



CENTRAL POLICE DISTRICT

Building Trust Through Community Partnerships

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A Focus on Crime: Thefts of and from Vehicles

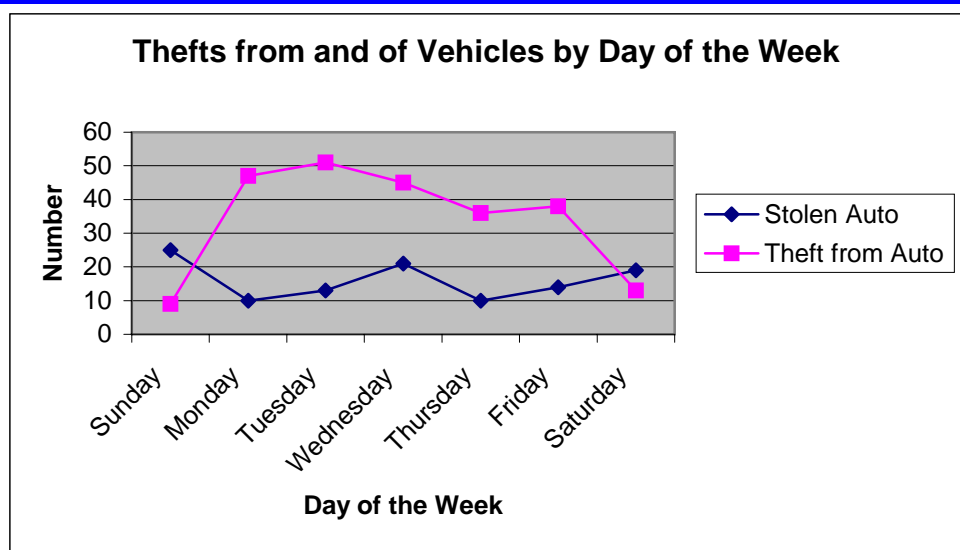
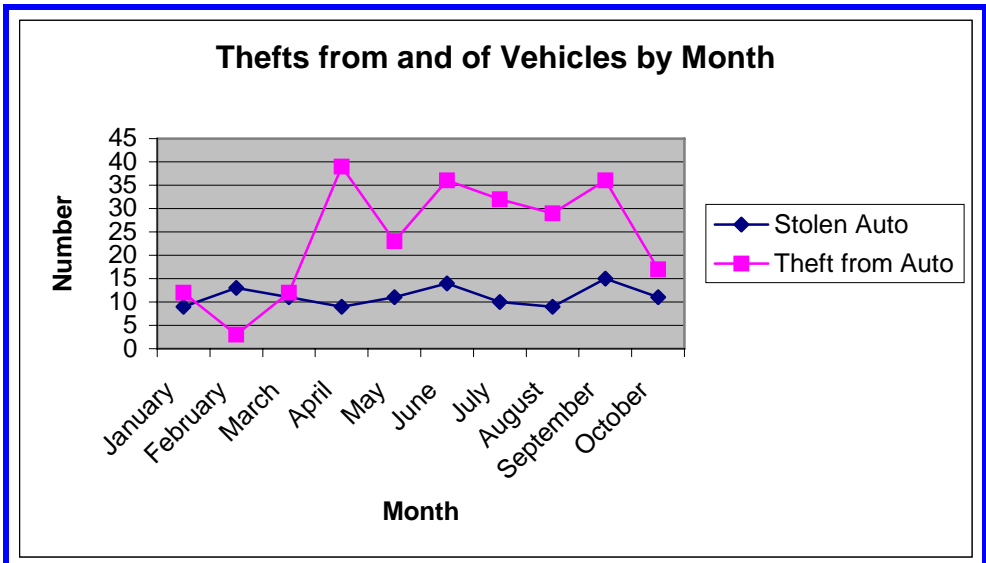
Many times when you open your newsletter you will see information related to many crimes that happen in the district. I generally do not provide much information on crimes related to stolen autos or entry into locked vehicles. While not every crime or disturbance in the district is covered in every newsletter, they are reviewed both as an individual incident, and then analyzed to see where they fit in the larger picture of activity in the district and the city. One of ways we look at the data is to look for trends and patterns.

I am sharing with you some of the trend data related to auto thefts and thefts from vehicles. The auto theft is fairly self-explanatory, and as you see from the two charts on this page are relatively stable from month to month. In regard to day of the week, there is a

slight trend upward on the weekends, although some of these cases are ultimately “misplaced,” or in other words the mystery parking spot. Stolen vehicles include mopeds, which are a common target. It is best to

Data from:

January 1, 2008 to October 13, 2008



secure these vehicles with separate locking mechanisms and not rely solely on the ignition locking device, which is easy to defeat. Mopeds are recovered fairly often but generally in poor condition since the ignition is pried open to short circuit the ignition. Most often the vehicle is dumped or abandoned around other parked mopeds and is not “found” since it does not necessarily look out of place.

