



First Precinct - Sector 111

Community Report

July 2010

Lieutenant James J. Laino

During July, the Sector experienced a 9% decrease in Major Crime; there was no change in violent crime (10 incidents reported in 2009 compared to 10 in 2010) and a 10% decrease in property crime (79 incidents reported in 2009 compared to 71 in 2010). The 10 violent crimes reported included: 2 Homicides, 2 Aggravated Assaults, 4 Domestic related Aggravated Assaults and 2 Robberies. Of the 10 violent incidents reported 9 have been cleared by arrest and the remaining incident is still being investigated by detectives. The current trends in Property Crime are thefts related to motor vehicles, thefts of mopeds / bicycles and other items left unsecured.

There was a substantial increase this month in thefts related to motor vehicles compared to last month (16 to 25); 13 cars were broken into, 4 cars had the catalytic converters stolen, 6 had the license plates stolen and 2 inspection stickers were removed. There were also 7 mopeds and 6 bicycles stolen during this same period. We must continually remind ourselves, visitors and neighbors not to leave our cars unlocked and/or items in the interior. In most of these cases the crime occurs during the late night and early morning hours when there are no witnesses. This is also true for other items left unsecured, such as bicycles, mopeds, lawn equipment and tools.

Throughout the month we focused in the neighborhoods of Church Hill, Union Hill and a portion of Shockoe Bottom in reference to thefts from motor vehicles, thefts of mopeds and other larcenies that were occurring. While officers were on directed patrol in these neighborhoods they also distributed 500 crime alerts advising citizens of the increase of the aforementioned crimes. During the end of June and into July officers have arrested 3 individuals who were in possession of stolen mopeds. They also arrested two known thieves, one on an outstanding probation violation who was hanging out in Jefferson Park and the other as the victim watched him stealing her lawn mower in the 1600 block of N 22nd Street. With these recent arrests, the officers focused in the areas and public awareness, I am convinced we will see a reduction in the number of incidents

I would like to thank all the organizers and participants who made this year's National Night Out a success; all the events were well attended by the community. There were a total of 11 events throughout the sector that registered with the Police Department and were visited by police officers.

Crime Trends for July:

- Church Hill - all other larceny.
- Chimborazo - all other larceny and theft from vacant buildings.
- Church Hill North - theft from motor vehicles and unsecured property.
- Fulton - theft from motor vehicles.
- Oakwood - residential burglary.
- Union Hill - thefts of mopeds and bicycles.

Sincerely,
Lt. James Laino
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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

First Precinct - 646-3602
Non-emergency number 646-5100
Truancy Hotline - 646-ABCD (2223)
Drug Complaints 646-8123

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Motor Vehicle Theft:

- Never leave your car running unattended (don't warm up your car)
- Never leave a spare set of keys in your vehicle
- Keep your vehicle locked

Theft of a moped / bicycle:

- Always secure to a permanent structure at your home.
- Document the vehicle identification number - VIN or serial number.
- Take a photo and document any unique characteristics (ex. - stickers or damage).
- If possible store in a shed or garage.

Thefts from motor vehicles:

- Always keep your vehicle locked.
- Don't leave your car running or spare keys inside.
- Take personal items in your home/apartment or secure in the trunk - especially iPod's, GPS's and change.
- Inform your guests about leaving items in the interior of their vehicles.
- To prevent theft of license plates, purchase anti-theft license plate screws ranging from \$3 to \$10 at your local hardware or auto parts store. You should also cut an "X" in your license plate decals once they are affixed.

Burglaries:

- Make sure you always lock your doors and windows when you leave home.
- If you are working in the rear yard, be sure to lock your front door.
- Don't leave items out that can be used to gain entry through a window, such as ladders.
- Keep shrubs and trees trimmed.
- Make sure sheds and outbuildings are always locked.
- Get to know your neighbors -keep a watch on each others property and exchange contact numbers in case there is an emergency.

- Don't leave items unsecured in your yard such as bikes and lawn mowers; this sometimes invites criminals onto your property.
- Notify the Police Dept if you are going on vacation or out of town on business.