

Police Advisory

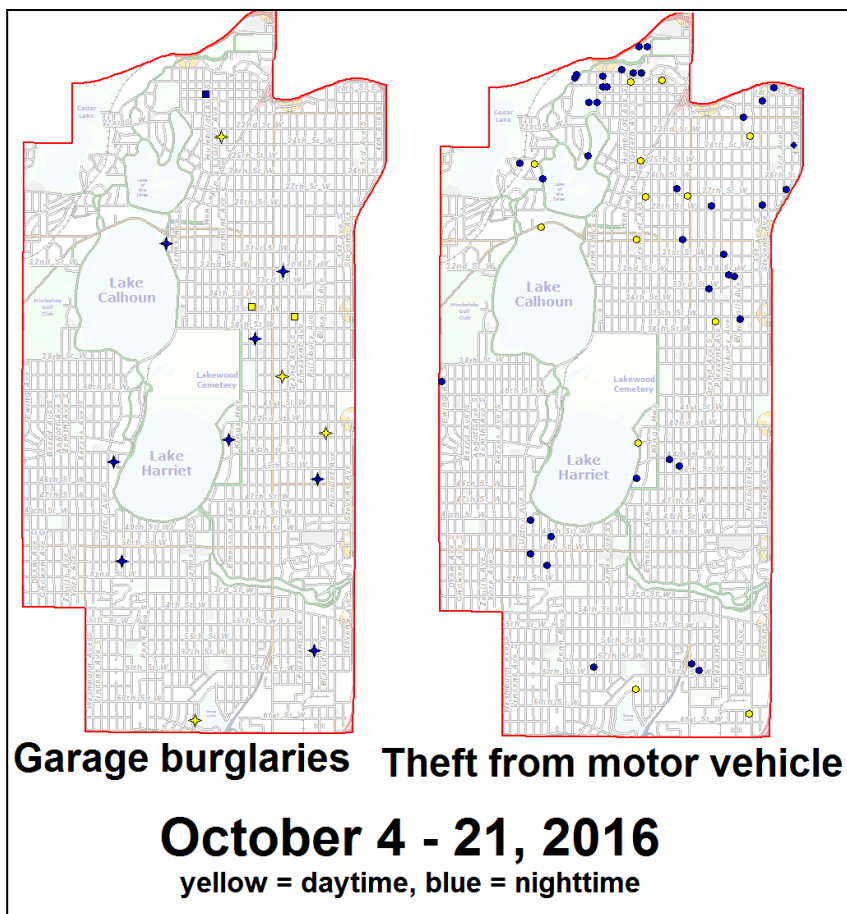


5th Precinct Garage Burglaries and Theft from Auto October 4 – 21, 2016

Since October 4, across Fifth Precinct we have received 53 reports of theft from motor vehicle (TFMV), and 15 reports of garage burglaries.

100% of the garage burglaries with entry had no force evident. Entry was through an overhead door in 47% of cases (left open or using a garage door opener often left in a vehicle outside), and through an unlocked or open service door in the remaining 53%. In one case, a suspect was seen attempting to pry open a door when he was interrupted by a witness and fled. There was no entry or loss in that case. In most burglaries, bikes were stolen.

Generally with TFMV, a large percentage are either through unlocked/open windows, or the window is broken in order to gain access to valuables left visible inside. In Minneapolis, purses, wallets, laptops, GPSs and other electronics are the most commonly stolen items. Change, gym bags, backpacks, and phone chargers are also a draw



How to report theft from auto:

- 911 for in progress, in a garage, or loss over \$1000
- 311 for all else

How to report a garage burglary:

- Call 911

What to do – both:

- Call 911 on suspicious activity at the time

What to do - burglaries:

- Record the serial number on your bike!
- Lock your garage door.
- Reinforce your service door.
- Upgrade to an automatic locking keypad.
- Check your overhead door stays closed.
- Install dusk-till-dawn lighting.
- Store expensive bikes in your home.
- Watch a video of a career burglar give prevention advice at goo.gl/QlJtg3

What to do – Theft from motor vehicle:

- Don't leave valuables in your car. Even small items such as change or a gym bag can be tempting to a thief.
- If you must leave valuables in your car, lock them in the trunk **before** reaching your destination.
- Do not leave your garage door opener in a car outside.
- Don't hide keys in your vehicle or other vehicles nearby.
- Auto theft/theft from auto tips: go.usa.gov/cjyAJ, go.usa.gov/cunjnm, & SaferCar.gov/theft

For crime prevention questions about your area, contact your Crime Prevention Specialist.

Visit go.usa.gov/cuKQH or check the crime prevention resources page at go.usa.gov/cunjA