

CRIME ACTIVITY ALERT

On Friday, April 1st, Spring Valley Village Police responded to two more residential burglaries.

The first occurred in the afternoon, likely around 2:30 pm, at a home in the 8800 block of Cardwell Drive. A witness observed two dark-skinned males leaving the residence in a navy blue-colored Lexus vehicle. Although this investigation is in the early stages, it is the opinion of investigators that this incident is not related to the series of home burglaries our area has experienced recently.

However, the second burglary reported Friday is believed to be the work of members of the same group of criminals involved in these other recent incidents. Officers were notified of a burglar alarm at a home in the 8600 block of Cedarspur Drive at 8:42 pm and arrived one minute later. Upon arrival, officers found forced entry into the home, but the suspects had already fled the area.

As many of you may have learned from an e-mail sent last week by the Memorial Villages Police Department regarding the related burglary that occurred in Hunters Creek Village on March 25th, the fourth suspect from that incident (“the one that got away”) has been identified and arrested. A warrant raid team from the Harris County Sheriff’s Office accompanied by supervisors from your Spring Valley Village Police Department located and arrested this suspect at a location in southeast Houston after he was charged with Burglary of a Habitation. Just as was the case with another of these suspects as mentioned in one of my previous notices, this suspect was also already out on bond for a burglary offense he was arrested and charged with by Bellaire PD back in February.

Another of the suspects believed to be actively committing these burglaries was charged by the Houston Police Department last Thursday, March 31st, after he fled on foot from a vehicle that was found to contain a quantity of stolen property taken in a burglary committed in Houston. Although this suspect was already out on bond as of March 17th for a burglary he allegedly committed in West University Place several weeks prior, the suspect was still allowed to post additional bonds for these two new felony charges.

Yet another suspect who was with him during last week’s incident was also arrested and charged with felony theft. This suspect was already out on bond for an evading arrest charge filed by Bellaire PD in February.

As you can see by my mention of the various agencies involved in filing charges on members of this group of criminals, these burglaries are not being committed only in Spring Valley Village. Members of this group are believed to be actively committing residential burglaries in neighborhoods throughout the Houston and Harris County area.

As we work with other area law enforcement agencies in aggressive pursuit of a resolution to these current issues, I would ask for you to remain vigilant in your reporting of any activity in your neighborhood that appears suspicious or out of place. I would also ask that you continue to support the members of your police department as we all work with you to keep Spring Valley Village safe and secure.

I also want to mention that throughout these past several weeks, I have received feedback from several of you expressing an interest in developing a means to receive information on major incidents in a more timely fashion. I am currently researching several such options and hope to have something to recommend soon.

Gary A. Finkelman
Chief of Police