

# Towson University Police Department

## Recent On-Campus Thefts and Burglaries

### Smith Hall

Towson University Police have recently identified numerous thefts of both university and privately-owned laptop computers from Smith Hall. We would like to remind the campus community to keep valuable property secure at all times and never leave valuables unattended. Property should be secured in a locked cabinet or closet when unattended even for the briefest of periods. Laptop computers left unattended in classrooms top the list of multi-media equipment stolen on campus. Never leave your items unattended – even if it is just for a second. Remember to keep your property close, in sight, and engraved.

Report suspicious activity immediately to the University Police by calling 410-704-2133. For a complete list of campus crimes, updates to the cases listed above and crime reduction information, please visit the University Police Web site at [www.towson.edu/police](http://www.towson.edu/police).

### Crime Prevention Tip: Operation ID

Operation ID is a crime prevention program that enables members of the campus community to engrave valuables so that they are protected in the event of a theft. When engraving, remember the following:

- Your valuables should be engraved with a unique identifying number, such as your driver's license number.
- The items should be photographed for identifying purposes.
- The items should be documented on a checklist so that if stolen and recovered you will have the necessary identifying information, such as serial numbers.

For more information about Operation ID or to borrow an engraver contact the Community Crime Reduction Office at (410) 704-3403.

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## Recent On-Campus Thefts

### Center for the Arts

Towson University Police have identified numerous thefts of wallets and personal media equipment from the Center for the Arts. We would like to remind the campus community to secure all valuable property before leaving it unattended, to be aware of those around you, to report any persons acting in a suspicious or unusual manner to the police, and to be mindful that most thefts involve unattended property, even when left alone for a matter of seconds or when you are nearby. Property such as digital cameras, iPods, cell phones and wallets are of particular interest to criminals because of their small size, which enables them to be easily concealed. Wallets in particular are sought because of money and credit card content. Remember to keep your property close, in sight, and engraved.

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### Crime Prevention Tips: Wallet Theft Prevention

- Make sure to photo copy the entire contents of your wallet. Copy both sides of your license, credit card, etc. so that you know exactly what is in your wallet, including account information and cancellation numbers, to report it if it is stolen. Keep the photocopies in a safe place.
- If you do not want to photocopy the contents of your wallet, make sure to keep an updated list of account information and banking toll free numbers so you will know whom to call immediately if your credit/debit cards are stolen or lost.
- Carry a photocopy of your passport (in a different place than where you keep your original passport) when traveling either here or abroad.

For more information on Crime Prevention information contact 410-704-2134.