

Gilcrease Division

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NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL'S *Tips for Safe Holiday Shopping*

The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) reminds last-minute holiday shoppers to keep safety in mind as they hunt for gifts.

Arlington, VA –The National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) reminds holiday shoppers to keep safety in mind as they hunt for holiday bargains.

Shopping in Stores -

- Do not buy more than you can carry. Plan ahead by taking a friend with you or ask a store employee to help you carry your packages to the car.
- Save all receipts. Print and save all confirmations from your online purchases. Start a file folder to keep all receipts together and to help you verify credit card or bank statements as they come in.
- Consider alternate options to pay for your merchandise, such as onetime or multi-use disposable credit cards or money orders, at online stores and auction sites.
- Wait until asked before taking out your credit card or checkbook. An enterprising thief would love to shoulder surf to get your account information.
- Tell a security guard or store employee if you see an unattended bag or package. The same applies if you are using mass transit.

Walking to and From Your Car -

- Deter pickpockets. Carry your purse close to your body or your wallet inside a coat or front trouser pocket.

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL'S Tips for *Safe Holiday Shopping*

- Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle. Check the back seat and around the car before getting in.
- Do not leave packages visible in your car windows. Lock them in the trunk or, if possible, take them directly home.

Shopping with Small Children -

- If you are shopping with children, make a plan in case you are separated from each other.
- Select a central meeting place.
- Teach them to recognize and ask mall personnel or store security employees for help if they need it.

Shopping Online -

- Before surfing the Internet, secure your personal computers by updating your security software. Everyone's computer should have anti-virus, anti-spyware, and anti-spam software, as well as a good firewall installed. Visit www.bytecrime.org for free software downloads.
- Keep your personal information private and your password secure. Do not respond to requests to "verify" your password or credit card information unless you initiated the contact. Legitimate businesses will not contact you in this manner.
- Beware of "bargains" from companies with whom you are unfamiliar—if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

- Use secure websites for purchases. Look for the icon of a locked padlock at the bottom of the screen or "https" in the URL address.
- Shop with companies you know and trust. Check for background information if you plan to buy from a new or unfamiliar company.

To find more useful shopping tips and personal safety information, visit the National Crime Prevention Council's [website](#).



About the National Crime Prevention Council - The National Crime Prevention Council is the nonprofit leader in crime prevention. For 30 years, our symbol of safety, McGruff the Crime Dog®, has delivered easy-to-use crime prevention tips that protect what matters most—you, your family, and your community. Law enforcement agencies nationwide rely on our expertise to make an impact on personal safety and crime every day. For more information on how NCP can be a public safety expert for you or how to "Take A Bite Out of Crime®," visit www.ncpc.org.

CRIME PREVENTION FOR THE HOME

Many people travel during the holiday season to visit friends and relatives. Criminals are aware of this fact and look for houses that are empty during this time of year, so here are a few things you can do to protect your home.

Make Your House Look Occupied

The best way to keep a burglar away from your home while you are gone is to make it appear that you never left. Start by temporarily stopping the delivery of the daily mail and newspaper. When papers are allowed to pile up on the front porch or mail boxes start to overflow, criminals are alerted that people have gone out of town. Put timers on lights inside the house so they turn on every night. The same can be done for television sets will help give the appearance that people are at home. Once you have things in place to make the house look occupied, remember to do one final thing: turn off the ringer for your phone. All the work you have done to create the illusion that you are home can be shattered by a ringing phone that is never answered.

Ask a friend or relative to stop by your home periodically if you will be gone for several days. This allows them to keep an eye on the place, and will show any criminals who might be watching that someone is going inside on a regular basis. If no one is able to do this for you, try to leave a parked car in the driveway while you are away to make it seem like someone is at home.



