

APRIL 2020

REACTION AND CRIME

NEWS



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Dear Valued client

Welcome to the reaction and crime news April edition. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, President Mnangagwa granted amnesty to 5000 prisoners when he declared the national lockdown in a bid to decongest the prisons. This unfortunately, coupled with the continued economic decline and the demolition of the informal sector; the main source of employment for the majority of Zimbabweans is likely to result in an upsurge in the crime rate with people getting desperate and resorting to crime to make ends meet.

The COVID-19 situation is evolving rapidly. Guard-Alert's response to this outbreak prioritizes fulfilling our role in society by continuing to provide 24/7/365 support to our clients and protecting the well-being of our employees nationwide ensuring safety and security during this challenging time.





REACTION NEWS

HARARE

On the **17th of April 2020 at 01.15pm**, our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a commercial property in Willowvale. The Reaction Team was dispatched and on arrival, they were advised by the manager that they had discovered that a battery was missing from a haulage truck the previous day. No alarm signal was received at our control centre on the day the incident was reported to have taken place. The Police were informed and they attended.

On **21/04/2020 at 11.12am** our Norton office received information of a break-in at a commercial property in Norton Town Centre. The Reaction Crew was dispatched and upon arrival, they discovered that intruders had broken one of the two padlocks used to secure the shop. No alarm signal was received by our control centre on the night of incident. The client was contacted and attended and confirmed that intruders did not manage to gain access into the shop. Nothing was stolen.

On **28/04/2020 at 02.54am**, our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a domestic property in Greendale. The Reaction Team was dispatched and upon arrival, they were advised that intruders entered the premises and cut the burglar bars before entering the house and stealing an electric drilling machine, a television set and a laptop. The alarm was not armed. The client was woken up by the sound of dogs barking and decided to investigate. He then raised alarm by setting off the siren. Intruders fled when the alarm sounded. The matter was handed over to the police.

BULAWAYO

On the **12th of April 2020 at about 11.43pm** a burglary signal was received from a commercial client in Belmont. The Reaction Crew was dispatched and upon arrival, discovered two security guards (from another security company) held captive by intruders. The arrival of our Reaction Crew disturbed the intruders who were in the process of trying to open the cash safe. Upon noticing the Reaction Vehicle, the intruders fled the scene. The incident was reported to Donnington Police Station. Nothing was stolen.



On the **19th of April 2020 at 10.37pm** a burglary signal was received from one of the service stations in Sunninghill. The Reaction Crew attended and upon arrival, discovered a suspicious man who had been coming to the service station several times for no apparent reason. The man was taken to the police for questioning.

On the **22nd of April 2020 at 02.35am**, a burglary signal was received from a commercial client at Manemo Shopping Centre in Nkulumane. The Reaction Crew was dispatched and upon arrival discovered that the shop had been broken into and various items which included a laptop, a cell phone and several boxes of breakfast cereal. Incident was reported to Police and investigations are in progress.

A few days later, on the **27th of April 2020 at 02.08am**, a burglary signal was received from the same shop at Manemo Shopping Centre. The Reaction Crew attended and on arrival saw three intruders fleeing the scene upon noticing the Reaction Vehicle. The Reaction Crew gave chase but failed to catch-up with them. Nothing was stolen.

GWERU

On **06/04/2020 and at 9pm**, our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a residential property in Delsford. Our reaction team attended and on arrival they reported that all was in order. The sound of the siren might have scared away intruders.

On **18/04/2020 and at 11.50pm**, our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a residential property in Southdowns. Our reaction team was dispatched to investigate and reported that all was in order.

On **19/04/2020 and at 01.25am**, a burglary alarm signal was received from a commercial property in the CBD along Second Street. Our reaction team was sent to investigate and on arrival they reported that everything was in order. The sound made by the siren could have scared away intruders.

On **25/04/2020 and at 09.33am**, our Control Room received a burglary alarm signal from a residential property in Southdowns. Our reaction team was sent to investigate and reported that everything was in order.



KWEKWE

On the **09/04/20 at 06.12am** a burglary signal was received from a commercial property. The Reaction Team was informed and attended to the scene. The security guard manning the property reported that everything was in order. The intruders fled on activation of the alarm.

