

From: isd-announce@usc.edu on behalf of Public Safety - Crime Alert [isd-announce@usc.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2005 6:04 PM
To: DPS@caps.usc.edu
Subject: CRIME ALERT

The USC Department of Public Safety wants you to know about crimes occurring in our community. Informed citizens are better able to ensure their safety as they go about their daily activities. The following information is provided with your safety in mind.

ROBBERY-ARMED

On Friday, March 18, 2005 at 10:04PM, a suspect approached a female student from behind at The Cardinal Gardens parking lot. The suspect then pointed a silver handgun at the victim and ordered her to turn off her cell phone, then took it from her hand. The suspect told the victim to walk with him, " and act as if she knew him." The suspect then demanded cash from the victim, and she gave him cash. The suspect apologized and walked away west bound. The suspect is described as a Male, Black, 5'5" tall, 150 pounds, 25-30 years old, with short dark hair, dark complexion.

IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THESE CRIMES, CALL THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AT 740-4321 OR LAPD SOUTHWEST DIVISION AT 485-2582

1. MOST IMPORTANT- BE AWARE. When walking be aware of what is going on around you. Walk assertively. If you look like you know where you are going and what is happening around you, you are less likely to become a target for this type of crime.
2. Do not walk or travel alone, especially after dark. Ask a friend to walk or ride with you to your car or residence. If you walk with someone, make sure you wait for them to get inside before you leave. If you don't have anyone to walk with call for an escort. The USC Campus Cruiser (740-4911) will send an escort to give you a ride or walk you to your car between 5 P.M. and dawn. When you go jogging, use the track or pick a route inside the campus where there is less traffic. This will reduce the potential of becoming the victim of an act such the ones described above.
3. When you go jogging, use the track or pick a route inside the campus where there is less traffic. This will reduce the potential of becoming the victim of an act such the ones described above.
4. Trust your instincts. If something "feels wrong" (with a person, a building, a situation, etc.), something probably is wrong. Even if you don't know why you are uncomfortable, change your plans, move away from the person, get out of the area - whatever is necessary to make the feeling go away.
5. If you feel like you are being followed stay in well-lighted areas and go into a building where there are other people such as a store or restaurant. If these aren't available, join a group of people and ask them to walk with you until it is safe.
6. Know the locations of the Emergency Phones (phones outside will have a blue light on top).
7. Report Suspicious Activity. If you see a person who is acting suspiciously or some type of activity that doesn't look right, or feel like you're being followed, call Public Safety immediately. Call 740-4321, to report a crime in progress or suspicious people or activity.