

Thursday, May 1, 2014



Captain Garret Tom



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Central Police Station Newsletter

CAPTAIN'S NEWSLETTER

Have Gun Will Travel (To Central Station)

For all you young people you probably never heard of "Have Gun Will Travel". It was actually a cowboy western television show that aired from 1957-63 and before that it was a radio show in the late 50's. I saw a few episodes in my youth (in syndication of course). Here's a couple of good gun arrests that I like to tell you about.

On Friday the 25th of April at 3:07pm our plainclothes anti-crime unit was driving an unmarked police car when they noticed two suspicious individuals on the 900 block of Vallejo Street. It appeared these jokers were watching for potential victims to rob. The officers followed them south on Mason to Broadway, east on Broadway to Powell, then south on Powell to California Street. If single females passed them, they would both turn their entire bodies to watch the women. The women were not confined to any similar demographics, or age range. The suspects continued to walk slowly, eyeing people as they passed them. It appeared they were sizing up each person as a potential victim as they passed. When they got to the corner of Pine and Powell they took a stroller which was on the sidewalk. Suspect 1 got into the stroller and suspect 2 pushed the stroller up the Pine and Mason. After watching these guys jaywalk numerous times and possibly stealing a stroller a marked unit detained the subjects. Officer Korte approached one of the suspects and asked him if he had any identification and he replied no. The suspect then placed his hand on his belt area and a .25 caliber silver pistol fell to the ground. Both subjects were immediately handcuffed. A records check of the gun revealed the gun belongs to a person who is now deceased. Further investigation revealed texts from the suspect's phone regarding robbing people, splitting the proceeds from the robbery, and potential gun sales.

This past Saturday night at midnight, motorcycle Officer Angel Lozano saw a car stopped for the red light facing westbound on Broadway near Columbus Ave. Officer Lozano noticed the car had tinted windows on the front passenger windows. A traffic stop was conducted in front of 670 Broadway St. As the officer approached the car he asked the driver for his driver's license, registration and insurance. The driver handed his driver's license to Officer Lozano but told the officer he did not have it in the car. Officer Lozano asked the driver to check his glove compartment and the suspect hesitated for a few seconds and then said, let me check. Due to the fact that the suspect was hesitant to open his glove box and there was a passenger in the vehicle, Officer Lozano alerted his backup officer (Officer Scott) to keep a close eye on the passenger as she opened the glove box. The female passenger slowly opened the glove box but did not let it fully open as if she was concealing its contents. As the glove box partially opened, Officer Scott immediately radioed to dispatch that he saw a gun in the partially opened glove compartment. Officers pointed their guns at the driver and passenger and took them into custody. Further investigation revealed a box of .40 caliber bullets and a loaded .40 caliber Glock semi-automatic pistol. The female passenger also had a \$10,000.00 warrant for theft.

Auto Burglaries Gone Wild!

This past weekend Central Station Officers made numerous auto burglary arrests. Friday, April 25th at 3:45am Officers Navarro and Pena responded to a call of an auto break-in at California and Hyde Streets. The caller reported that there were two suspects casing vehicles in the area and now they were inside a parked gray sedan. The reportee also stated one person was inside the car and the other was going through the rear trunk. As the officers were responding, headquarters updated the officers and said the suspects were now walking on Hyde Street towards California carrying a large plastic bag and suspect two had a large bag or backpack on her. The officers arrived at Hyde and California and noticed the right front side window of the gray sedan was shattered. The officers continued to search the area and found two females holding large bags full of stolen goods.

The officers ordered the two women to stop and put their bags down. One of the suspects told the officers it was just clothes and she offered to spread out the clothing onto the sidewalk to prove it. The suspect was partially right it was clothes, but not her clothes. In fact, there was approximately three thousand dollars worth of clothes and other miscellaneous items, like a Nikon Camera, I Phone, I pod, Mini I pod, I pod Shuffle, and credit cards, paperwork, from five different victims of theft. That was the problem. One of the suspects also had ziplock baggie filled with suspected methamphetamine. That's another problem as they are addicted to drugs and need to feed their habit by stealing. The victim of the auto boost was able to come to the station and identify her belongings. The suspects were booked for auto burglary.

