Department of Public Safety

CRIME ALERT

ALERT #: CA2018-012

REPORTED OFFENSE: ROBBERY

DATE & TIME OF OCCURRENCE: December 17, 2018, Approximately 10:00 PM

LOCATION: 2300 Block of Scarff Street (off campus)

INCIDENT NARRATIVE: While standing on the sidewalk in front of one of the victim’s residence, the victims were approached on foot by two suspects who displayed handguns and demanded the victims’ property. The victims complied with the suspects’ demands. The suspects were last seen running south on Scarff Street and then east on St. James Place.

SUSPECT DESCRIPTION:

Suspect #1: Male, Hispanic, 20-25, 5-9, black hair, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt

Suspect #2: Male, Hispanic, 20-25, 5-7, dark hooded sweatshirt

SUSPECT VEHICLE: None.

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) indicated in this Crime Alert 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 – Robbery

■ Get a Ride: If you work, study or take classes at night, you don’t have to walk to your car or home alone. USC Campus Cruiser offers transportation during the winter break from 5pm to 10pm (https://transnet.usc.edu/index.php/about-usc-safe-ride-program/). You can also contact DPS for safe rides after 10pm until 6am daily during the break.

■ Be wary of strangers. There is safety in numbers. If walking after dark, travel with a group of friends.
Avoid using cell phones or other technology while walking as criminals target distracted, inattentive individuals using them.

If you are the victim of a robbery remain calm and do not resist. Assure the robber you will cooperate and take no action that may jeopardize your safety. Do not make any quick or unexpected movements. Follow the robber’s direction, but do not offer more than they ask for. Don’t argue with the robber.

After the robbery, go immediately to a safe location and report the crime to law enforcement. For the University Park Campus (UPC) call DPS emergency at (213) 740-4321, for the Health Sciences Campus (HSC) call (323) 442-1000 or the LAPD at 9-1-1.

If you observe a crime in progress, STAY CALM AND CALL DPS emergency for UPC at (213) 740-4321, for the Health Sciences Campus call (323) 442-1000 or the LAPD at 9-1-1.

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.

Do not attempt to apprehend any suspects or perpetrators of crime. Do not walk alone; travel in pairs.

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.

Security Ambassadors: 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 cardinal and yellow jackets so you can easily spot them. If you’re off campus and in need of assistance, look for a Security Ambassador.

LiveSafe: To immediately contact DPS or 911 with a push of a button 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 http://usc.edu/mobilesafety

TrojansAlert: 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.

For further information and tips visit http://dps.usc.edu/safety-tips/suspicious-activity/robbery/.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE WITHIN THE USC CAMPUS COMMUNITY
If you have any questions regarding this crime alert, please ask for the Watch Commander in the Department of Public Safety at (213) 740-5523.