



Crime Prevention Bulletin

May 27, 2011

Thefts at Parnassus Campus

A Crime Alert was issued by the UCSF Police Department on May 2nd 2011, regarding the recent theft of laptops in the Health Science East and Health Science West Buildings. The Police Department would like to remind all employees to lock office doors when not in use and refrain from propping them open. In addition, please ensure that all valuables and computer equipment are secured or locked away if possible.

All UCSF buildings have public areas and locations with restricted access. It is important that locations not open to the public remain secure for employee, faculty, and student safety. Please do not leave hallway doors open or adjust electronic access panels.

Always report incidents of damaged doors or suspicious persons seen on campus. The UCSF Police Department will respond promptly to investigate.

Recent thefts are currently under investigation by the UCSF Police Department's Detective Unit. Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact Detective Langford at 476-5902 or 476-1414.

Laptop and Computer Theft Prevention Tips:

Suspects look for crimes of opportunity and certain measures can be followed to minimize your chances of becoming a victim of laptop and computer theft. These are:

- Encrypt the most important data. Install software that makes documents stored in a laptop computer unreadable to anyone without a correct password. The most valuable part of a stolen laptop is the data. Many groups have cash bounties out for particular information that can be resold for identity theft or competitive use. **It is very important that you encrypt info on your laptop/computer device to not only protect UCSF property and data, but also to protect yourself against loss of personal property and data. Not encrypting your laptop/computer device exposes UCSF to liability issues. Proper encryption provides safe harbor against both state and federal penalties against the individual as well as the institution.**
- **Never leave your laptop unattended and unsecured.** Take it with you or make certain that it is kept in a secure location, or you run the risk that it won't be there when you return.
- Keep your laptop in your physical possession at all times and pay particular attention at the following locations: airports, hotels, car rental agencies, offices, restaurants, college campuses, restrooms, payphones, libraries, bars, hospitals, conferences centers, meeting rooms, coffee shops, train stations and bus terminals.
- Some UCSF facilities are open to the public. **Know who works in your area and who doesn't belong there.** Don't let unaccompanied strangers wander around in your workplace. Offer assistance and deliver the visitors to their destinations.

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

- Disguise your carrying case. By carrying your laptop in a case designed specifically for computers, you alert thieves to the fact that you are carrying something valuable. Instead, consider carrying your laptop in an ordinary piece of luggage, satchel, briefcase or other inconspicuous bag.
- **Record your laptop's serial number, make and model information** in your purse or wallet so if your computer is stolen, the information will be readily available when you file a police report. Also, keep an extra copy of this information at home.
- Etch, engrave or permanently mark your computer with your name and phone number. You might also consider placing several of your business cards inside carrying case pockets.
- Identify your carrying case in some unusual way. Brightly colored tape, yarn or tags will help you to locate your bag in the event it comes up missing. When traveling, you might also consider affixing something brightly colored to your actual laptop.
- If your laptop must be left in your car, store it in the trunk of the vehicle prior to arriving at the final destination.
- Regularly back up information. Make sure you store this information separately in case your computer is stolen.
- In the event that your laptop is lost or stolen, make sure you report to your employer and the Police Department that has jurisdiction. If the laptop is the property of UCSF but lost or stolen off campus, please notify UCSF PD as well.
- Cable locks will deter, but not guaranteed to prevent the theft of laptops and computers because they can easily be cut. For higher security measures, the following are options to consider:
 - Two-way wireless security alarms for laptops consist of an alarm installed on the computer itself and a remote key-chain device. If the alarm detects movement, it first checks whether you're nearby. If not, your key-chain remote is alerted, emitting a "chirp." You can then choose to trigger the 110-decibel alarm on your laptop. The alarm can also be set to trigger solely on detecting motion.
 - Another type of alarm works by setting up a security perimeter for the laptop. Moving the laptop beyond the perimeter sets off an alarm, locks keys to encrypted files, and disables the computer, making it useless to unauthorized users.

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.

0511-03CP

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