On Saturday morning at 2:15am Officers Pena and Siragusa and Sgt. Pasquinzo responded to 920 Sutter Street on a call of an auto break-in. A witness called dispatch and said there was a male inside a parked Toyota Prius wearing a black hoodie rummaging through the car. There was also a female lookout who was dancing beside the parked car. She was acting as the lookout. Sgt. Pasquinzo arrived at the scene and saw the male suspect kneeling down on the sidewalk going through red tennis bag that was on the sidewalk. The suspect looked up and was shocked to see Sgt. Pasquinzo. Sgt. Pasquinzo drew his duty weapon and ordered both suspects to the wall line of the 900 block of Sutter St. Officers Pena and Siragusa arrived and place the suspects into custody. Both suspects were booked for auto burglary, possession of stolen property, and possession of burglary tools (flashlight and screwdrivers) on their persons.

Saturday, morning at 7:30am Officers Pon and Reinke responded to a call of an auto burglary in progress near the intersection of Bush and Montgomery Streets. Immediately upon arrival the officers saw a black Saab parked alongside Bush Street near Montgomery. The rear driver side window was broken and glass was scattered on the street just below the window. The alarm was not going off, however there was a man sitting in the driver's seat. The officers ordered the suspect out of the car and detained him in handcuffs. During the investigation the officers noticed papers and personal items scattered about the front passenger seat and floorboard area. Officer Reinke also saw a Lockheed Martin employee card with a photo and name on the card. The only problem was that the photo did not in any way resemble the guy that was detained. At this time, a witness came forward and stated to the officers he was working at a nearby office building when he was distracted by a car alarm. He ignored it at first, but the alarm kept activating again and again. The witness finally looked out the window and saw the suspect sitting in the car and rifling through the glove box. The witness also noticed the car had a broken window so he called the police. The suspect admitted to the police that he noticed a bottle of prescription medication inside of the parked car so he used a wine bottle to break out the rear passenger side window. The suspect was transported to Central Station and booked for auto burglary.

Saturday afternoon at 5:55pm Officers Marte and Liu responded to 737 Post Street (Tower 737) on a call of a person wearing a black hoodie, green gloves and baseball hat breaking into a parked Mercedes. Officers arrived at the scene and saw a female suspect matching the description. She saw the police and continued to walk westbound on Post Street. Officer Liu saw the suspect throw a wire stripping tool onto the sidewalk. Liu order the suspect to stop which she complied and she was placed into handcuffs. The officer also noticed an eyeglass case on the sidewalk; the suspect stated that it was not hers. Officer Liu picked up the eyeglass case and saw it contained a zip lock baggie full of methamphetamine. Suspect also had a meth pipe on her person. A closer examination of the parked Mercedes revealed it sustained pry marks on the door frame and door latch. An eyewitness came forward and identified the suspect as the one who attempted to break into the Mercedes Benz. Suspect was booked for attempted auto burglary.

Sunday on April 27, at 5:07pm our plainclothes unit saw two juveniles peering into parked cars on Bay and Francisco Streets. The officers watch these guys as they approached numerous parked cars but would suddenly walk away as pedestrians would walk by. This was done several times. Finally one of the juveniles breaks the glass of the rear passenger side and reaches into the car and pulls a bag from the window. The two suspects walked away southbound on Stockton to Eastbound Francisco. They were arrested without incident at Francisco and Grant Ave. The bag contained a laptop computer and headphones. The bag also had broken auto glass inside the bag which appeared to be an identical match to the burglarized vehicle. Incidentally a passerby started yelling at the cops demanding to know why we were not cleaning up the shattered glass. Come-on guy, we are trying to clean up the city!

Bike Theft

On Monday afternoon at 4:00pm, the plainclothes anti-crime unit saw a man riding on sidewalk at Battery and Filbert Streets. The bike rider was scanning his surroundings in all directions like he was looking for something. There have been numerous bicycle thefts in the area. The plainclothes team watched the suspect as he looked at parked bicycles that were locked in front of a coffee shop. The suspect parked his bicycle outside the coffee shop and sat inside and continued to watch the activity in the area but was focused on a green bicycle locked to the parking sign. After several minutes the suspect got on his bike and rode away. Approximately 20 minutes later he returned without his bike. Officers were alerted and took up a position to intercept him if needed. The suspect used a cable cutter to cut the cable of the parked green bike. He then rode the stolen bike north on Sansome and was taken into custody after riding approximately 50 feet as he was stormed by the undercover team. Suspect had cable cutters, pliers and pry bar in his bag. The suspect was booked for grand theft, possession of stolen property, possession of burglary tools and he had a No Bail Warrant for Parole Violation.

