



Oak Bay Police Department

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News Release

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N/A

For Immediate Release:

Weekly News Briefs
Dec 19, 2011 – Dec 25, 2011-12-25

On December 20, 2011 at approx. 1:30pm Oak Bay Police responded to an alarm to a residence in the 2800 block of Beach Drive and discovered a break an enter had occurred. A large rock had been thrown through a rear glass window allowing for entry into the residence. Stolen was a black coloured 40" flat screen Hitachi television. Police set up perimeters around the area and utilized the Saanich Police Service dog and Forensic Identification Section. It appears the responsible party departed via a motor vehicle. Police are continuing their investigation.

During this week a number of thefts from vehicles occurred in various districts throughout Oak Bay. This is a problem that occurs throughout the year and most often it is the unlocked vehicle and/or vehicles with valuable articles left inside, that are targeted. Police remind the public to please lock their vehicles and leave nothing inside.

On December 23rd starting at 9:25am police responded to Cedar Hill Cross Road where 3 separate motor vehicle accidents occurred within 15 minutes. The Temperature that morning was near zero and the road surface of Cedar Hill Cross Road was quite icy. The first accident was a single vehicle accident occurring on Cedar Hill Cross Road at the intersection with Crestview Rd. An east bound Dodge Caravan was unable to negotiate the curve just west of Crestview Rd and slid into the curb on the north side of Cedar Hill Cross Rd. The impact with the curb caused the Caravan to flip onto its side and then right itself again. The 45 yr old Saanich man suffered minor injuries and was transported to hospital for precautionary reasons. Damage is estimated around \$15,000.00.

The second accident occurred at the intersection of Cedar Hill Cross Rd and Cadboro Bay Rd when a northbound Handi-Dart bus, being operated by a 55 yr old Saanich man, attempted to turn left onto Cedar Hill Cross Rd. The icy surface delayed the length of time to make the turn and the bus drove into the side of a southbound Toyota 4 Runner being operated by a 30 yr old Powell River man. There were no injuries.

The third accident occurred in the 2300 block of Cedar Hill Cross Road. A 68 yr old Saanich man was operating his 1979 Ford pick-up eastbound on Cedar Hill Cross Road and was following another eastbound vehicle. The driver of the 79 Ford pick-up decided to pass the vehicle ahead of him and changed lanes into the oncoming lane of traffic. Upon accelerating on the icy surface, the driver lost control and skidded into a parked and unoccupied 2009 Dodge pick-up. There were no injuries but both vehicles suffered extensive damage, totalling well over \$30,000.00. The driver of the 79 Ford was charged for driving too fast for road conditions.

Police wish to remind motorists that as temperatures approach the freezing mark, roads may become very icy and this condition is not always visible to the eye. Extra precaution must be taken and leaving a few minutes earlier for your destination and travelling at a slow speed, may save you more than you realize.

Oak Bay Police have been conducting Counter Attack road checks throughout the weeks leading up to the holiday season and will continue well through New Years. If you plan on attending a function where alcohol will be consumed, please do not drive. Arrange in advance for a designated driver or plan your departure around the use of public transport. The safety of yourself and of others is paramount and the criminal and civil ramifications of an alcohol related accident are severe.

The Oak Bay Police would like to extend our wishes for a very safe and healthy New Year.

Sgt. Ray Maxwell