Safety When You Are Home

Just because you don't leave home for the holidays doesn't mean your house is automatically safe. A very common holiday mistake is to make it obvious that you have expensive items still in their boxes within your living room. Of course most people would assume that every home has a variety of gifts inside during the holidays, but if a criminal can actually see them they will be far more tempted to break in. Never place wrapped gifts where they can be seen through a window. Doing so lets a criminal know exactly where everything is, and they may be inclined to break that window, grab what they can and run off.

A second part of keeping your holiday treasures hidden is to avoid putting large empty boxes in front of the house. Even if you store the gifts away from windows, the box itself will tell a burglar that you have something they may want in your home. Keep the boxes hidden until the holidays are over, and then recycle the packaging. By that point, criminals are not as active about looking for goods they may want to steal.

Don't let your holiday season be ruined by a law breaker. Make sure a criminal can never tell that you have expensive items inside, or that you have left town for a few days. Keep safe and enjoy the holiday season.

FROM THE CRIME ANALYST'S DESK...

FOR THE WEEKS OF 11/21 -12/05

AUTO THEFTS

Thirty one vehicles were reported stolen, and GM products, followed by Ford, were the most popular brand taken. Reported stolen was: fifteen cars, ten trucks, five SUVs, one service/utility van. It was an almost even split between stolen vehicles that were made before, and after, the year 2000.

BURGLARIES

The most popular days for burglaries was almost an even split between Tuesday, Monday, and Friday, while burglaries occurring over the weekend only accounted for 14% of the 114 reported. 68% of burglaries occurred between the hours of 6 am and 6 pm. 88.5% of the burglaries reported were of residences. The most common method of gaining entry remains using force on (otherwise known as "kicking") the front door. 42" flat screen TVs continue to be THE NO. 1 item taken.

LARCENIES

There were fifty-five total larcenies reported. 34.5%, or nineteen, of all larcenies reported were from vehicles, otherwise known as burglary from vehicle. 13%, or seven, were larcenies from retailers, otherwise known as shoplifting. The most popular day to commit a larceny during this reporting period was again almost an even split between Monday and Tuesday .

ROBBERIES

There were six total robberies reported. Five of the six robberies were committed between 4 pm and midnight. Tuesday and Friday were the most popular days. Unfortunately there were no common patterns or descriptions among the suspects to aid in identification.

Upcoming Downtown Events

BOK Arena

Winterfest/ Nov 25-Jan 1
Oilers vs. Bloomington/ Dec 2
The Story/ Dec 3
Oilers vs. Allen/ Dec 9
Winterfest Holiday Market/ Dec 10
Oilers vs. Texas/ Dec 13
Trans-Siberian Orchestra/ Dec 16
Oilers vs. Wichita/ Dec 25
Oilers vs. Allen/ Dec 27

Brady Theater

Chicago/Dec 9

Cain's Ballroom

16th Annual Red Dirt Christmas with Red
Dirt Rangers, Mike McClure Band
and No Justice/Dec 17th
Rev Theory/Dec 18
Rock For The Homeless featuring Stars Go
Dim, Chase Stites and Radio Radio/Dec 19th
Eli Young Band/Dec 31

Performing Arts Center (PAC)

The Eight: Reindeer Monologues/Dec 8-11,
15-18
A Christmas Carol/Dec. 8-11, 14-18, 20-23

