



GUARD-ALERT REACTION AND CRIME NEWS

NOVEMBER 2018

Dear Valued client

Welcome to the reaction and crime news November edition. We would like to wish you safe journeys as you travel over the holidays. Remember to secure your business premises and your residential premises if you are travelling over Christmas. For Rapid Response, ensure that you have serviced your alarm and that you update your contact details so that the control room can readily get hold of someone in case of any eventualities.

Reaction News

Harare

On 19/11/18 at 01:47hrs an alarm signal was received from a Ruwa domestic property. The crew checked and found that the window had been forced open and the burglar bars had been damaged. The intruders ran away when the alarm activated. Nothing was stolen.

Bulawayo

On 15/11/2018 at 03.01 hours a burglary signal was received from a supermarket in Southworld. The re-action crew was sent and on arrival it was discovered that the night guard had activated the panic button by mistake.

On 15/11/2018 at 20.43 hours a burglary signal was received from a residential premise in Suburbs. The reaction crew was sent and on arrival saw the caretaker who had noticed suspicious movement of people around the house, and pressed the panic button. The intruders ran away when the alarm sounded.

On 16/11/2018, a burglary signal was received from one of the engineering companies in Belmont industrial area. The reaction crew was despatched and on arrival discovered that, there was an attempted break-in. The suspect ran away after hearing the alarm sound. The police attended the scene.

On 25/11/2018 at 01.08 hours a burglary signal was received from one of the NGO clinics in Mpopoma. The reaction crew was despatched. The thieves ran away when the alarm sounded. The crew recovered a tools bag and a 5 litre container left outside the premises.

Beitbridge

On 2/11/2018 at 20.47 hours, a burglary signal was received from one of the transport companies. A reaction crew was despatched and it was discovered that wild cats had activated the system in the fuelling area. The manager was advised.

Mutare

On 06/11/2018 at 00:08hrs a panic alarm signal was received from Greenside residential area after the client pressed the panic button as he suspected intruders had entered his yard. The crew attended and found three durawall panels had been displaced at the client's premises due to the strong winds. Nothing was stolen on site. The affected area had no alarm coverage

On 21/11/2018 at 03:04hrs a signal was received at our control room from a Morningside residential premise. Our re-action team was dispatched and on arrival, at the house our team saw the house-owner who mentioned that, he heard some footsteps outside the house and pressed the panic button. The team patrolled the yard and established that nothing was amiss. Nothing was stolen.

Bindura

On 07/11/18 a call was received at 00:18hrs from a commercial property informing the controller of an arrest involving an off duty police officer who was apprehended by a Guard-Alert security guard after he had forced open a screen door using unknown object. The damaged area had no alarm coverage. Nothing was stolen on the premises.

Gweru

On 04/11/18 at 0149 hours, an alarm signal was received at a Southdowns residential property. The response team was dispatched for investigations and reported that all was fine. The sound made by the alarm must have scared away intruders.

On 15/11/18 at 0843 hours, an alarm signal was received at a hardware shop in the Mkoba 12 suburb. Our reaction team attended and reported that the employees accidentally triggered the alarm when they were opening the door in the morning.

Crime News

Gweru- On 13/11/18 at 0255 hours, our armed guard based in the Gweru light industrial area reported that he observed three men in his guarded area, with two of them lying on the ground. The guard cocked his gun ready to fire warning shots. On hearing the firearm sound, the three thieves ran away. The armed guard pressed the panic button and the response team reacted. The response team searched the premises and reported that everything was in order. The following morning a report from the adjacent premise was received stating that fuel had been siphoned from several vehicles.

Rusape- 3/11/2018, A household owner in Magamba suburbs lost her house belongings after robbers raided her house. The thieves broke down the door and entered inside and threatened to kill her if she resisted. The thieves stole several household items and locked her in one of the rooms before they left. She only managed to shout for help after the robbers has already left. A neighbor heard the noise and came her rescue. The house had no security systems in place.

Harare- A trend has been discovered where thieves in Glen Lorne were targeting female headed households. The thieves would come unarmed as they would not see the need to carry any weaponry. After the gang was caught, it was discovered that a part-time gardener was common to all the properties where there was a break-in. House-owners are warned to carry out proper reference checks before employing even temporary domestic staff.

A number of car battery thefts have been reported, with once incident reported of six tenants from one flat complex losing car batteries in one night. This is not the only case reported as this seems to be quite prevalent. Guard-Alert advises that cars should be alarmed and locked when parked. In addition, cars should also be parked in well lit areas at night so as to deter thieves as they do not like to being visible and prefer to work under the cover of darkness.

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

Bulawayo- Unlawful entry in industrial and residential premises is reported to have decreased according to police reports due to the help of well wishers who donated petrol to the police so that they can carry out effective night patrols. However, theft from vehicles has increased and the general public is advised not to leave valuable items inside their cars. The thieves are even going to the extent of smashing windows open. Theft of wheels from parked cars in the residential areas has increased.

Nationwide- As the country continues to utilise the cashless route for payments, Guard-Alert security would like to alert the public that they should at all times physically check the message that they receive after someone makes a payment to them before releasing goods. Crooks are now editing Ecocash messages and showing the recipient their phone with the delivery message. The recipient might be too busy serving other customers to check their phone for the transfer message and will only check later when reconciling their sales. By then it will be too late.