

Dear Valued client

Welcome to the reaction and crime news March 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 the Independence and Easter holidays. 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 09/03/2019 at 02.03am a panic signal was received from Cranborne (residential area). The Reaction Crew was dispatched and upon arrival discovered that unknown intruders had smashed the client's vehicle window and accessed the car boot stealing four new bed sheets and eight pairs of new trousers. The presence of the Reaction Crew coupled with the alarm sounding off caused the intruders to jump into a neighbour's yard which also set off their alarm. The intruders fled leaving all stolen items. All items were recovered.

On 11/03/19 at 6:27pm a panic alarm was activated by client's daughter in Northend suburb (residential property) after noticing a break in at residence upon her return from school. Upon arrival, the Reaction Crew noted that unknown intruders had entered property through the gate which was unlocked. They then proceeded to the cottage which had no alarm system and forced open the door. Articles of clothing and groceries were stolen.

BULAWAYO

On 02/03/19 a panic signal was received from a large retail shop in the City. The Reaction Crew attended the accused and was taken to a Police Station.

On 8/03/19 a burglary signal was received from one of our client's offices. Upon arrival, Reaction Crew observed open windows but no other indicators of a break-in. The caretaker was informed and she returned to secure the premise.

A panic signal was received from a Chain Retail Store in Bradfield on 10/03/19 Crew attended at code and found an accused person with the following exhibit 6 Yardley perfumes and 4 Nivea lotions. The accused was arrested and taken to the Police station.

On 11/3/19 a burglary signal was received from a residential property in Northlea (residential area). Thieves had broken into a private premise and stole goods worth USD336.00 from a cottage. They went on to try breaking into the main house windows but could not gain access due burglar bars. When a female occupant of the house returned home and saw that some of

the windows were broken, she pressed the panic button and Reaction crew attended. Nothing was stolen from the main house.

Occupants of a Hillside residential property overlooked arming their alarm on the 17/03/19. During the course of the night, thieves raided the house and stole some goods. Upon hearing some unusual movements, the house owner woke up only to discover that some intruders were making their way out of the house. He immediately pressed the panic button and when the Reaction Crew attended, he advised them that the alarm had not been armed.

The Reaction Crew attended to a burglary signal was received on 20/03/19 from a residential property in Mahatshula. Upon arrival, the carried out a routine patrol of the premise and realised that the intruder had tried to force open the front door and in the process triggered the alarm system resulting in him fleeing from the scene..

GWERU

On 01/03/19 at 12.17am an alarm signal was received from a residential property in Southdowns. Our response team was dispatched for investigations and reported that all was fine. The siren scared away intruders.

On 13/03/19 at 3.55am an alarm signal was received from a Commercial property in town. Our reaction team attended and reported that all was in order. The alarm had scared the intruders away.

On 16/03/19 at 12.19am an alarm signal was received from a residential property in Athlone (low density suburb). Our reaction team attended and reported that everything was in order. The siren scared away intruders.

MARONDERA

On 22/03/19 at around 12.14am an alarm signal was received from Winston Park area. Intruders gained entry by scaling over the durawall which did not have an electric fence and as they were walking towards the main house the alarm sounded and the intruders fled. Nothing was stolen.

MUTARE

On 18/03/19 at 11.56pm our Reaction Team received a panic signal from Trek Service Station. Upon arrival, they saw three unknown intruders running away carrying a Truck Battery and proceeded to chase them. When the intruders noticed that they were out paced they dropped the Truck Battery and disappeared into the darkness empty handed. The Truck Battery was recovered and the matter was reported to Mutare Central Police Station.

MASVINGO

On 03\03\19 at 10.15am an alarm signal was received from domestic property in Rhodene (low density suburb). The Reaction Crew was sent to investigate and reported that the premises was secured. The alarm had scared the intruders away.

On 29\03\2019 at 3.02am an alarm signal was received from a domestic property. The crew attended and reported that all was fine. The siren scared away intruders.

CRIME NEWS

HARARE

Drivers beware! – There have been a number of cases of break-ins into vehicles in car parks. A man's vehicle was broken into while parked at a hospital car park in Harare recently. All doors were locked using the central locking system. The criminal managed to open the door on the driver's side using a sharp object such as a knife or a screwdriver and got away with two handbags containing a total of USD60 and 40RTGSS\$ as well as other personal particulars. In a separate incident a car three cars were broken into while parked at Avondale Shops Car Park. Things stolen include handbags, cell phones and an undisclosed amount of cash. Guard-Alert advises drivers not to leave any valuables exposed in their vehicles and not to carry large sums of cash and most importantly not to leave any cash in the car.