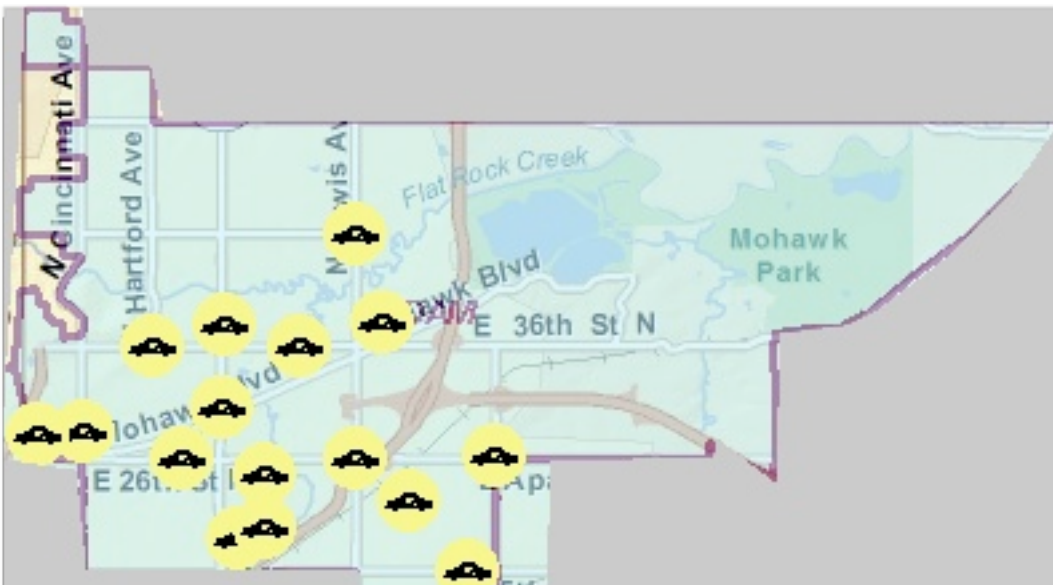
Tulsa Convention Center

Seussical by Tulsa Project Theatre
Tulsa Convention Center Assembly Hall/
December 9-11, 15-18, 22-23
Tulsa Ballet "The Nutcracker" /Dec 10-11,
16-18, 22-23

