Cell Phones, Laptops and any cords associated with electronics. Once you remove your GPS system remember to clean the window.
- Create a log with all the information of your electronic devices to include, serial numbers, brand name, model, cost and date of purchase. Keep this information secure, so in the event that you may need it you have the information easily accessible.
- Remember, whether you are leaving the house to go shopping or out for an evening of Holiday parties, lock your doors and windows!

Don't leave the drapes open with your presents in plain view. Gifts displayed around your tree can be a pretty sight, but can also be quite tempting to burglars. It's better to scatter the gifts around the house, in closets or cupboards, where they can't be so easily seen.

- If you are leaving town for the holidays, make sure your home appears occupied. Leave inside and outside lights (varying times) on timers and have your neighbors pick up newspapers, mail, and take flyers off your door. Ask neighbors to park in your driveway. Put a timer on a talk radio station for several hours a day. Have them shovel the drive and sidewalk if necessary.
- If you choose to have a live tree, make sure it is always properly watered. Never leave tree lights on when no one is at home. Remember, ornaments can also burn.
- After the holiday gifts have been open, don't put out to the curb, empty boxes advertising your new purchases (TV, GPS Systems, Laptops, DVD player, microwaves, etc.). Break the boxes down and deposit them in your trash, recycle bin or dumpster away from your home.
- If you have a garage door opener, do not leave the control openly displayed in your car. Keep the door leading from your house to your garage locked. Try not to leave your garage door open at any time. Secure the interior door to your home.
- Be aware that thieves and pickpockets also do some of their biggest business during the holiday season. Ladies, don't dangle your handbag from your shoulder. You are creating a perfect setup for a purse snatcher. Instead, keep your purse tucked tightly under your arm. Better yet, don't even carry a purse. Place your checkbook, cash, or credit cards in your front pockets. Avoid carrying your checkbook, cash, and credit cards all together in one wallet, because if a thief gets the whole package together, they can cash checks with your identification and run up a large credit card bill in a short amount of time.
- Never give your credit card number over the telephone to anyone when you did not initiate the call. And be sure that you are dealing with a reputable company when ordering merchandise over the telephone.
- Don't "flash" large rolls of money in public. You never know who's watching! Also, spread your money around in different pockets. That way a pickpocket can't clean you out in one fell swoop. Place a rubber band around your wallet and/or cash, if a pickpocket tries to get it, you will feel the movement.

- If you go to an automatic teller machine, try to go during the daylight hours. If you must go at night, pick a machine that is well lighted and visible to passing traffic. Drive around first to check the area. If anyone is lurking near the machine, pass it up and find another.
- When dining out, valet parking is nice, but don't be too lax. Don't leave valuables in your vehicle and **never** leave your house key with the attendant.