February 5, 2014

Robbery near Laurel Heights Campus

On Wednesday, February 5, 2014, at approximately 7:50 am the UCSF Police Department was notified of two separate robbery incidents involving UCSF employees which occurred in the area of the Laurel Heights Campus.

The first robbery occurred at approximately 6:48 am, on Bush Street at Baker Street. The employee was approached by a suspect who brandished a firearm and demanded the employee give him his cell phone, wallet and backpack. The suspect took the employee’s property, and was last seen walking east on Bush Street. The suspect is described as a light skinned black male adult, approximately 20 – 25 years old, 5’10” tall, 180 pounds, wearing a black ski mask, and a black coat with a hood.

The second robbery occurred at approximately 7:43 am, on California Street at Lyon Street. The employee was approached from behind by a suspect who grabbed his briefcase and pulled him to the ground. The suspect brandished a firearm and demanded the employee give him his briefcase. The suspect took the employee’s property, and was last seen walking west on California Street. The suspect is described as a black male adult, approximately 18 years old, 5’10” – 6’ tall, 180 pounds, wearing a black parka style coat with a collar that covered half of his face, and dark colored pants.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Detective Mary Snider with the UCSF Police Department at 415/476-6890.

The UCSF Police Department reminds employees, staff and student to be alert to their surroundings when walking to and from campus areas, especially during late night and early morning hours. Suspects take advantage of distracted individuals talking on cell phones, texting or listening to music. Avoid headphone and cell phone use when walking or waiting alone. Avoid taking your cell phone out of your pocket or purse when out in public. Be especially mindful when waiting for and riding public transportation. If you have a smartphone, be sure that any GPS tracking feature is turned on. Finally, please make use of UCSF escort services which are provided to employees, staff and students 24/7 by calling 415/476-1414/

Personal Safety Tips:
Suspects look for crimes of opportunity and certain personal safety measures can be followed to minimize your chances of becoming a victim. These are:

- Be vigilant of suspicious persons. Call UCSF PD if a suspicious person is seen loitering on campus.
- Travel in groups whenever possible, especially at night.
- Avoid poorly-lit or deserted areas when walking at night.
- Make use of the shuttle and escort services.
- Stay alert to your surroundings; avoid headphone and cell phone use when walking or waiting alone.
- If you are walking to your car, keep your car keys easily accessible, preferably in your hand.
- If you feel you are being followed, go into an open business and ask for help.
- Keep emergency numbers pre-programmed into your cell phone.
- If you are faced with demands for your money or property, especially from an armed subject, comply with their demands in the interest of your safety.

Employees, staff, and students are asked to report any suspicious persons or circumstances to UCSF PD immediately and to dial 9-911 in the case of an emergency.

Together for a Safe and Crime Free Campus

Pamela E. Roskowski
Chief of Police

This alert is a public service to the University community and in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Act of 1998
Help fight crime by reporting suspicious activity to UCSF PD immediately. For emergency or in-progress events, dial 9-911 when using on-campus land lines and 415/476-6911 when using cell phones. For non-emergency calls, please dial 415/476-1414.

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