(Continued on page 4)

CRIME OVERVIEW

Person Crimes: Batteries

Date	Time	Location	Details
10/4	3:00 pm	1000 Blk E Johnson	Adult children called in that their mother caused a disturbance and battered a daughter. Suspect charged with Domestic Battery and Obstructing.
10/4	3:00 am	300 Blk N Broom	A drinking party at a residence ended and unwanted people were kicked out. The suspects threw bricks at the window, and when the resident went out they were battered.
10/10	2:44 am	800 Blk E Johnson	A woman visiting her boyfriend became angry when she asked him to leave and she hit him in the face several times with a beer can.
10/12	12:06 am	600 Blk State St	A group of intoxicated males approached mounted officers asking to pet the horses. One smacked the rump of one and was charged with Battery to Police Animal.
10/12	1:35 am	100 Blk E Doty	Officers were sent to Great Dane Pub for a subject who refused to leave following a bar fight. One of the officers arrived to witness the suspect battering another person in a vehicle. The suspect punched the officer in the eye when he tried to intervene. The suspect was charged with DC and Battery to PO.
10/27	6:15 pm	500 Blk E Johnson	Two men from separate apartments got into an argument, one threatened the other with a knife, holding it to his throat. Suspect charged with Reckless Endangering, Battery, and PO Hold.

Person Crimes: Disturbances, Others

Date	Time	Location	Details
10/4	9:00 pm	500 Blk N Park	Bike rider reported that a car came up next to him and subject from passenger seat attempted to grab his backpack and subsequently pulled him off the bike. Suspect vehicle later located.
10/6	12:40 am	500 blk State St	A witness observed suspect holding a knife on two males and making threats. Victims located but refused to cooperate. Suspect located and charged with DC While Armed.
10/8	8:46 pm	20 Blk N Butler	Verbal dispute resulted in pushing, shoving and damage to property resulted in the suspect being charged with Domestic Disorderly Conduct.
10/10	10:06 pm	100 Blk W Main	Suspect displayed a knife when asked to leave a bar, was later arrested and charged with DC While Armed, Carrying a Conceal Weapon, and parole hold.
10/11	5:36 pm	400 Blk State St.	A report of injured person involving a knife led to arrest of two suspects, one for DC While Armed and Battery, the other for Battery and DC.
10/12	3:00 am	1100 Blk Williamson	An argument escalated into on person who broke dishes and grabbed a knife. The suspect fled but returned, resisted officers, and was eventually taken into custody. Charged with Domestic DC, Domestic Criminal Damage to Property, Domestic Battery, Domestic DC While Armed, and Resisting.
10/17	9:11 pm	Winnebago/ Atwood	Report of a man with a gun on a bus. Juvenile suspect charged with DC While Armed. Was later charged with OMVWOC and Underage Drinking in another incident with same companion.

CRIME OVERVIEW CONTINUED

Property Crimes: Burglaries

Date	Location	Type	Entry	Targeted/Stolen
10/6	700 Blk E Gorham	Residential	Screen cut	Laptop taken; suspect apprehended and charged with Residential Burglary, Resisting, Battery to PO, Parole Hold.
10/6	10 Blk W Gilman	Residential	Screens cut	Laptop
10/9	1000 Blk Sherman	Residential	Unlocked door	13-year-old resident shot suspects with pellet gun. Suspect fled.
10/12	100 Blk Langdon	Residential	Unlocked door	Playstation III, two controllers.
10/13	500 Blk W. Mifflin	Residential	Patio door forced	Macintosh laptop
10/26	600 Blk W Main	Residential	Unknown	Computer tower, monitor, camera, hard drive, Dell Latitude laptop.

Person Crimes: Sexual Assault

Date	Location	Details
10/4	300 Blk W Washington	Victim is picked up by acquaintance, taken to apartment where she is held against her will in a bathroom while suspect assaults her. Suspect identified.
10/20	400 Blk N Butler	Victim reported repeated nonconsensual sexual contact over the past years with long-term significant other. Detective is investigating.

Person Crimes: Robbery

Date	Time	Location	Details
10/8	1:39 am	1100 Blk Spring	Two men who were walking down the bike path were confronted by a suspect who jumped out of a vehicle. The suspect had a small handgun and demanded money. The victims ran away, but one was confronted a block away, subsequently giving up his wallet. Suspect described as a Black male, 18-22 years old, 6'00", 200 lbs.
10/10	1:30 am	100 Blk E Gilman	A woman was walking home from State St., when she was approached by suspect who backed her up against a wall asking for cash. Victim said she had none. Suspect subsequently put his hands in her pocket taking cash and walked away. Suspects: Black male, 6'6", 22 to 26; Two others possibly associated with suspect were also Black males 22 to 26, 6'6" to
10/12	2:55 am	500 Blk State St	Suspect tried to grab the purse from a female as she walked with her boyfriend on State St. The suspect was punched by the boyfriend and knocked to the ground. Officers witnessed the punch and detained people for the investigation. Suspect was charged with Strong-Armed Robbery and Resisting.
10/22	9:15 am	400 Blk W Gilman	Two men were drinking together near a parking area between Gilman St and University Ave. One of the men threatened the other and took cash from the victim's pocket. The suspect was described as a Black male, 5'6", 160.