Attempted Robbery

Wednesday morning at 5:00am a woman was walking on California Street near Kearny when she noticed a guy on a bicycle following her for several blocks. The man rode up to her and hit her with an unknown object in the back of the head and demanded all her money. The female told the suspect she did not have any money and she took out her pepper spray. The suspect saw the pepper spray and rode off.

Remember do not leave anything of value or anything in plain view when you park your car. This includes prescription drugs and loose coins. If you can, park under a street light. Don't open the door for anyone you don't know. If P.G. & E calls you over the phone or any company calls you to pay an overdue bill with a prepaid card like green dot cards it's a scam. There is also an IRS scam over the phone insisting that you pay them in prepaid cards. Don't do it!

Let's be careful out there!

Captain Garret Tom

CRIMES OF NOTE:

04/29/2014 3:17PM- Chinatown beat officers was riding his bicycle S/B on Stockton towards Pacific, when he observed an unknown males standing in front of business. The suspect was standing behind a muni bus shelter next to a display of approximately ten fish individually packed in clear plastic bags lined up on top of cardboard boxes. The officer knew based on his training and experience that the suspect was peddling fish that he caught without a license. Upon making contact with the suspect, he fled on foot. Officer lost visual of the suspect after he ran into the crowd. The officer remained at the scene for the suspect to return to retrieve his property. Suspect never returned.

04/30/2014 5:00AM- Victim was walking Northbound on Kearny Street, on her way to work. She noticed an unknown male in the area for several blocks, riding his bike. The victim began to feel nervous. When she got to the Southeast corner of Kearny and California Street the man rode up to her, hit her on the back of the head with an unknown object, and demanded all of her money. Victim told the suspect she did not have any money. She then pulled her pepper spray out, upon seeing this, the suspect fled on his bike. Officers arrived on scene and could not locate the suspect.

04/30/2014 3:14PM- Suspect entered the H&M department store located on the 100 block of Post Street. Suspect then walks to the men's department, selects four pairs of shorts and ripped the electronic security sensors off of them. The suspect then places the items into his bag and attempts to pass open and manned cash registers failing to pay for the items. Loss prevention detained the suspect till officers arrived on scene. Suspect was booked at county jail.

04/30/2014 2:00PM- Victim was returning to her apartment (located on the 1300 block of Grant Street) when she was approached by two suspects near the entrance to her apartment building. The suspects told the victim that she had a leak on her block and they needed to come inside to check the waterline. The victim opened the door for the suspects as they followed her to her apartment. They instructed the victim to check the running water in her kitchen sink while one of the suspect check the bathroom next to the kitchen. During this the second suspect went into the victim's bedroom and pried open her closet. \$20,000 in items were stolen. This case is currently under investigation.

04/30/2014 12:40PM- Victim was thirsty and stopped for a quick drink at Pier 23 restaurant. Victim placed his bike lock on the bike and locked it to a steel post. After ten minutes, he returned and noticed his bike missing. Officers searched the area for possible video surveillance to no avail.

04/30/2014 3:45PM- Victim parked his locked vehicle at 2 Bay Street (public parking lot) approximately 3:00PM. The victim returned at 4:00PM and noticed the window was smashed and several contents missing from the inside of his vehicle. Two good Samaritans spoke to officers and informed them they had witnessed the incident. One of the witness's captured the incident on video and provided very good information to police officers on scene. This case is now under investigation.

04/20/2014 4:30 p.m.

Victim was walking northbound on Columbus Avenue from Jackson Street to Pacific Avenue when suspect that was walking the opposite direction said "hi" to the victim. The victim did not respond and continued walking. The suspect then shouted at the victim for not responding. The suspect then grabbed the victim by the right side of her neck and squeezed her neck. The suspect then threw the victim against a glass door while still holding her neck. The suspect then quickly left southbound on Columbus Avenue. The victim did not require any medical attention. Officers checked the neighboring area and was not able to locate the suspect. The suspect is described to be a white male, 35-45 years old with gray long hair. The suspect was last seen wearing blue shirt (possibly denim) and khaki pants.

04/20/2014 2:26 a.m. - 2:28 a.m.

An employee of a retail store on the 800 block of Sutter arrived to work to open the store and found graffiti on the front windows of the business. The employee checked the surveillance video and observed two white males in their 20's outside of the store. The video showed one of the male graffiti the window while the other stood by as a "look out". The suspects then switched positions and one would graffiti while the other stood by as a "look out". A copy of the video was provided to the officers for investigation.

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:	315-2400 - Officers Fred Crisp, Days Nights Officers Mark Alvarez & John Torrise