Over the past few months there has been an increase in the theft of water tanks from both residential and commercial premises. It appears that the thieves first cut off the water supply to the tanks before coming back a few days later to cut off the connecting pipes and transport the empty tank. Guard-Alert advises property owners to constantly check that all pipes connected to the tank are intact and in good working order as well as ensure that their water tanks are secured. We also urge you to consider installing an outside sensor covering the area around the water tank so that any movement in that area will be detected.

On 10/03/19 at 2.12am one of our armed guards observed an intruder on the southern side of Highglen complex walking towards copper cables which were scattered in the yard.

The guard challenged the intruder. He asked him to stop and identify himself since there is another security company offering guarding services in the complex. The detail fired a warning shot and the intruder ran and jumped over the durawall. Nothing was stolen.

On 20/03/19 at around 4.15am, one of our night armed guards saw an unknown person proceeding to the car park where there was an unlocked staff member's car. The intruder

forcibly entered the vehicle and switched on the car lights. The armed guard approached the suspected carjacker and questioned him. He became violent and started attacking the guard with a sharp object. The guard then used the fire firing orders and the suspect ran away. The armed guard could not use the weapon because the suspect ran in the direction where there were people waiting for transport.

MARONDERA

Property owners both residential and commercial are advised against keeping large sums of money at their premises. The number of break-ins where cash is stolen from premises is on the rise. When thieves break into your house or business they are looking for anything of value including and especially cash. And, though we don't like to think about it, this kind of theft is usually an inside job. Household and business owners are urged to refrain from letting their employees know about the money that may be kept on the property. Companies are encouraged to use a reliable cash handling company such as Armsec in order to reduce the risks and losses involved in the transportation and storage of cash, bullion and other valuables.

On 05/03/19 at around 3.30pm one of the directors at a local wholesale shop left a bag with cash which he had collected from the wholesale in an unlocked vehicle at the front of the shop whilst collecting something which he had forgotten in the shop and by the time he returned he found that the bag was missing. The incident was reported at Marondera Police Station and the accused are still at large. Cash which was inside the bag was not disclosed.

On 14/03/19 at around 1.30am a break in occurred at Buffalo 24hr Service Shop . Items stolen include cash and electrical gadgets. The total value of the stolen items was not disclosed. The shop does not have an alarm system but they have a private guard who was beaten up by seven (7) armed robbers. Currently the accused are still at large.

Clients are being advised to have lock nuts on their vehicle tyres. During the night of 17 March 2019, 3 tyres were stolen from three different vehicles in the high density area of Cherutombo in Marondera. The vehicles were left jacked up with a stolen jack. Criminals are selling the ream and tyre at different places with a giveaway price.

MUTARE

On Monday 19 March 2019 our guards who were at Econet Pension Fund Premises saw a group of 3 un-known men breaking into Exotic Fashion Shop along Second Street. The criminals used bolt cutter to cut shop burglar bars and broke the window and looted shop goods into a parked Fun Cargo car parked along the road which did not have registration number plates. Our three guards namely advanced towards the criminals who threatened them to take their lives. The guards stood their

ground until the criminals ran away without further looting the shop goods. Guard Brian later went to Mutare Central Police and made a report and police attended after the unknown intruders had gone. Fawcetts Reaction Crew arrived there after the police were already at the scene. This led to us getting a sundry work from the client. Well done to Guard Brian and his colleagues.

NATIONWIDE

The Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) have urged the public, especially tobacco farmers to be alert as the 2019 tobacco selling season gets underway and to also be wary of organised criminals who take advantage of the increase of human and vehicular traffic at the auction floors during the selling season to commit offenses in addition to duping them. The warning follows a marginal increase in armed robbery, fraud cases involving card cloning, mobile cash transactions, forgery, theft from cars and pick pocketing cases recorded during the 2018 tobacco marketing season.

Crime is greatly reduced by using a tried and tested security services provider with both the experience and expertise in such cases. Our dominance on the Tobacco Auction floors reflects the confidence that the tobacco industry has in our service delivery. Engaging a reliable security services provider such as Guard-Alert during this busy season is vital in ensuring the protection of not only the human element but also the tobacco being sold at the various auction floors.

If you are driving at night and eggs are thrown at your windscreen, do not stop to check the car, do not operate the wiper and do not spray any water because eggs mixed with water become milky and block your vision up to 92.5%, and you are forced to stop beside the road and become a victim of these criminals. This is a new technique used by gangs.

Robbers have devised a new way of conducting robberies. They leave a female to scream outside your house and park nearby. Once you open the door or gate to assist, the robbers pounce on you. Be vigilant of strange females loitering in your vicinity as they are usually part of the gangs.