



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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- I. DATE OF PRESS RELEASE: September 13, 2012
- II. ANNOUNCEMENT: Burglaries and Bicycle Thefts
- III. FACTUAL INFORMATION:

On August 13, 2012, the Livermore Police Department issued a Press Release concerning a new trend in bicycle thefts in the city. Since that time, the Livermore Police Department's Special Operations Unit (SOU) has been formed and began aggressively investigating narcotic, gang, burglary, and other serious crimes. As a result of their efforts, the LPD SOU ultimately identified two suspects involved in bicycle theft and conducted a search warrant on a location believed to be a "bicycle chop shop." The investigation continues and no further information will be released at this time as it may endanger the prosecution of the case.

Although we are aggressively pursuing investigative leads, residential burglaries and bicycle thefts are still occurring. The last three burglaries this week (Cases #12-005440, #12-005454 and #12-005485) have all targeted residential garages and two involved the theft of a mountain bicycle. We do not believe this trend in increased theft related crime is unique to Livermore and would like citizens to consider these protective measures in all their travels.

Please use the following tips in order to ensure you are not a victim of theft or burglary:

### Bicycles

- Secure them with a locking system that utilizes the frame of the bike.
- Remove the front wheel when possible.
- Store bicycles indoors when possible.

### Vehicles:

- Secure (lock) your vehicle always!
- Remove laptops, GPS, purses and other valuables from plain view.
- Park your vehicle in a well lit area.
- Use a car alarm.

### Residential:

- Always secure your doors, windows, and GARAGE!
- Use residential lighting and motion detectors to your advantage.
- Remove shrubbery that obscures the view of your doors and windows.
- Residential Alarm systems.
- Neighborhood Watch Program

Another way to help increase neighborhood security is through a neighborhood watch program. The program is established with the assistance of police department personnel and forms a long lasting and beneficial partnership with the department. The neighborhood watch program helps to ensure a sense of community and will help you increase awareness. Contact the Livermore Police Department Crime Prevention Office at (925) 371-4978 if you have further questions about the neighborhood watch program.

The Livermore Police Department would like citizens to remain vigilant of their surroundings. We ask that you contact the police department if you see suspicious persons or activities in your neighborhood (non-emergency (925) 371-4987 / Emergency 911). In the case of a suspicious person /suspicious occurrence, please provide the following:

- Description of suspicious person
  - Sex, Race, Height, Weight, Age, Clothing description
- Where the suspicious person is or where they are going
- License plate number and descriptions of associated vehicles
- Full description of the suspicious or criminal activity

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