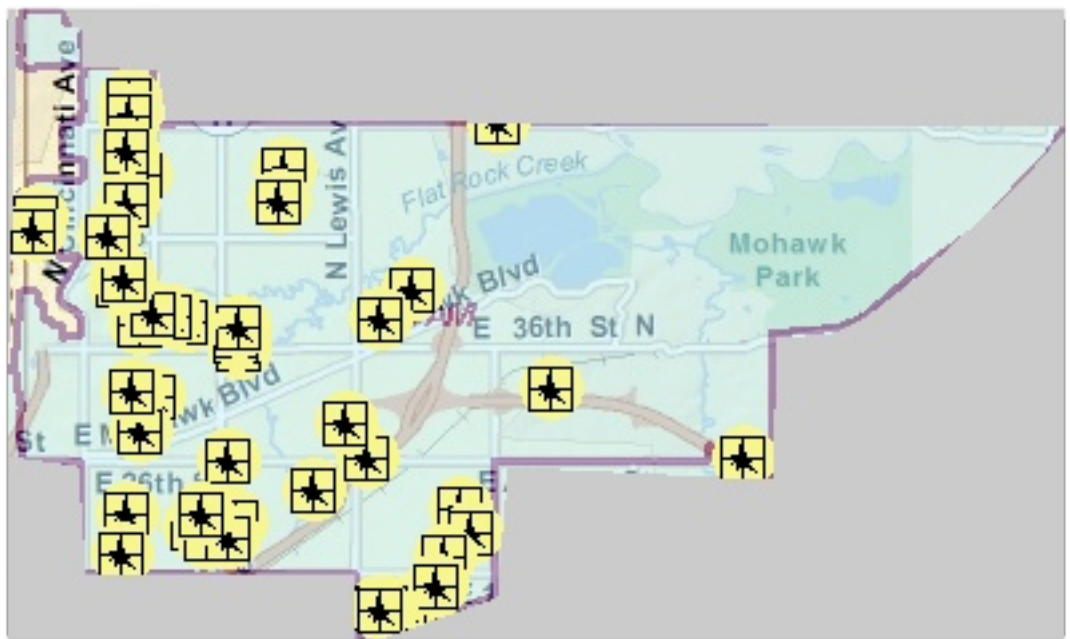
Special Events

Tulsa Parade of Lights/Dec 11

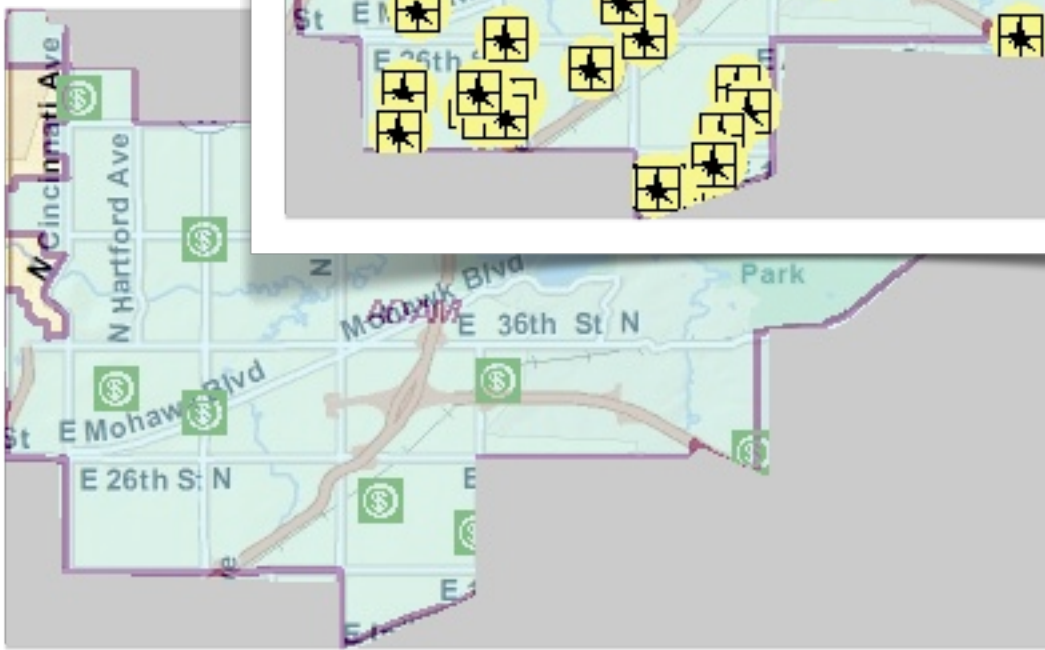
Adam Squad – Crimes Trending Now



Auto Thefts



Burglaries



Larcenies

