

Stearns County Sheriff: Mailbox Vandalism

On 4/2/04, the SCSO received approx a dozen reports of mailbox vandalism on Sauk Valley Road in St. Martin Twp. Unknown persons had smashed numerous mailboxes along the road. The vandalism happened during the night of 4/1/04.

Stearns County Sheriff: Business Burglaries

On Feb 2, 2004, the SCSO received a report of a burglary at Hydro Logic, located on 74th Avenue in St. Joseph Twp. Unknown suspects forced entry to the building and stole computers, monitors, and CD's. Also burglarized was a business in the upstairs portion of the building, Carnelian Supply. Suspects forced entry to the business, and stole several "Matchbox" style model cars, and a calculator. The burglaries would have happened during the nighttime hours of Feb 1st, 2004.

St. Cloud Police: Church Burglary

The St. Cloud Police are investigating a burglary at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 2405 Walden Way. Sometime between 6:00 PM on Friday, April 9th and 8:00 AM on Saturday, April 10th, burglars broke a window near the back of the church to gain entry. The burglar(s) then used a two-wheeled dolly to remove the safe from the property. The dolly was later found abandoned near the church. The safe contained records documenting first communions, baptisms, marriages and funerals. It also contained about \$1,400 in cash and \$3,000 in personal checks.

St. Cloud Police: Telephone Scam Targeting Churches

On April 9, 2004, The St. Cloud Police Department was contacted by the Nicollet County Sheriffs Office in regards to fraudulent activity involving local churches. The Nicollet County Sheriffs Office received information that St. Cloud area churches were also targeted for this type of activity.

The Nicollet County Sheriffs Office released the following media release regarding:

TELEPHONE SCAMS TARGETING CHURCHES IN THE LOCAL AREA AND OTHER AREAS OF THE STATE

Church clergy are being called at all hours of the day and night by a person or persons claiming to be from the area. The person or persons claim to be stranded in Florida (or another state) after attending a family funeral. They then claim they have had an accident or car problems with the family vehicle and need money wired to them by Western Union. Lutheran churches have been targeted in the local area. We believe the person or persons have access to a church directory.

We would ask that everyone be very cautious on these types of phone calls and to send no money unless you know the person or can verify the information. Please report these suspicious incidents to your local law enforcement agencies.