



Wednesday, April 9, 2014



Captain Garret Tom

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Central Police Station Newsletter

CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

Greetings, from my kitchen at home. I'm sick with "pink eye" so I am doing the newsletter from home today. Next week I will be on vacation, on one of those days I will have a root canal scheduled. I already can't wait to get back to work.

Tricks and Scams

A potential victim came to the station and reported she received a phone call from a suspect claiming to be from the IRS. The fake IRS employee told the victim she needed to provide him with her social security number or face tax fraud charges. The victim believed the call was a fraud and did not provide her social security number. She was smart, never provide your social security number over the phone or you will have many new headaches associated with identification theft. This IRS scam is supposed to be one of the biggest scams in the nation right now. Speaking of scams, the number of people scammed from Amuse Travel Agency has hit over 97 customers now. The agency was at 1439 Stockton Street; the owner closed up shop and swindled several hundred thousand dollars worth of travel tickets to unsuspecting mostly Chinese speaking customers. In past newsletters, I explained many customers paid for multiple tickets costing several thousand dollars only to find no reservations were made with the airlines or the reservations were later cancelled by the travel agency. Almost all the victims paid by cash or check. A woman walked into Central Station and said she received a letter from P.G.& E. regarding a past due amount. The amount was \$120,467.58 for services to an address out of Plumas Lake, Ca. The victim said she has never lived in Plumas Lake. The account was opened on 12/19/2010.

On Sunday morning at 5:00am a guy dressed in camouflage enters the Walgreens at 459 Powell Street. He buys a memory card for \$16.30 and pays with four rolls of dimes which is equivalent to twenty dollars. The store provided the unknown male with \$3.70 in change. The store clerk actually needed some dimes so he broke open one of the rolls and discovered that the roll contained a couple of dimes on both ends of the roll but the center of the rolls were filled with pennies. A few minutes later the suspect comes back into the Walgreens and walks up to the register. The store clerk tells the suspect he owes the store money for the previous transaction. The suspect runs out the store and drives off in a 1990's model Acura Integra. By the way if you haven't been to the remodeled Walgreens on Powell Street it is very nice. Two floors, food service and all kinds of beverages, it's the nicest Walgreens I ever been to.

Friday morning at 11:00am there was a protest in the Financial District opposing immigration laws in the United States. The protestors claim President Obama has deported more immigrants than any other President in the country's history. They were loud, but non-violent. They blocked the intersection of Montgomery and Sutter Streets. When asked to disperse they refused and were arrested for disobeying a traffic officer (me). All in all twenty three people were arrested and cited out to appear in court. Just another protest in San Francisco, we have approximately one hundred protests a year just in our district. In fact we have three more protests this week opposing nuclear energy, abortion, and Senator Feinstein.

Last Friday, at 5:30pm, our undercover anti-crime unit was in the area of Chestnut and Montgomery Street when the officers recognized a suspect walking eastbound on Chestnut talking on his phone. The officers remembered the suspect from previous auto burglary arrests so

they decided to watch him. As soon as the culprit finished his cell phone call he walked up to a parked white Hyundai Accent sedan. The suspect broke the right rear passenger window and removed a backpack and suitcase from the parked car. Suspect then ran to nearby silver Nissan Pickup and tossed the suitcase in the back of the truck bed and entered the passenger side seat with the backpack. The driver of the Nissan drove on the Embarcadero where it was caught in rush hour traffic. Plainclothes officers followed them and as they were stopped at the red light at Embarcadero and Howard Streets the suspects were taken into custody. Suspect one had shattered glass pieces in his front left pocket and a porcelain sparkplug chip (used to shatter windows) in his right pants pocket. Suspect also had a "rescue me" glass breaking device in his possession. Inside the suspects' car were a ski mask (it's not that cold in San Francisco), a machete which had dry blood on the blade, the stolen backpack which contained an Apple Laptop, and a stolen suitcase contain clothing. The two suspects were booked for auto burglary, possession of stolen property and suspect 1 had the additional charge of probation violation. The victims were tourist from Oak Park, Illinois. The suspects were out of towners from San Pablo, Ca.

