

**CITY OF SPRING VALLEY VILLAGE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
MAJOR ACTIVITY**

OFFENSES - FEBRUARY 2008	NUMBER
Burglary/Residence	4
Burglary/Business	0
Burglary/Motor Vehicle	1
Theft/Other	4
Theft/Motor Vehicle	0
Juvenile Offenses	1
Assault	0
Aggravated Robbery	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>

<b>Total Calls for Service</b>	<b>721</b>
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**COMMENTS:** The new construction continues and will provide challenges as we drive. There is construction all around us, which will eventually result in improvements in travel, both in the city and on the Interstate Highway. It is very important to drive carefully and observe the warning signs. As construction progresses, access and directions may change and being observant becomes critical. On the city streets the construction may be dangerous for children crossing streets either on foot or on bicycles.

John C. Cook  
Chief of Police

**INFORMATION ON RECENT RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES**

and

**SUBSEQUENT ARRESTS**

On Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Spring Valley Village police officers responded to reports of two burglaries of residences, both in the 1200 block of Archley in Hilshire Village. In both

instances, unknown suspects forced entry into the residences through locked doors, then entered the homes and stole valuables. Both burglaries were believed to have been committed by the same two unknown suspects who were seen by witnesses walking in the area prior to and after the burglaries. One of the suspects was spotted fleeing on foot through the creek near the 8300 block of Westview. Police officers from five different police agencies including a canine tracking unit and a helicopter from the Houston Police Department searched the area for some time, but the suspects were not located. Investigators, with the assistance of the Hedwig Village Police Department Crime Scene Unit, processed evidence to be submitted for fingerprint and DNA analysis in hopes of developing leads on the identity of the suspects.

At the direction of Spring Valley Village PD Detective Loyd Evans, fingerprint evidence was analyzed by members of the Harris County Sheriff's Office Identification Division. As a result, the identity of a possible suspect was obtained when a match was made to fingerprints lifted at the scene of one of the burglaries.

Detective Evans and Spring Valley Village PD Lieutenant Gary Finkelman researched this possible suspect's criminal history, reviewing Houston Police Department offense reports in which this person was listed as a suspect. As a result, information was developed that led investigators to the Spring Branch Estates apartments at 7901 Amelia. Investigators then spoke to witnesses there who confirmed that this first suspect was a resident at the complex. In addition, investigators developed information that led them to the likely identity of the second suspect responsible for these burglaries on Archley.

After conducting surveillance for a short period, both suspects were located and arrested on outstanding warrants unrelated to these most recent burglaries. After obtaining consent to check the apartments where each suspect lived, officers searched these locations and recovered several items reported stolen in the Archley burglaries including several firearms.

Both suspects made statements to investigators admitting their involvement in these burglaries. Investigators also learned that much of the stolen property was sold by the suspects to a jewelry and watch repair shop located on Airline Drive. Detective Evans and Lieutenant Finkelman conducted surveillance at this shop and eventually located the owner who agreed to cooperate with police in an effort to recover the stolen property. This owner directed investigators to yet another jewelry shop on Richmond where numerous jewelry items stolen in these cases were recovered. In addition, a stolen laptop computer and several other items of stolen jewelry were recovered from the first storeowner.

Arrested and charged in connection with these burglaries are Cesar Anthony Chavez, 19 years old, and Jose Luis Salinas, 18 years old. Both are charged with Burglary of a Habitation.

Meanwhile, at the same time officers were arresting these suspects in the Archley burglaries, Spring Valley Village PD officers were responding to another unrelated burglary of a residence that occurred in the 8400 block of Lofland on Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. In this case, unknown suspects forced entry into the residence through the front door, then entered and took valuables including electronics items and jewelry. In the course of the subsequent investigation into this burglary, investigators spoke to witnesses who reported seeing a suspicious vehicle parked in

front of the residence at the time the burglary was committed. The vehicle was described as a gray-colored Ford SUV with wide “gangster” tires.

On Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Spring Valley Village PD Sergeant Darrell Bond observed a vehicle matching this description on Voss near Westview. Sergeant Bond stopped the vehicle for a traffic violation and later detained the three persons inside. Several items believed to have been stolen from the burglary on Lofland were observed inside the vehicle. Detective Evans interviewed the three suspects who each admitted to their involvement in this burglary. Unfortunately, the majority of the stolen property was sold to unknown persons in a parking lot in north Houston.

Arrested and charged in connection with this burglary on Lofland is Gilberto Becerra, 17 years old, Cruz Saucedo, 20 years old, and Arnoldo Rene Rivera, 19 years old. All three are charged with Burglary of a Habitation.

Although police are confident they have solved these recent burglaries, citizens are encouraged to contact their police department immediately if they observe any suspicious activity in their neighborhood.

Detective Lieutenant Gary A. Finkelman  
Spring Valley Village Police Department