



## GUARD-ALERT REACTION NEWS

### AUGUST 2018

Welcome to the hot summer months. Please remember to secure your windows and entrances before you sleep as the temptation will be to leave these open to allow a breeze to blow through. House breaking incidences are increasing and customers are advised to fit an alarm on all buildings which store valuable items. Car security is highlighted in this issue as there has been an increase in the number of car thefts and carjacking incidences.

### Reaction News

#### Harare

**On 01/08/18 at 0800**, an alarm signal was received at 0800hrs from a CBD retail shop. The crew attended the scene and found windows broken. The doors and burglar bars were all intact and nothing had been stolen. The client was advised and requested that a guard be placed to guard the premises. The incident occurred due to the political disturbances after the elections.

**On 15/08/18 at 12:19** an alarm signal was received from Avondale, domestic property. The crew checked and found the cottage door not locked with signs of forced entry. The key holder was advised and sent someone to check on the premises who confirmed all was in order with nothing stolen. The thieves must have run away when the alarm sounded.

**On 22.08.18 at 2123** a panic signal was received from Philadelphia, domestic property. The crew attended the scene and the client advised that three unknown intruders had stormed into the house through an unlocked front door and got away with two laptops. The client pressed the panic button after the intruders had fled. The client reported the case to the police.

**On 24/8/2018 at 0326**, an alarm signal was received from the Avenues, commercial property. The crew was dispatched and on arrival they found a window next to the reception door broken. The

client visited the premise and confirmed nothing was stolen. It was established that the intruder ran away when the alarm sounded.

**On 29.08.18 at 0048** an alarm signal was received at 0048hrs from Emerald Hill (commercial property). Intruders broke the reception window and when the alarm sounded they ran away. Nothing was stolen.

**On the 29.08.18 at 0312** an alarm signal was received from Mandara, domestic property. The crew attended and on arrival they saw the client who showed them the window which had been opened but not broken. The siren must have frightened the intruders away.

**On the 29.08.18 at 0029** an alarm signal was received from an Avondale commercial property. Intruders gained entry over a precast wall and broke the lock of a stand-alone container which contained several valuable items. The thieves took seven computer monitors, three CPUs, one paper shredder and one CCTV DVR and gathered the goods by the gate with the intention of transporting the items away. They proceeded to the main building where they forced open the door. The alarm went off and the thieves ran away leaving behind their lot by the gate. All the items were recovered.

## Ruwa

**On 15/08/2018 at 0108**, an alarm signal was received at from a domestic property in the Sunway suburb of Ruwa. On arrival the crew checked the premises and discovered that the windows had been forced open. The intruders ran away when the alarm sounded. Nothing was stolen

**On the 30.08.18 at 2346** an alarm signal was received from a domestic property in Ruwa. The crew attended and on arrival they saw the client who showed them the door which had been forced open by intruders. The alarm went off and the thieves ran away. Nothing was stolen.

## Gweru

**On 23/08/18 at 0254 hours**, an alarm signal was received from a residential premise in Southview low density suburbs. The response team was dispatched for investigations. The crew entered the premises and detected two intruders who scaled over the wall. An inspection established that the thieves had unlocked the kitchen window using the hard cover of an exercise book and thereafter used a bolt cutter to cut the burglar bars. The alarm went off when the thieves attempted to enter into the building and were picked by an alarm sensor. The intruders fled away empty handed.

## Karoi

On 06/08/2018 a phone call was received from a client in the industrial areas reporting that there had been a break in the previous night. The alarm signal did not come through to the control room as the alarm was not armed. After a stock take, the client confirmed that nothing was stolen.

## Mutare

On 31/08/2018, at 0100, an alarm signal was received from a premise in the Nyakamete Industrial area. The reaction crew attended the scene and saw the internal guard who stated that two unknown people had entered the premises and attempted to force open the warehouse sliding door. The internal guard pressed the panic button and the intruders ran away empty. The reaction crew arrived shortly after at the premises.

## Marondera

On 04/08/18 at around 18 00 hrs a burglary SMS message was received at by the control room and the Response crew attended. During their physical checking they discovered that the small entrance door was left unlocked. The key holder was contacted and he came and locked the door. Nothing was amiss.

## Crime News

An alert has been sent by the Zimbabwe Republic Police of increased carjacking incidences and car thefts countrywide. Cited incidences include a car which was carjacked by four men who pretended to be travelers along the Harare Bulawayo highway. Another incident was reported in Budiro, Harare where the car owner left his car idling as he went into a friend's house for a moment. Cars have been reported stolen in Highlands and Eastlea in Harare and also in Bulawayo. Guard-Alert advises all clients to ensure that they lock their cars even if they are leaving the car for a few minutes. Also, drivers should avoid giving lifts to unknown individuals. It would also be prudent to contact Pinpoint Tracking, Guard-Alert's car tracking division to ask for a quotation for the installation of a car tracking system, so that in the event of the car being stolen, it can easily be tracked. The car should also have a car alarm installed so as to deter the thief from breaking into the vehicle.

**On 08/08/18 at around 19 30** a gang of armed robbers arrived at one of the business women who also known as cash dealer at her residence in Cherutombo in Marondera. They got into the premises as visitors since the gate was not yet locked and they demanded cash from her at gun point. The cash dealer handed over nearly \$3 000 and mobile phones and their pin codes for eco cash transactions. After few minutes the robbers got into their car and drove away. The thieves have not been caught. Members of the public are urged to bank their cash and not to store large amounts of money at their premises.

During the night of **13/08/18** two thieves were shot at and apprehended by police after being shot and four of them fled after the police gave chase after they were detected stealing Tel-One cables along the Harare- Mutare Road in Marondera. Thirty metres of cable were recovered which had already been dug up by the thieves. The two apprehended thieves are currently in custody and are assisting the police to apprehend the other four members of their gang.