Crime Alert  November 7, 2017

Information on Strong Arm Robbery

The University of Missouri Police Department received a media release from the Columbia Police Department that referenced a strong arm robbery in the 200 block of Hitt Street early this morning. The media release from the Columbia Police Department is below:

Columbia Missouri Police Department

600 East Walnut Street · Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 874-7652 · www.CoMo.gov/Police

MEDIA RELEASE – 11/7/17

STRONG ARM ROBBERY IN THE 200 BLOCK OF HITT STREET

A male victim, 30, was transported to a local hospital for evaluation after a strong arm robbery early this morning in downtown Columbia.

Columbia Police officers were dispatched to the 200 block of Hitt Street at 3:17 a.m. today in reference to a verbal disturbance. The complainant reported hearing someone screaming in the area.

Upon officers’ arrival, they made contact with the male victim. The preliminary investigation revealed the victim was in an alley in the area when he was struck multiple times by a suspect. The suspect then retrieved property belonging to the victim before fleeing the area. The victim was transported by Emergency Medical Services to a local hospital for evaluation. The suspect is described as a black male who was last seen wearing dark colored clothing. The investigation is ongoing.

If you have any information regarding this robbery, please contact the Columbia Police Department at (573) 874-7652, or call CrimeStoppers at (573) 875-TIPS (8477) to remain anonymous.
While this robbery did not occur on campus, this information is provided to the community for awareness and personal safety. MUPD encourages all victims of crime to report incidents so they may receive assistance, counseling, and help with the incident in addition to apprehending the suspect and providing accurate crime statistics to the community. MUPD offers the following robbery prevention and safety tips while on campus.

- DON’T BE A HERO! Your life is worth more than your money or possessions.
- Stay calm. Do not make any sudden movements to upset the robber.
- Follow the robber’s directions, but do not volunteer to do or give more.
- Do not make quick movements or argue with the robber.
- Walk with others or make arrangements to leave your destination with others.
- Check in with a friend or family member and let them know that you are leaving/arriving so they are aware of your plans.
- Walk to your vehicle with your keys in hand. If you use a remote, unlock the driver’s side door (generally pushing unlock only once on your remote). While approaching your vehicle, keep in mind any vehicle alarms that can be activated by remote.
- Walk with the flow of traffic when walking to your vehicle in the garage. This allows you to see between vehicles as you approach, providing less opportunity for others to remain hidden.
- Check the interior of your vehicle before getting in by glancing in the windows.
- Know the location of the nearest exit and emergency phone. Emergency phones are located at the stairwells of each garage level.
- If you carry mace or other personal protection devices -- make sure that you know how to use them, how they work, and are ready to use them quickly under stress. Make sure they are easily available and not buried in your purse or pocket.
- If you see someone acting suspiciously, report that information to the MU Police Department. You can contact police through an emergency phone, 911, or 573-882-7201.
- Consider taking a R.A.D. Basic Self Defense class through MUPD.
- Other crime prevention tips can be found on the MUPD website.

Crime Alert 2017-003

(In accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998. To learn more about Jeanne Clery, please visit: http://clerycenter.org/)

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