

# Gilcrease Division

## Newsletter, Vol. 7



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## Back to School: Safety tips for motorists from the National Safety Council

### *Sharing the road safely with school buses*

School buses are one of the safest forms of transportation on the road today. In fact, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, riding a bus to school is 13 times safer than riding in a passenger vehicle and 10 times safer than walking to school. The reality of school bus safety is that more children are hurt outside the bus than inside as passengers. Most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related crashes are pedestrians, four to seven years old, who are hit by the bus or by motorists illegally passing a stopped school bus. For this reason, it is necessary to know the proper laws and procedures for sharing the road safely with school buses:

- All 50 states have a law making it illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.
- School buses use yellow flashing lights to alert motorists that they are preparing to stop to load or unload children. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign arm signals to motorists that the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off the bus.
- All 50 states require that traffic in both directions stop on undivided roadways when students are entering or exiting a school bus.
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is where children are in the most danger of being hit. Stop your car far enough from the bus to allow children the necessary space to safely enter and exit the bus.
- Be alert. Children are unpredictable. Children walking to or from their bus are usually very comfortable with their surroundings. This makes them more likely to take risks, ignore hazards or fail to look both ways when crossing the street.
- Never pass a school bus on the right. It is illegal and could have tragic consequences.
- While state laws vary on what is required on a divided roadway, in all cases, traffic behind the school bus (traveling in the same direction) must stop.

*Continued on p. 2*

## Back to School: Continued

### **Sharing the road safely with child pedestrians**

All drivers need to recognize the special safety needs of pedestrians, especially those that are children. Young, elderly, disabled and intoxicated pedestrians are the most frequent victims in auto-pedestrian collisions. Generally, pedestrians have the right-of-way at all intersections; however, regardless of the rules of the road or right-of-way, you as a driver are obligated to exercise great care and extreme caution to avoid striking pedestrians.

☒ Drivers should not block the crosswalk when stopped at a red light or waiting to make a turn. Do not stop with a portion of your vehicle over the crosswalk. Blocking the crosswalk forces pedestrians to go around your vehicle and puts them in a dangerous situation.

☒ In a school zone when a warning flasher or flashers are blinking, you must stop to yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a marked crosswalk or at an intersection with no marked crosswalk.

☒ Always stop when directed to do so by a school patrol sign, school patrol officer or designated crossing guard.

☒ Children are the least predictable pedestrians and the most difficult to see. Take extra care to look out for children not only in school zones, but also in residential areas, playgrounds and parks.

☒ Don't honk your horn, rev your engine or do anything to rush or scare a pedestrian in front of your car, even if you have the legal right-of-way.



### **Sharing the road safely with child bicyclists**

On most roadways, bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as other roadway users and often share the same lane, but bicycles can be hard to see. The riders are exposed and easily injured in a collision. Oncoming bicycle traffic is often overlooked and its speed misjudged. Children riding bicycles create special problems for drivers because they are not capable of proper judgment in determining traffic conditions.

☒ When passing a bicyclist proceeding in the same direction, do so slowly and leave at least a distance between you and the bicycle of no less than 3 feet. Maintain this clearance until you have safely passed the bicycle.

☒ The most common causes of collisions are drivers turning left in front of an oncoming bicycle or turning right, across the path of the bicycle.

☒ When your vehicle is turning left and there is a bicyclist entering the intersection from the opposite direction, you should wait for the bicyclist to pass before making the turn.

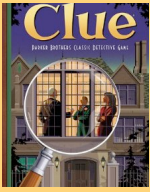
☒ If your vehicle is turning right and a bicyclist is approaching on the right, let the bicyclist go through the intersection first before making a right turn. Remember to always use your turn signals.

☒ Watch for bicycle riders turning in front of you without looking or signaling, especially if the rider is a child.

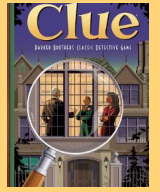
☒ Take extra precautions in school zones and neighborhood areas where children and teenagers might be riding.

☒ Watch out for bikes coming out of driveways or from behind parked cars or other obstructions.

☒ Check side mirrors for bicyclists before opening the door. Some communities may fine drivers for collisions caused by opening a vehicle door in the path of a bicyclist.



# CRIMESTOPPERS CLUE CLUB



On August 24, 2011 at 12:38 p.m., the subject pictured below entered a check cashing facility at 4100 S. Garnet Road and attempted to rob the business. Approximately 30 minutes later he entered a second check cashing facility at 7100 S. Memorial, pulled out a gun and robbed the store. If anyone has information related to this robbery please contact Crime Stoppers at 918.596.COPS.