Officers Kellogg and Faulkner responded to a call of a theft of a knife from the groundskeeper tool shed. This occurred at Portsmouth Square, 745 Kearny Street at 11:00am. The suspect descriptions were two shirtless males. The groundskeeper at the park met the police and told them two suspects entered his tool shed. The groundskeeper noticed that his Swiss Army Knife was missing from the shed. The officers saw two shirtless guys in the park and searched one of the suspects and found a Swiss Army Knife in his front pants pocket. The officers also found several other items in the suspects' possession that didn't belong to him including car keys, box cutter and a Citibank debit card not in the suspects' name. The officers did find something that belonged to the suspect; three warrants for his arrest for failing to appear in court for traffic violations. He was booked for possession of stolen goods and warrants.

Monday morning at 3:46am Officers McFall and Masangcay responded to Broadway and Columbus on a call of a fight involving 10 to 15 males. Upon arrival the officers saw a black Dodge Challenger drive off at a high rate of speed as the officers arrived at the scene. The Challenger sped through the Broadway Tunnel and a traffic stop was initiated on the 1400 block of Broadway. The passenger in the vehicle was very uncooperative and challenged the officers to a fight. The occupants of the vehicle were told to stay in the car. The passenger of the car opens the door and Officer McFall immediately noticed he was over six feet tall and weighed over 250lbs and he was shirtless (what's up with these shirtless guys anyway!). Even though it's almost four in the morning this huge shirtless guy is sweating profusely, his eyes are bloodshot and red and he's not very nice. Officer McFall recognized these as symptoms of being under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance or both. The officers ordered the passenger to the ground which he refused. Finally he complied after the officers exhibited their firearms. The suspect resisted being handcuffed but with the help of additional officers he was taken into custody. The suspect made threats against the officers' lives. He also had an open bottle of Hennessy Cognac in the passenger seat. He was booked for drunk in public, resisting arrest and threatening a police officer.

This coming Saturday morning, April 12, from 9:30am to 12:30pm the "Friends of Washington Square Park" will have a volunteer work day. Volunteers will meet in the park across from Saints Peter & Paul Church. Tools, gloves and guidance will be provided. If you're interested please sign up at info@friendsofwashingtonsquare.com. They do a great job to keep our park as well kept as possible.

I will be on vacation from April 12 through April 20th. The acting Captain will be Lieutenant Molly Pengel. Lt. Pengel is the Officer in Charge of the Station Inspectors here at Central Station. She is very knowledgeable and comes from a family of San Francisco Police Officers. Her father was a cop, her older sister is a retired deputy chief, her other sister is a lieutenant and her youngest sister is a sergeant. Kind of like the television show "Blue Bloods" except on the West Coast.

Be Careful out there!

Captain Garret Tom

CRIMES OF NOTE

03/26/2014

Victim was mailed a check for over \$1,500.00 for an item she listed on Craigslist for sale. Victim was told to keep \$160.00 to cover the cost of the item and wire the remaining balance via Western Union back to the suspect. Victim wired the remaining balance via Western Union and was notified by her bank a couple days later that the check was a fraudulent check.

03/28/2014 10:35am

Victim was standing at the bus stop at 898 Sacramento Street when an unknown male came up from behind him and punched him in the face for no apparent reason. The force of the punch moved the victim backwards causing him to scrape the left side of his forehead on a brick building. The victim refused medical treatment. The suspect is described to be an Asian male, 45-50 years old, 5'7, 140 lbs, black hair, and brown eyes.

03/26/2014 3:00pm

Victim left his two bicycles in a shared apartment garage on the 900 block of Columbus Avenue while on vacation. When victim returned from vacation, he noticed the bicycles were missing. The bicycles were left unlocked in the garage.

03/26/2014 8:00am

Victim parked his vehicle at Chestnut Street and Stockton Street. When he returned to the vehicle, he discovered that the rear engine lid and rear plate had been taken and the tail pipe was damaged.

03/10/2014

Victim tried to file his tax return with the IRS, but was informed that someone had already filed a return under his social security number, name and address. Victim ran a credit check on himself and it showed that a fraudulent credit card had been opened using his name, address and social security.

03/28/2014 1:00am – 1:05am

Victim was walking south on Powell Street between Bush Street and Sutter Street. Victim saw three juvenile males walking towards her and as they approached her, one of the suspects pushed the victim's

shoulder and grabbed the victim's clutch out of her hand. The suspects then ran south on Powell Street. The victim was not injured during the incident. The suspect that grabbed the victim's clutch is described to be a black male, 15-17 years old, 5'3, medium build, and black hair.

03/29/2014 6:15am – 03/29/2014 7:45am

Security guard for a building on the unit block of Geary Street found the glass door of a retail store damaged. The door appeared to be kicked in or hit with an object. No items were taken from the store. Surveillance video of the incident will be forwarded to the investigation team at a later date.

