



Press Release

The City of Palo Alto
Public Information Office

250 Hamilton Ave
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7/17/2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #07162012

Subject : Summer Months Bring an Increase in Residential Burglaries

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Palo Alto, CA: Since the beginning of June, Palo Alto has seen a significant increase in residential burglaries. At least twenty residential burglaries have been reported over the past six weeks. Although the burglaries have occurred throughout Palo Alto, the majority have taken place in the north end of town. The method of entry continues to be the same as in prior incidents, through unlocked and unsecured rear doors and windows. Palo Alto Police continues to make burglary suppression a top priority and have made a number of significant arrests.

During the overnight hours between Sunday July 15 and Monday July 16, Palo Alto Police located three people who were breaking into vehicles on the 1400 block of Edgewood Drive. The suspects, two juveniles and one adult, were arrested on theft related charges. This investigation is continuing to determine if the trio is linked to any other recent burglaries.

During the early morning hours of Saturday, July 14, a residential burglary occurred on the 1000 block of Tanland Drive. During this incident the suspect entered the residence through an unlocked door and burglarized the residence while the occupants were sleeping. On Monday, July 16, two officers conducting a follow-up investigation on another case realized a possible link between the two incidents. As it turned out, the suspect, Michael Holden, 36, was staying with a friend in the same apartment complex where the burglary occurred before he was arrested at Stanford Hospital for a Santa Barbara County warrant. Officers went to the residence where he was formerly staying and performed a probation search. The search revealed all of the stolen property taken in the overnight burglary. The suspect will face further charges for burglary and possession of stolen property.

As a reminder, residents are encouraged to call 9-1-1 to report suspicious behavior, and allow the police to investigate if that behavior is innocent or criminal. Anyone having information about our current burglary trend can contact our 24-hour dispatch center at 650-329-2413. Anonymous tips can be e-mailed to paloalto@tipnow.org or sent via text message or voice mail to 650-383-8984.

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