## FROM THE CRIME ANALYST'S DESK...

**REPORTING DATES: 08/08/2011 - 08/21/2011**

### **ROBBERIES**

There were 7 total robberies for this time period. Two were done in broad daylight and the remaining were done between the hours of 8 pm and 3:30 am. Of the seven, six of the robberies were of an individual and only one was of a business. There was no common descriptions in the suspect information given.

### **BURGLARIES**

Although Monday was the most popular day, Monday through Wednesday was the busiest for burglars. 83% of all burglaries in the GID area were committed between 7 am and 5 pm. The most frequent method of entry was kicking or prying a door and 42-inch or larger flat screen television and gaming systems are still the most stolen item.

### **AUTO THEFTS**

Tuesday was the most popular day for stolen vehicles with Friday following a close second. The time of day for a vehicle to be stolen was split 50/50 between night and day. Pickups were the most popular type of vehicle stolen, and GM was the most popular brand. 14 of the 16 trucks that were reported stole were GMs. 3 Chrysler mini vans were stolen and of the passenger vehicles reported stolen, 5 of the 10 were older model GM products.

### **LARCENIES**

There were 66 total larcenies. 42% of all the larcenies were larcenies from a vehicle and Saturday was the most popular day for stealing from vehicles. Only 2% of all larcenies were from a retailer (shoplifting).