03/29/2014 9:00pm – 03/29/2014 10:00pm

Victim was at a bar located on the 400 block of Mason. Victim was carrying her purse on her shoulder at all times, but when she looked at her purse, she saw the magnetic clasp on her purse was broken and items in her purse had been taken.

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Victim parked his vehicle at Hyde Street and Bay Street. When victim returned to the vehicle, he discovered paint was thrown all over his vehicle.

03/27/2014 10:00am

Victim was walking north on Stockton Street at California Street with headphones on her head, listening to music. Victim suddenly felt something brushed her right leg that was under her dress. Victim turned around and saw an unknown male crouched down behind her. The victim saw the suspect holding a cell phone under her dress. The victim yelled at the suspect and the suspect walked away. The suspect is describe to be a white male, 30-35 years old, 5'9, 170 lbs, and brown hair.

03/27/2014 6:00pm – 6:30pm

Victim was working at a Laundromat on the 600 block of Hyde Street. The victim has been having problems with a homeless male who continues to go into the location and cause problems. The victim saw the suspect and went to the front door and told the suspect that he could not go inside. The victim told the suspect again to leave, but the suspect pushed him backwards. The suspect was holding a small soda bottle in his hand and he threw the bottle at the victim and it struck the victim on the stomach. The victim was not injured from this incident. The suspect fled the scene on a skateboard. The suspect is described to be a black male, 20-30 years old, 5'10, 180lbs, with short dark hair.

Please let any interested parties who work with residents of public housing or the Section 8 (Housing Choice Voucher) Program in San Francisco that there is an opportunity to apply for a \$2500 educational scholarship if you are:

1. A high school student living in public housing or/a Section 8 (Housing Choice Voucher) participant 2. An adult with a GED going back to school living in public housing or Section 8 (Housing Choice Voucher) 3. A college student again, must be living in public housing and on a lease in good standing to apply or a Section 8 (Housing Choice Voucher) participant .

The deadline is April 30th to apply. This opportunity has been made available by the San Francisco Housing Authority Human Resources Department. Inside this link below is a flyer which explains who can and how to apply.

[https://www.housingcenter.com/sites/default/files/2014%20Resident%20Scholarship%20Flyer.pdf?
utm_source=Reminder+of+2014+Resident+Scholarship+Announcement&utm_campaign
=Scholarship+Program+2013&utm_medium=email](https://www.housingcenter.com/sites/default/files/2014%20Resident%20Scholarship%20Flyer.pdf?utm_source=Reminder+of+2014+Resident+Scholarship+Announcement&utm_campaign=Scholarship+Program+2013&utm_medium=email)

Thank you for helping us to spread the word to people who might like to apply.

Washington Square Park Volunteer Work Day

Saturday, April 12 – 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Meet in the park across from SS Peter & Paul Church. Tools, gloves and guidance will be provided.

We'll need a count of volunteers so we can be sure to have enough equipment. Please sign up at info@friendsofwashingtonsquare.com.

RESOURCE LIST:



EMERGENCY:	911
Non-Emergency:	553-0123
Cell phone 911:	911
Customer Service Center:	311
Central Station:	315-2400
Captain Garret Tom:	315-2480
Captain's E-mail	<u>Garret.Tom@sfgov.org</u>
Anonymous Tip-Line	575- 4444
S.A.F.E	553-1984 S.A.F.E
Website:	www.centralpolicestation.org
SFPD Tip Line	575-4444
Text a Tip:	847411 (Tip 411)
Graffiti Abatement	278-9456
Graffiti Fax	278-9456
Central Events:	315-2440 - Sergeant Philip Pera
Central Permits:	315-2423 - Officer Steve Matthias
Code Abatement:	315-2417 - Sgt. Alex Takaoka
Deputy City Attorney:	554-3820 - Jill Cannon
Dept. Parking & Traffic:	553-1943
DPW Dispatch	695-2020
Homeless Issues:	315-2400 - Officers Cathy Daly & Eric Caracciolo
Chinatown Beat:	315-2400 - Officers Howard Chu & Sam Yuen - Night Watch/ Officers.
Union Square Beat:	315-2400 - Tom Cunnane
Fisherman's Wharf Beat:	315-2400 - Officers Bob Merino
North Beach: Alvarez & John Torrise	315-2400 - Officers Fred Crisp, Days Nights Officers Mark