Theft from Vehicles Cont.

The more common crime is theft from vehicles. In these cases the suspects enter both locked and unlocked cars searching for easily carried items such as cash, change, iPods, computers, navigation systems and other small electronics.

Needless to say the unlocked cars make easy targets. It is not unusual for suspects who are caught to tell us during interviews that they will go through areas of parked cars checking doors and going through open cars. I have heard it referred to as "car shopping."

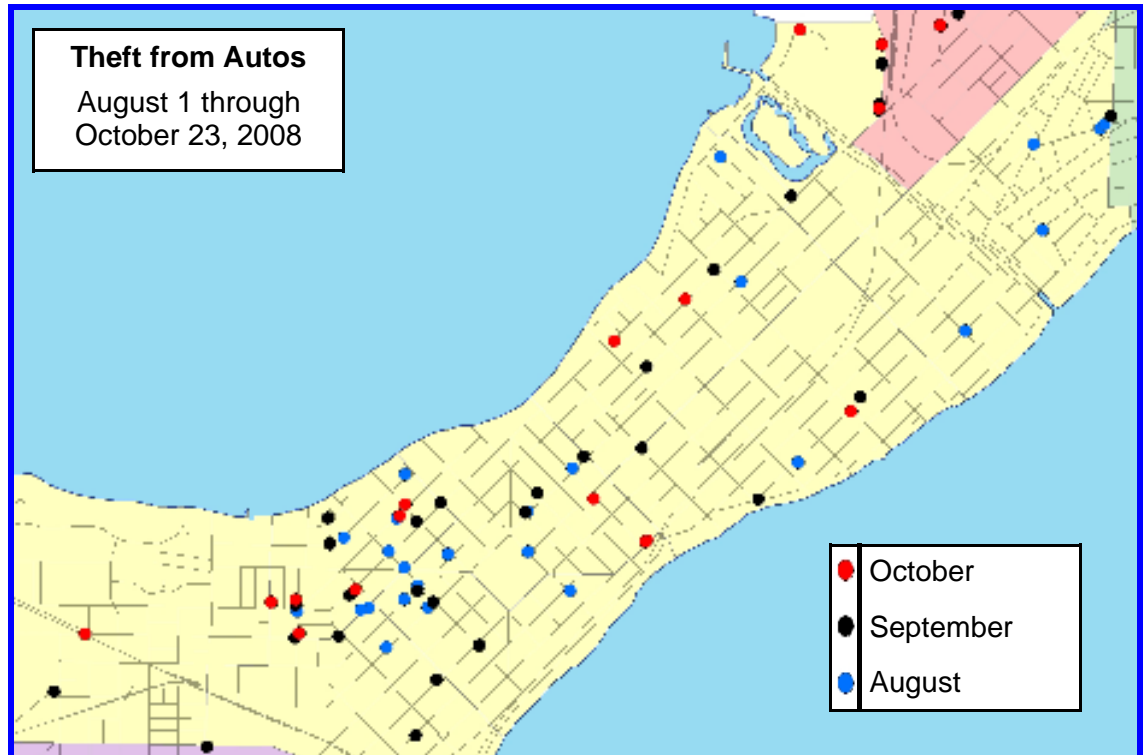
For some thieves the sound of breaking glass and car alarms keeps them to the easy targets; for others the lure of good loot, or the cover of a parking area, will prompt them to damage a locked car to enter.

Generally when thieves enter locked cars, they are breaking out one of the windows to enter. The frustration for the owner is that the damage to access the inside of the vehicle can be more expensive than the loss of property inside. When you park your car, try to remove items of value, especially the smaller ones. If a purse or computer is laying in plain view on a seat, it can become a tempting target.

As you can see from the map on this page, thefts from autos for the last couple of months have clustered in the area closer to campus and State Street. This is a pattern that has been very stable over time.

Lt. Mark Brown has been working on some initiatives related to these crimes; expect to hear more as our plans are finalized and we move forward.

There are some strategies for you to prevent and/or slow down the thieves. Always lock your vehicle and remove valuable items from plain view in the car. Although entry into a vehicle in a parking garage is classified by police as a burglary, I would



mention that if you have a secure parking garage, work to keep it that way. Do not prop open doors, and watch for people trying to slip in when you open the garage door. The area around the garage door should be lit, so if it is not, contact your property owner and make the request.

The last is obvious yet people always assume someone else made the call. If you see people moving down the street or through the ramp trying car doors to see which are open, please call the police.

So as the holiday shopping season approaches and people are out and about, watch out for your neighbor and those just visiting downtown.

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