



City of Lafayette Police Department

# Crime Bulletin

October 2015



## Residential Burglary

The City of Lafayette Police Department is providing information about a crime that recently occurred within the City. The purpose of this bulletin is to inform residents about the incident and to obtain additional information to aid the police department in our investigation.

### DR # 15-16230

On Friday, 10/2/15, Lafayette Officers were dispatched to the report of a residential burglary in the 3200 Block of Judy Lane in the City of Lafayette. The resident of the home had returned and found the sliding glass door to their living room open. The door had been closed and locked prior to their departure from the home. Officers cleared the interior of the home, finding that entry had been made to the home and the lower floors of the home had been searched by unknown suspect(s).

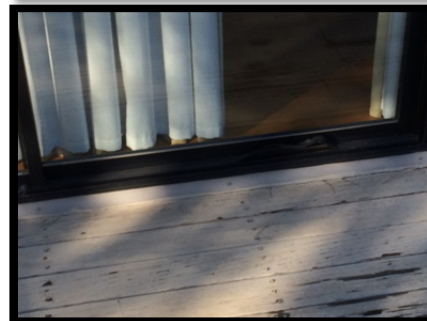
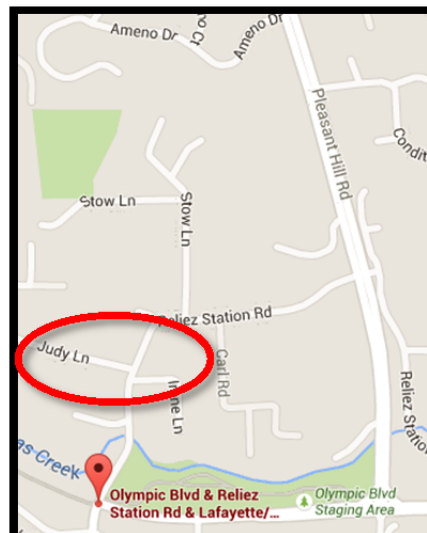
The resident reported they left the home at 7:45 a.m. in the morning. When they left, all of the windows and doors to the home were closed and locked. The home alarm was not set. When the resident returned at 4:30 p.m., they found the sliding glass door to the home open. The scene was processed by our CSI personnel. During their examination, they found the suspects had tried to push open sliding windows on the lower floor of the home. Screens from exterior windows had been removed by the suspect(s). When they were unable to locate an unlocked window, they forced entry through the sliding glass door. The lower track of the sliding glass door was damaged, indicating the suspect(s) had used a tool to lift the sliding glass door out of its track and lock.

The suspect(s) searched various containers and cabinets in the lower floors of the home, removing several items of property. The upper floors of the home were not searched, indicating the suspect(s) may have been interrupted and fled prior to searching the entire home. The suspect(s) removed electronics and other valuables from the home.

CSI personnel were able to collect several items of physical evidence from the scene and all will be reviewed and submitted to the crime lab for examination.

Officers were able to contact a landscaper who had been at the home during the day. The landscapers reported the home appeared to be secure when they left at 12:30 p.m. Therefore, it's likely this crime occurred between 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

There are similarities between this burglary and the recent burglary that occurred on Leroy Lane last Friday (9/25/15) (DR # 15-15842). The crimes occurred on the same day of the week, the time periods of the crimes overlap (late afternoon, between noon and 4 p.m.) and the means of entry are similar. The window frame surrounding the glass in the Leroy burglary appeared to have been damaged, as if the burglar was attempting to pull the glass out - allowing them to reach their hand inside and unlock the door. It's likely the single pane glass shattered while being pulled out. In this burglary, the suspect used a tool to lift the sliding glass door off of the track and latching system. These are similar methods of attack - one that is fairly uncommon today.



**Our investigators are asking local residents that live in the area of Olympic Boulevard and Reliez Station Road to review their security systems to see if they can identify any suspicious vehicles that may have been in the area at the time of the crime. Residents are also asked to report suspicious vehicles and**

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persons that may have been seen in the area during the time of the crime. Anyone with information is asked to contact the police dispatch center at (925) 284-5010 or through our tip line at 94549tip@gmail.com. Any information about this case would be greatly appreciated.

**Investigation.** We have only received a few tips from the Leroy Lane Burglary. We are still asking residents in that area to review surveillance systems that may have captured the suspect(s) or their vehicle. We have collected evidence from both crime scenes which will be analyzed by our criminalists. We are now asking residents in the Judy Lane area to check their camera systems to see if they can identify any suspicious vehicles that were in the area at the time of today's crime. Investigators believe both crimes may have been committed by the same suspect(s).

**Prevention.** Both of these crimes involved homes where alarms were installed, but not used. An alarm provides an excellent tool in many ways. It alerts the intruder that law enforcement is likely on the way - limiting the amount of time the intruder can spend in the home. Most importantly for investigators, it provides a specific time frame when the crime occurred. Having a specific date and time of the crime significantly increases the probability that we will be able to solve the crime, arrest the offender, and retrieve items of stolen property. In this case, the suspect used a tool to lift the sliding glass door off of its track and latching device. This is a practice that most burglars do not use today, but is a good reminder for residents with older windows and doors. Older windows and doors can be lifted in their channels, allowing the burglar to remove the window - just like the person who originally installed the door or window. By simply installing a sheet rock screw in the upper channel, the screw prevents the window or door from being lifted and moved. When you want to remove the door, you just need to remove the screw as part of the removal process. Putting a rod or a pole in the channel when the door or window is closed may also prevent this means of entry. Newer windows and doors have these anti-burglary devices installed by the manufacturer. Very old wooden doors with windows should have an additional piece of wood installed around the window - preventing a criminal from simply removing the molding to remove the glass from the window. Laptop computers seem to be becoming a prime target for our burglars. The serial number from the laptop is important to us in locating and recovering your property. Take a photo of your laptop serial number and send it to your email account. In time of need, you can access your email and retrieve the serial number for officers. Of your device includes tracking software (such as find my iPhone), activate it so we can use it to find your property.

**Security Survey.** If you are interested in having a security survey done of your home, we have personnel who are trained and ready to help. Simple improvements such as a lock on a side gate, a screw in the channel of an aluminum framed window and door, and window slide locks can make a big difference. We want to help you keep your valuables and home secure. Please contact us at the office at (925) 283-3680 or through our tip line at 94549tip@gmail.com to schedule a visit. Takes about 30 minutes and it's **FREE**.



**E-Mail Alerts.** If you are a resident of the City of Lafayette and are not currently receiving our email alerts, please contact Chief Christensen at [echri@so.cccounty.us](mailto:echri@so.cccounty.us). Provide your name, street address and an email address. We want to make sure that all of our residents are aware of significant incidents and crime trends within our community.

**Nixle Alerts.** Residents who have not yet subscribed are urged to subscribe to our alerting system that we perform through the Nixle Alerting System. For significant incidents and disasters within the community, this is the primary system that will be used to provide our residents with information about incidents such as this one. You can subscribe to Nixle Alerts by visiting the Nixle Website ([www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)) - a free service for our residents.

Emergency	911
Dispatch (Non-Emergency)	(925) 284-5010
Police Department Office	(925) 283-3680
Tip Line	<b>94549Tip@gmail.com</b>
Email	
SGT Shiells (Investigations)	HShie@so.cccounty.us
Det Dennison (Investigations)	JDenn@so.cccounty.us
Det Ones (Investigations)	VOnes@so.cccounty.us



**PLEASE** call us if you see suspicious individuals or vehicles in your business or neighborhood.