Baker Squad – Crimes Trending Now

Auto Thefts



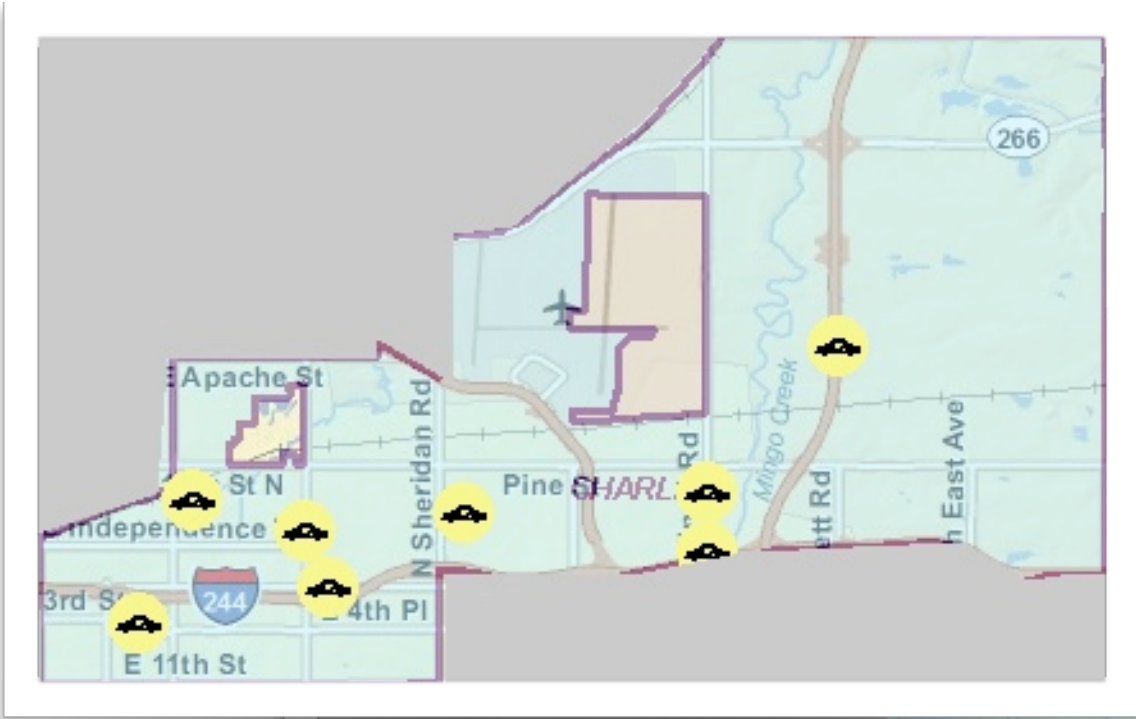
Burglaries



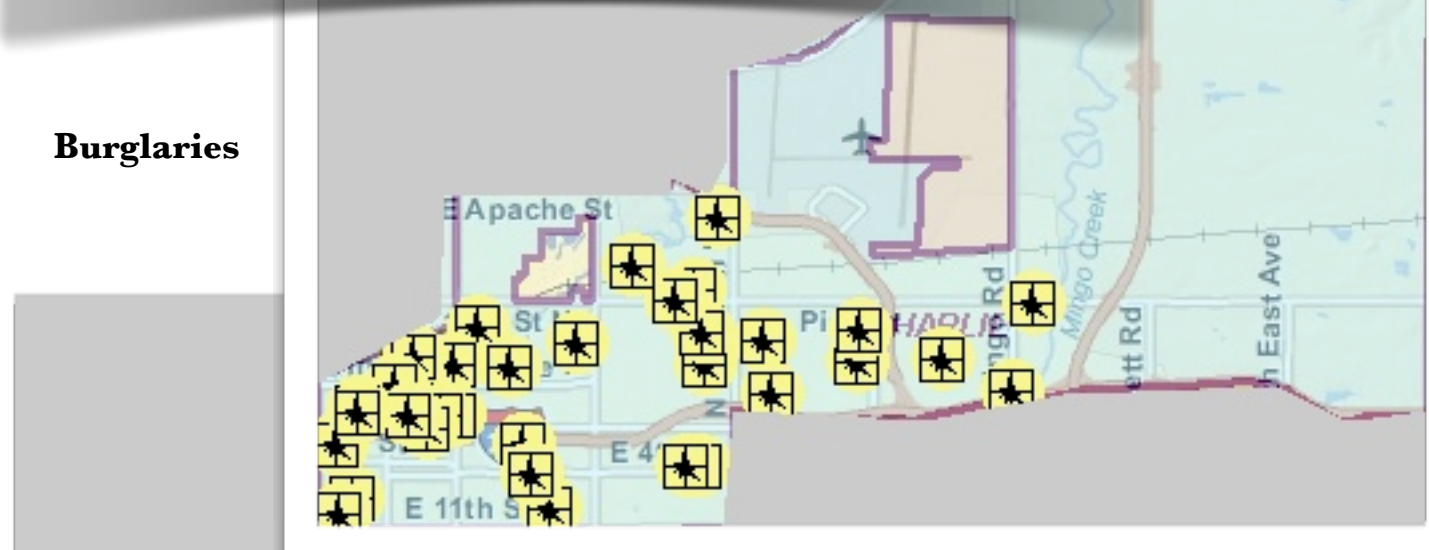
Larcenies



Charlie Squad – Crimes Trending Now



Auto Thefts



Burglaries



Larcenies