## *Upcoming Downtown Events*

### BOK Arena

Tulsa Shock vs. vs. Connecticut - Aug 28

Tulsa Shock vs. Phoenix - Aug 30-Sep 2

Santana - Sep 7

Alan Jackson - Sep 15

Katy Perry - Sep 17

Def Leppard with Heart - Sep 20

Taylor Swift - Sep 21

### Brady Theater

Pretty Lights - Oct 28

### Cain's Ballroom

Big Gigantic - Aug 25

Cold War Kids - Sep 13

Fleet Foxes w/ the Walkmen - Sep 17

TV on the Radio - Sep 18

### ONEOK

### Performing Arts Center (PAC)

Alice in Wonderland - Aug 19-28

### Special Events

### Tulsa Convention Center

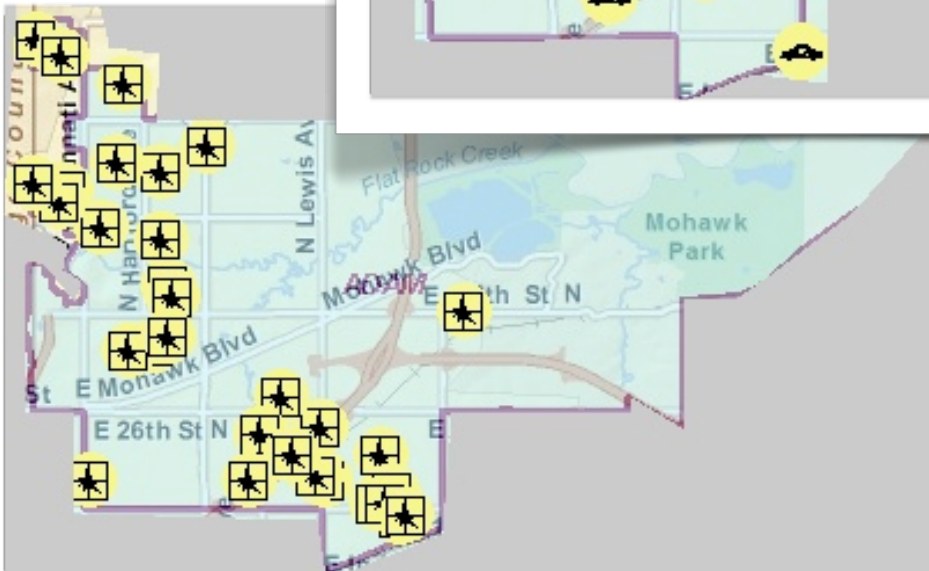
Sinbad - Sep 10

Straight No Chaser - Oct 16



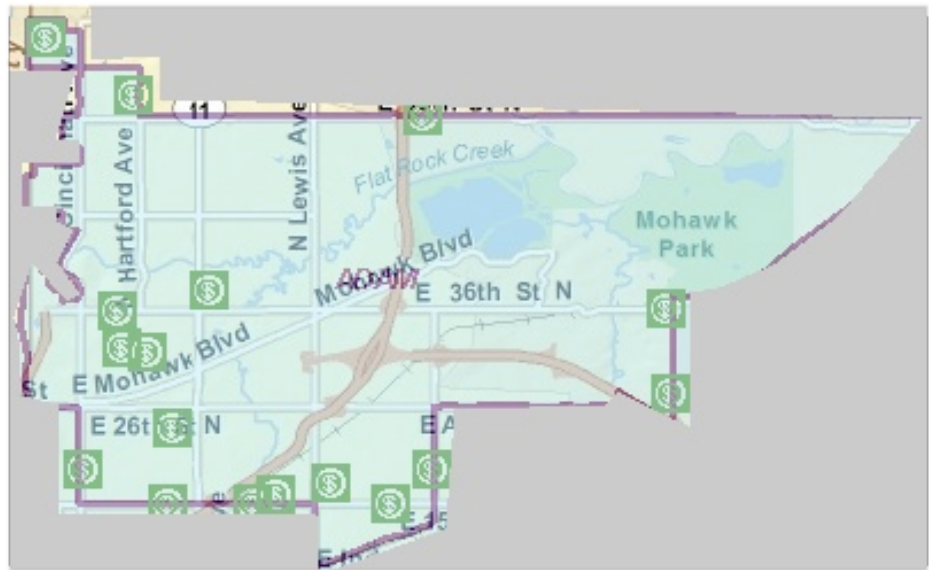
# Adam Squad – Crimes Trending Now

**Auto Thefts**



**Burglaries**

**Larcenies**

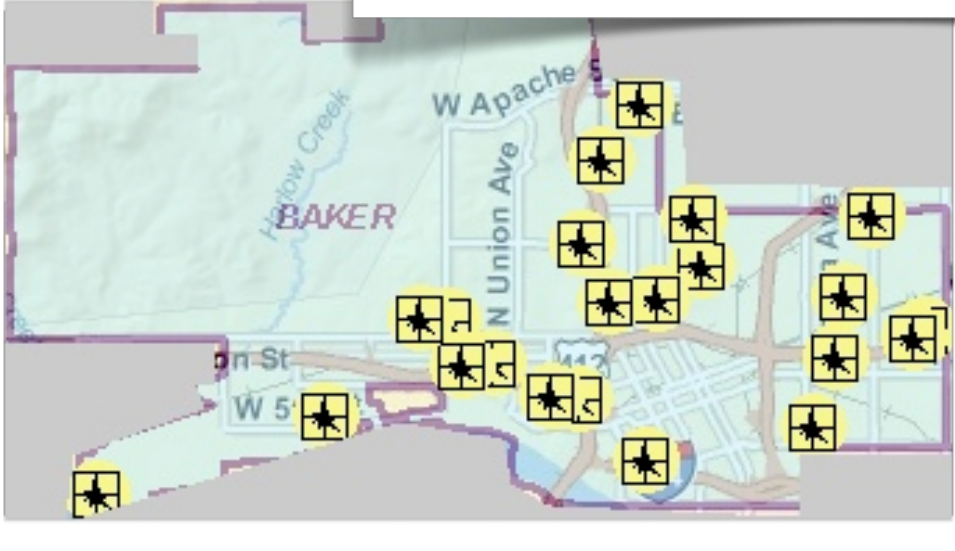


# Baker Squad – Crimes Trending Now

**Auto Thefts**



**Burglaries**



**Larcenies**



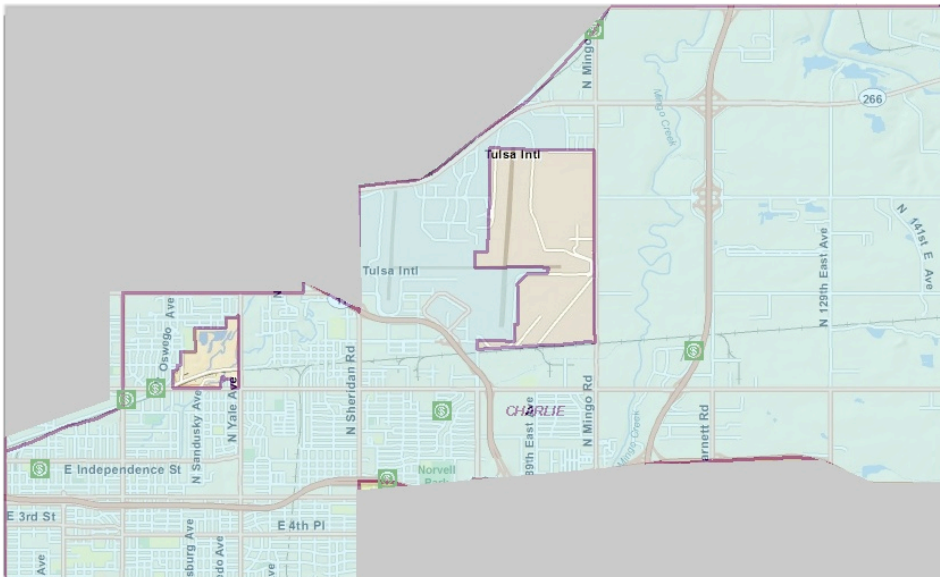
# Charlie Squad – Crimes Trending Now



**Auto Thefts**



**Burglaries**



**Larcenies**