



Fresno County Sheriff's Department
Richard Pierce, Sheriff
News Release

March 3, 2004

Sgt. Arley Terrance
(559) 292-1104

CRIME ALERT
'HOT PROWL' BURGLAR

Sheriff Richard Pierce today announced a Crime Alert for citizens of Fresno County regarding a 'Hot Prowl' burglary pattern. A 'Hot Prowl' is a burglary in which a suspect enters a home to commit crimes during the nighttime hours while residents are inside asleep.

Within the last four weeks ten hot prowl burglaries have been reported to the Fresno County Sheriff's Department. The suspect is entering occupied houses between the hours of midnight and 4:00 am, while the occupants are inside the house sleeping. In several of the cases small children and elderly persons have been present while the suspect was inside of their residence. The suspect has entered the houses through unlocked windows, unlocked doors, and unlocked sliding glass doors. In several of the cases the suspect has found the victim's keys inside the residence and then stolen their vehicle. During these burglaries two firearms have been stolen.

The burglaries have taken place west of Fresno towards Kerman and east of Clovis. Detectives investigating the break-ins believe the cases are related even though the areas are several miles apart.

Residents are encouraged to lock all of their doors and windows at night and to report any suspicious subjects or circumstances to the Sheriff's Department at 488-3111. This type of crime is of special concern due to the danger posed to residents if there is a confrontation with the suspect. Please contact Sgt. Arley Terrance at the Area 2 substation at 292-1104 with any information.