CRIME ALERT
Burglaries

ALERT#: TW2018-012

REPORTED OFFENSE: There were three separate burglaries of student apartments that occurred over the weekend at the Cardinal Gardens housing complex. In each case, students were asleep inside when the burglaries occurred. No one was injured. It is likely that the same suspect committed each theft.

In each case, the suspect entered through an unlocked front door or, in one case, cut open a screen and entered through an open balcony door. Once inside, the suspect took cash or easily portable electronics. One student woke up during the crime and asked the suspect what he was doing. The suspect answered, “The door was open, is Doug here”? The suspect was heard leaving through the front door.

DATE & TIME OF OCCURRENCE:
#1: September 15, 2018, 11:00 PM—8:00 AM
#2: September 16, 2018, 3:30 AM—9:50 AM
#3: September 16, 2018, 7:30 AM

LOCATION: Cardinal Gardens Apartments, 3131 McClintock Avenue

SUSPECT DESCRIPTION (provided by reporting party): Male, no further description

SUSPECT VEHICLE: None seen

If you are in immediate danger, call the LAPD at 9-1-1 or DPS at (213) 740-4321.

If you have information relevant to the crime(s) call the Department of Public Safety (DPS) at (213) 740-6000 or the LAPD Southwest Division at (213) 485-6571.

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) issues warnings to the university community when a criminal incident occurs and represents a serious or continuing threat to students and employees. The purpose of this warning is to aid in the prevention of similar crimes by alerting the community about the incident so they may make informed decisions about their personal safety.

USC Department of Public Safety Recommendations – Burglary

- Burglars are opportunists. Always secure your doors and windows.

- Give the illusion that you or someone is at home by keeping a light, television, or stereo on while away from your apartment. Purchase a dual timer.
Don’t let anyone into your building you don’t know.

Avoid propping doors open. Even if you are visiting a friend in another room, it only takes seconds for someone to take advantage of your room.

If possible, keep your bicycle indoors, or lock it to a stationary object such as a bike rack or fence.

If you observe a crime in progress, or discover your dwelling has been burglarized go to a safe location and call DPS emergency for the University Park Campus (UPC) at (213) 740-4321, for the Health Sciences Campus (HSC) call (323) 442-1000 or the LAPD at 9-1-1.

Do not attempt to apprehend any suspects or perpetrators of crime. Your personal safety and the safety of others around you should be your primary concern.

**Blue light emergency phones** are located throughout the University Park and Health Sciences campuses. The phones are connected to the USC Department of Public Safety’s 24-hour communications center and identify the phone location if the caller is unable to talk. The phones can be used to request an escort, report suspicious activity, and to report crimes.

**Yellow Jackets**: In addition to DPS officers who patrol a 2.5 mile radius around USC’s campuses, USC contracts with “security ambassadors” to patrol street corners in nearby neighborhoods. This security force wears bright yellow jackets so you can easily spot them. If you’re off campus and in need of assistance, look for a Yellow Jacket.

**Be a good witness**: It is important to recall what you observed and provide as many details as possible to law enforcement such as: the sex, race, age, height, hair color, clothing, tattoos, scars of any suspects and a description of the make and model of any vehicle used in the crime and its license plate if possible.

To access immediate emergency push button calls to DPS or 911 on your mobile phone download the *Trojan Mobile Safety APP “LIVESAFE”* from Google Play or the Apple iTunes Store. For more information regarding LIVESAFE visit [usc.edu/mobilesafety](http://usc.edu/mobilesafety).

Register for USC’s emergency notification system *TrojansAlert* to allow university officials to contact you during an emergency by sending messages via text message and email at [https://trojansalert.usc.edu/register.php](https://trojansalert.usc.edu/register.php).
Department of Public Safety

For more information on student safety and crime prevention, visit our website: dps.usc.edu

RESOURCES WITHIN THE USC CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Student Health Center (213) 740-9355

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention and Services (RSVP) (Formerly known as Center for Women and Men) (213) 740-4900

USC Counseling Center (213) 740-7711 for students
(213) 743-2770 for faculty and staff

Engemann Student Health Center (213) 740-9355
1031 West 34th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90089

If you have any questions regarding this crime alert, please contact the Watch Commander in the Department of Public Safety at (213) 740-5523.