

CITY OF SPRING VALLEY VILLAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MAJOR ACTIVITY

OFFENSES – SEPTEMBER 2009	NUMBER
Burglary of a Residence	1
Burglary of a Business or Building	0
Burglary of a Motor Vehicle	0
Theft / Other	1
Theft of a Motor Vehicle	0
Juvenile Offenses	0
Assault	0
Aggravated Robbery	1
TOTAL	3
Total Calls for Service	1218

The above major incidents have each been addressed in previous e-mails or bulletins distributed earlier this month. As you will recall, the above listed burglary as well as two that occurred in August have been cleared with last week's arrest of three suspects who were identified and located as a result of Spring Valley Village PD's investigation into these crimes. With assistance from the Houston Police Department, the suspects were placed under surveillance and were arrested as they left the scene of a burglary they committed at a home in Spring Branch. All three suspects are currently charged with Burglary of a Habitation and are being held in the Harris County Jail.

The felony theft involved an incident that occurred at The Home Depot. An officer observed a suspicious male walking away from and across the parking lot of the store pulling a two-wheel dolly loaded with boxes of power tools. As the officer approached the suspect, the suspect abandoned the tools and fled on foot. As the officer pursued the suspect, the suspect ran into the back door of a nearby restaurant, ran through the kitchen and through the dining area, exiting the restaurant through the front doors. The suspect was captured attempting to hide in the bed of a customer's parked pickup truck. The suspect was arrested and charged with Felony Theft and Evading Arrest after it was confirmed that the tools, valued at over \$1750.00, had been stolen from The Home Depot. The suspect has pleaded guilty to the theft charge and has been sentenced to six months in state jail.

The robbery involved a bicyclist in Hilshire Village who was approached after dark by two men in a vehicle who demanded the victim's wallet. The victim had no wallet or money, so the suspects fled.

I would also like to update you on a series of motor vehicle burglaries that had been reported back in June and July having occurred in parking lots of the commercial district in the 8400 block of the Katy Freeway. As a result of an investigation initiated by Spring Valley Village PD Detective Sergeant Loyd Evans, investigators from the Houston Police Department, the Harris County Sheriff's Office, the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office, the Katy Police Department, the Metro Police Department, the Sugar Land Police Department, and the Harris County Precinct Five Constable's Office combined to form a multi-agency Burglary of Motor Vehicle Task Force.

With information developed by Sergeant Evans' investigation, detectives identified several suspects believed involved in a series of motor vehicle burglaries being committed in business parking lots along freeways in west Harris County and in Fort Bend County. On July 30th, after days of surveillance, four suspects were arrested after committing a burglary in Fort Bend County. Over the course of the investigation, four additional suspects were arrested in connection with motor vehicle and building burglaries. The suspects range in age from 15 to 21 years old.

Based on information developed through this investigation, it is believed that over the past 18 months these suspects committed well over 1000 burglaries throughout Harris and Fort Bend counties, stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of cash and property.

Since these arrests, there have been no motor vehicle burglaries reported in Spring Valley Village during August and September.

As always, your police department encourages you to contact us if you observe any suspicious activity. Thank you for your continued support.

Gary Finkelman
Chief of Police