

CITY OF SPRING VALLEY VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MAJOR ACTIVITY

| OFFENSES – MARCH 2009 | NUMBER |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Burglary of a Residence | 0 |
| Burglary of a Business or Building | 0 |
| Burglary of a Motor Vehicle | 13 |
| Theft / Other | 4 |
| Theft of a Motor Vehicle | 0 |
| Juvenile Offenses | 0 |
| Assault | 2 |
| Aggravated Robbery | 2 |
| TOTAL | 21 |
| Total Calls for Service | 1103 |

As each of you have likely noted from the above statistics, Spring Valley experienced two incidents of Aggravated Robbery during the month of March. Such offenses are rare occurrences in our city, so I wanted to address some of the details of these two crimes, both of which occurred at the same business location at 8420 Katy Freeway.

On March 11th at approximately 10:00 p.m., a man and woman arrived at the Subway Restaurant to pick up a family member who worked at the location. While waiting in the parking lot in their vehicle, the two victims were confronted by two armed subjects who demanded their vehicle, cash, and cell phones. The suspects then fled in the victim's 1998 Dodge Durango SUV.

On March 17th at approximately 7:10 p.m., two armed subjects robbed the Subway cashier of the cash in the cash register and then robbed a customer, taking his keys and then stealing his 2001 Honda Civic from the parking lot.

As the subjects fled the scene in the stolen vehicle, they pulled onto the Katy Freeway frontage road right in front of the Spring Valley Village police officers that were responding to the robbery call. Our police units pursued the fleeing suspects until they abandoned the stolen vehicle in an apartment complex on Ojeman near Hammerly. The two suspects fled on foot and disappeared into the apartment complex.

As a result of a very intense and detailed investigation led by Spring Valley Village Police Detective Sergeant Loyd Evans, a number of suspects have been identified, charged, and arrested in connection with these two related robberies in Spring Valley Village. In addition, these suspects are believed to be responsible for as many as fifteen

other similar robberies and car-jackings committed in the Houston / Spring Branch area during a two-week crime spree.

Due to the fact that this investigation is still very active, I cannot discuss too many further details at this time. However, I can tell you that an 18-year-old Hispanic male has been arrested and charged with the commission of both aggravated robberies at the Subway in Spring Valley Village. The investigation indicates that another 20-year-old Hispanic male accompanied this subject on the first robbery. This second suspect has also been arrested and charged in the first robbery.

The investigation further indicates that a different 18-year-old suspect accompanied the first 18-year-old on the second robbery. This suspect has also been identified and charged in connection with the second robbery.

All three handguns used by these three subjects have been recovered.

In addition, a 17-year-old Hispanic male from Laredo was arrested while driving the stolen Dodge Durango on Interstate 10 near Seguin. This subject has been charged with Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle.

Another 20-year-old Hispanic male subject, believed to be an associate of these other subjects, has also been arrested and charged with Forgery of a Government Document.

All of these subjects are being held in the Harris County Jail.

We believe that these arrests will prevent any further criminal activity by this group of subjects. Therefore, this information should not result in discouraging anyone from continuing to frequent the retail businesses within our city. Our continued aggressive police patrol of both the commercial and residential areas of the city will serve as a deterrent to such criminal activity. As always, we encourage each of you to immediately contact the police department if you observe any suspicious activity.

Your police department appreciates your continued support.

Gary Finkelman
Chief of Police