



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Police Department

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DATE: 04/22/2011

NATURE OF INCIDENT: Duluth Police Business Burglary Prevention Tips

CASE NO.:

INCIDENT DATE :04/22/2011

INCIDENT TIME:

INCIDENT LOCATION: Duluth

SUBJECT: Duluth Police Business Burglary Prevention Tips

BY: DPD Public Information Officer Jim Hansen

The Duluth Police Department has responded to an increased number of small business burglaries in the past two weeks in several different areas of Duluth. The suspect(s) have forced entry into the businesses and taken undisclosed amounts of cash and other valuables. The businesses that have been burglarized have not had security alarms. Anyone with information on these burglaries is asked to contact the Duluth Police Department Property Crimes Unit at (218) 730-5160. At this time police have no additional information available.

The following prevention can help reduce the chances of a business being burglarized:

- Consider installing video surveillance equipment along with proper interior and exterior lighting, and a monitored alarm system.
- If you already have video surveillance equipment installed, make sure that you are getting good quality images. Cameras should be of high enough resolution that a person's face can be clearly identified from the recorded images. Proper lighting is also needed in the surveillance camera areas to ensure good quality video images.
- If you already have a burglar alarm installed, make sure it is in proper working condition and that you have adequate coverage of the vulnerable areas of your building (i.e. doors, windows, skylights etc).
- Ask your alarm company what will happen if the alarm is disabled by a burglar, does it trigger the alarm or will it just stop working?
- Businesses should also evaluate the physical security of their buildings.
- Make sure adequate locks are installed on all doors and that the door frames are secure and in good condition. The more secure your doors and locks are, the less likely you will become a burglary victim. Consider adding additional hardware that will improve the level of security of your current door/locks. There are several simple devices available that may help improve the security of your current door/lock assembly.
- 65% of all nonresidential burglaries occur during the night. Light all exterior points of entry with permanent fixtures that are difficult to reach or tamper with.
- Light the interior of your business enough that someone outside the building could see someone inside.
- Always report any suspicious activity or individuals in your neighborhood immediately by calling 911. Try to provide a detailed description of the individuals and activity, including descriptions of vehicles that are being used.