

Tri-County Crime Stoppers

Week of July 31, 2006

St. Cloud Police: Business Burglary

On 07/27/06 at 0730 hours officers from the St. Cloud Police Department were dispatched to Ron's Auto in reference to a Burglary. Forcible entry was made to the business with property from the business being stolen.

St. Cloud Police: Residential Fire Scene Burglaries

On 08/01/06 at approximately 1528 hours St, Cloud Police were dispatched to a burglary at a fire scene at 217 5th Avenue North.

The fire occurred on 07/31/06. The burglary occurred overnight while victims of the fire were gone. The victims arrived home, scaring away the suspects. Property from three separate renters was stolen.

Waite Park Police: US Government Grant Scam

On 8/1/2006, the Waite Park Police Department received a call from a resident stating they were contacted by a man with an Indian Accent stating he was from Calcutta. The caller stated the resident was eligible for a \$7500 grant from the US Government. The caller asked for a \$250 processing fee and for the resident's bank account numbers. The caller stated he needed the bank account numbers to transfer the grant money into their bank account. The caller ID showed the number as 1-800-152-6523.

Sherburne County Sheriff: 9 – Case Summaries

July 29th, a resident of Clear Lake reported the theft of \$300 from his vehicle parked on main Ave. in clear lake.

July 29th, a resident on 3rd St. in Zimmerman reported the theft of a Kenwood stereo from her locked car in the parking lot. Loss is estimated at \$500.

July 26th, a resident of main Ave. in Clear Lake reported the theft of a book bag containing misc books and calculator from his vehicle. Loss is valued at \$300.

July 26th, a resident of 3rd Ave. w in Clear Lake reported the theft of 2 Milwaukee drills valued at \$600 from his vehicle.

July 26th, a resident of Riverview Dr. in Becker Township reported the theft of 5 to 10 rolls of quarters from his vehicle.

July 26th, a resident of 1st Ave. w in Clear Lake reported the theft of a Samsung cell phone valued at \$200 from her vehicle.

July 26th, a resident of co rd 50 in big lake township reported the theft of a wallet and a Motorola cell phone from his vehicle. Loss is valued at \$120.

July 24th, a resident on 128th St. in Baldwin Township reported the theft of a 2000 Yerp-Dog ATV 4-wheeler.

July 23rd, a resident of 9th Ave. n in Zimmerman reported the theft of a Rockford-Fosgate amplifier valued at \$300 and a kicker sub-woofer speaker box valued at \$100 from the trunk of his car.

St. Cloud Police: Gun Shot Victim

On 07/29/06 at approximately 2358 hours officers were dispatched to a gunshot complaint at the St. Cloud Ho3pital. Officers met with the victim, a 23 year old resident from St. Cloud, who reported an unknown black male,

16 to 25 years of age and approximately 5' 7" to 5' 10" came to his residence, in the 1100 block of 8th Avenue North, and shot him in the leg.

The victim received treatment for the non-life threatening injuries at the St. Cloud Hospital.

Benton County Sheriff: Attempted Sexual Assault From week of 7-17-06 (with additional and updated information)

During the early morning hours of 7/16/06 a 23 year old female was the victim of an attempted sexual assault in Benton County. This victim was picked up in downtown St. Cloud by two suspects and driven to a location near Rice in rural Benton County where one of the suspects attempted to sexually assault her.

The first suspect was described as a white male with a skinny build that was about 6 feet tall. This suspect had curly, light colored hair and wore wire-rimmed glasses. The second suspect was described as a white male that was shorter than 6 feet with a stocky build. This suspect had short black hair and a goatee. The suspect vehicle was described as a white 2 door early to mid 90's passenger car with a rear spoiler and a red interior.

Additional information: The victim was offered a ride home from the area of the Red Carpet in St Cloud. The victim willingly accepted the ride home however was then driven to a location near Rice against her will where the attempted sexual assault occurred.



Updated Information: (7-28-06) The suspect vehicle is now believed to be an early to mid 90s Mercury Cougar or Ford Thunderbird. A composite sketch of both suspects has been created.

Benton County Sheriff: Residential and Business Burglaries

During the early morning hours of 07-27-06 the Benton County Sheriffs Office responded to a burglary in progress in the 600 block of 24 ½ Ave NE, Minden Township. The victim reported that he was awaked by the Sound of his dogs barking and that when he went to investigate he found someone had been inside his residence and his vehicle. The suspect(s) took a wallet containing cash, a bank card, and identification. The suspect(s) then used the bank card at local establishments.

A short time later the Benton County Sheriffs Office received the report of a burglary alarm at Donahue Harley Davidson. At this business the suspects attempted to gain entry into the business, but were unsuccessful. A vehicle parked at the business was broken into and damaged. It is believed this incident is related to the burglary on 24 ½ Ave NE.

St. Cloud Police: Residential Burglary

On 07/27/06 at approximately 2200 hours officers responded to a possible burglary complaint at an apartment building in the 1600 block of 7th Street Southeast.

Officers met with residents of an apartment who were gone during the day while working and upon returning home in the evening had noticed a Sentry safe missing. Inside the safe was \$2,000 cash along with various amounts of jewelry, collectable coins, a book of checks, and business type paperwork. There had been minor damage to the door and officers are still investigating to try and determine a suspect.

St. Cloud and Central Minnesota: Suspicious Activity

The St. Cloud Police Department is requesting assistance from our local media in alerting citizens to suspicious activity that is occurring in St. Cloud.

On July 28, 2006 at 0730 hours the St. Cloud Police Department was advised that individual(s) are going door to door in St. Cloud selling home alarm systems. The individual(s) appear to have the proper permits and credentials and it also appears they may be independent operators that install alarm systems from major marketers of those systems.

What makes the activity suspicious is the report that individual(s) are using actual names of St. Cloud Police Department Crime Prevention Unit members in the attempt to gain the confidence and trust of the prospective clients during these home visits. Apparently the individual(s) advise they were "sent" or their business or product is "endorsed" by specific individuals from the St. Cloud Police Department. A contract is then offered and once signed. The actual installation of the alarm system will commence within a period of a few hours.

The St. Cloud Police Department would like, to alert citizens to this suspicious activity and advise citizens that most police departments that have web sites post crime prevention information that includes the names and contact information for their crime prevention personnel. Additionally, many members of law enforcement agencies are listed by name in department websites or appear in media reports within their local area and in statewide media. Obviously; the names can be easily located through a minimal search effort.

St. Cloud Police Department members do not endorse any manufacturer, business, individual operator or specific product by department policy as a simple matter of ethical practice. Citizens should disregard any claim by any individual that their product or service has been recommended or endorsed by any member of the St. Cloud Police Department.

Additionally, the St. Cloud Police Crime Prevention Unit would like to offer this additional advice. When considering the purchase of any product or service, use the "48 hour rule". Take 48 hours to conduct additional research of the product, the service provider and your need for the product or service prior to making a decision or signing a contract for services.

For additional information contact the St. Cloud Police Crime Prevention Unit at (320) 650-3682.