



## **GUARD-ALERT REACTION AND CRIME NEWS**

### **SEPTEMBER 2018**

Welcome to another issue of the Guard-Alert reaction and crime news. Incidences of thefts of 5000litre water tanks are on the rise. This is not a day's job as the thieves scout out the premises first and turn off the water so that it no longer flows into the tanks. After several days of the householder using the water and emptying it as there is no inflow, the thieves will come and cut off the connecting pipes and transport the empty water tank. Guard-Alert advises property owners to do the following in order to prevent losses of their precious water tanks:

1. Regularly check that water is flowing into the tanks as normal
2. Check that all pipes connected to the tank are intact and are in good working order
3. Label the tank with full contact details in case it is recovered and thus can be easily re-stored to the rightful owner
4. Install an outside sensor covering the area where the water tank/s are so that any movement in the vicinity is detected

### **Reaction News**

#### **Harare**

**On 12/09/2018 at 0513hrs** an alarm signal was received from an Eastlea industrial property. The reaction crew attended and found that one of the office windows was broken. It was established that the intruders ran away when the alarm sounded and nothing was stolen

**On 13/09/18 at 1921hrs**, an alarm signal was received from a residential property also used as an office in Greendale. The reaction crew attended and established that the client pressed

his panic button after hearing footsteps outside the office. The crew noticed that one of the office doors was open but had not been forced open. They noticed that a roll of printing paper had been abandoned just outside the office building. The thieves probably dropped the roll in panic after hearing the sound of the alarm. The case was reported to the police.

**On 17/09 /18 at 0325hrs** an alarm signal was received from a residential property in Haig Park. The reaction crew was dispatched and on arrival they observed that the razor wire near the gate had been cut. The intruders ran away after they were detected by the external motion sensors resulting in the alarm going off. Nothing was stolen,

**On 17/09/18 at 0416hrs** an alarm signal was received from a domestic property in Eastlea. The reaction crew was dispatched and on arrival discovered that two outside garden taps had been stolen and water was left pouring out .The intruders were detected by external motion sensors when they attempted to go to another part of the garden.

**On 21.09.18 at 0219hrs** an alarm signal was received from a CBD retail shop. Investigations established that thieves had forced open the front door and vandalised the lock on the screen door before gaining entry. The thieves proceeded to grab the cash box from behind the counter. When they attempted to carry out a further search for valuables in the shop, they were picked up by a sensor, the alarm went off and they ran away. Unfortunately the entrance doors did not have a sensor meaning that the alarm did not go off when the thieves gained entry. An undisclosed amount of cash was stolen.

**On the 26/09/18 at 2314hrs** an alarm signal was received from an industrial premise in Southerton. The crew was dispatched and on arrival they checked all external entrances and the office environs and found all to be intact. In the morning at 0836hrs a phone call was received from the client reporting that there had been a break in and theft. The intruders had removed roofing sheets and got into the shop through the roof and stole various items of clothing. The roof did not have alarm sensors which could have detected movement on entry.

## **Bulawayo**

**On 05/09/2018 at 10.29 hours** a panic signal was received from a supermarket in Bradfield suburb. The shop owners had arrested a shoplifter and needed assistance from the reaction crew. The accused was taken to the police station.

**On 08/09/2018 at 22.29 hours** an alarm signal was received from a stock feeds shop in the Central District Business. The reaction crew was dispatched and on arrival discovered that, the siren was faulty as the alarm kept on going off. Investigations revealed that nothing was amiss.

**On 14/09/ 2018 at 03.54 hours** a burglary signal was received from one of the residential houses in Burnside. The reaction crew was dispatched and after checks the crew discovered that the car garage was left open. The caretaker was advised and secured the garage door.

## **Marondera**

**On 18/09/18 at 18 15 hrs** an alarm signal was received and the reaction crew attended. The guard on site pressed the panic button when he discovered one of the external doors unlocked during his routine patrols. The client was advised and came and to lock the door.

**On 25/09/18 at 03 07hrs** an alarm signal was received from a residential premise in Morningside. The response team attended. Nothing was stolen as the intruders fled when the alarm sounded. The client heard the footsteps of the intruders running away.

## Masvingo

**On 04\09\2018 at 1818 hrs** an alarm signal was received and our reaction team was dispatched to the warehouse in the Industrial areas. The reaction crew patrolled around the premises and everything was intact. The thieves must have run away when the alarm sounded

**On 05\09\2018 at 1733 hrs** an alarm signal was received from a retail shop in the city centre. The reaction team was dispatched to investigate and reported that the client had accidentally pressed the panic button.

**On 21\09\2018 at 1736 hrs** an alarm signal was received from a retail shop in town and our reaction team was dispatched who reported that nothing was stolen . All was intact .

## Karoi

On 08/09/2018, the manager of a warehouse came to the Guard-Alert offices to report a break in. The Officer in Charge attended the scene and detected that one of the back doors had been broken into using metal poles. The intruders also tried to break into the safe but failed. They then went to the office upstairs and vandalized the wires of the CCTV DVR Evidence suggested that they intended to ransack the tills but these did not hold any cash. It was established that goods to the value of \$1225.78 had been stolen. Investigations revealed that though the warehouse is alarmed, the alarm sensors were mostly obstructed by the highly stacked boxes in the warehouse, meaning that the alarms sensors were ineffective.

## Crime News

During the night of 10/09/18 at Atherstone residential area, in Marondera householders were shocked the following morning to see his house ransacked. Most of the valuable household furniture and electrical appliances had been stolen while the family was fast asleep. It is suspected that the intruders sprayed anaesthetizing chemicals on the family ensuring that they would not wake up and disturb the intruders.

Members of the public are advised to utilize the mobile phone tracking system offered by their respective mobile networks as this will assist in recovering their stolen mobile phones. On 15/09/18 at around 07 55hrs at a boarding school, our Operations Officer received a report of a missing I-Phone from one of the staff members. Investigations were carried out using the tracking system and one of the kitchen employee was arrested after being found in possession of the missing I phone

valued at \$1 100-00 which was hidden under the kitchen unit in his house. The accused was handed over to Marondera Police.