MUTARE

On the **13th of April 2020 at about 01.15am**, our control room received a burglary message from a residential property in Palmerstone and attended. On arrival, they were advised by the client that he heard some foot steps outside the house and pressed the panic button. While patrolling the premise, the team observed two unknown persons hiding in the shrubs near the durawall. On realising that they had been seen, the suspects quickly jumped over the durawall before our guards could get to them and disappeared into the darkness. Nothing was stolen.

On **20 April 2020 at about 02.00am**, we received a burglary signal from a residential property in Murambi. The Reaction Team was dispatched and upon arrival, they discovered that one of the rear doors was left unlocked. The client was advised to lock the door he had forgotten to secure before retiring to bed. Nothing was reported stolen.

On **24 April 2020 at about 11pm**, our control room received a burglary signal from a residential property in Murambi and attended. Upon arrival, the Reaction Team was advised that an unknown intruder had tried to open the kitchen door setting off the alarm. The sound of the siren scared the intruder away. Nothing was stolen.

MASVINGO

On **02\04\2020 at 01.25am**, an alarm signal was received from a commercial property in the city centre. The Reaction Crew attended and reported that everything was in order. The criminals fled on activation of the alarm and nothing was stolen.



On 07\04\2020 at 08.30am, an alarm signal was received from a residential property in Zimre Park and crew was dispatched for investigations. They found everything intact. The sound made by the siren scared away intruders. Nothing was stolen.

On 22\04\2020 at 2.41pm hours, an alarm signal was received from residential property in Rhodene. The Reaction Crew was dispatched and, upon arrival, found everything secured. The intruders fled on activation of the alarm. Nothing was stolen.

CHEGUTU

An alarm signal was received from a residential property on 05/04/20 at 09.26pm. The Reaction Crew attended and found everything in good shape. The sound of the siren scared the intruders causing them to flee.

MARONDERA

On 28/04/20 at 5.30pm our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a domestic client in Morningside area and attended. Upon arrival at the premises, the team was advised by the client that 30 of her chickens had been stolen on the 25th of April during the night. Investigations revealed that intruders had scaled the durawall on the southern side of the premise which is not covered by external sensors. The matter was reported to the police.



CRIME NEWS

HARARE

On **25 April 2020 at 02.05am** criminals intruded a church in Waterfalls. The guard on duty managed to chase them away. Nothing was reported missing.

On **29 April 2020 at 5pm** one of our guards arrested a mechanic for theft of 7 litres of petrol which he had siphoned from vehicles that were under repair. The recovered fuel was handed over to the workshops manager.

On **29 April 2020 at 11.50pm** unknown persons attempted to kidnap our guard who was on duty. The guard however, managed to fight them off. Matter was reported to Police and investigations are still in progress.

BULAWAYO

Cops and rangers rob fishermen

A gang of five police officers and three rangers from Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority allegedly raided fishermen in Siabuwa, Binga and stole more than 3 000kg of fish and cash with a combined value of ZW\$130 000, they also allegedly stole US\$4 760 from one of the complainants.

It is alleged that on the 20th April 2020 the suspect arrived at the complainant home at Sengwa fishing camp around 2300 hours and demanded to search the houses, they allegedly took 500kg of dried fish before demanding RTGS\$1 500 which they said it was a fine for admission of guilt, and the complainant gave them. No receipt was issued to the complainant and the suspect went away with fish and cash amounting combined RTGS\$10 000.00.



On the same night the suspects went to another shop in the same area where they allegedly took 200 kg of dried fish and RTGS\$500.00 which they said was a fine for admission of guilt before proceeding to another complainant's house in the same camp and where they took 170kg of dried fish and RTGS\$500.00. The suspects went on to raid 10 other complaints using the same modus operandi. The Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) said that they are investigating the matter.

It is important to note that on all occasions the complainants did not given a receipt after paying the “fine” for their “breaking of the law

Cop killer nabbed after 40km chase

Police in Bulawayo have arrested a machete gang leader popularly known as DINGA who allegedly led a terror gang called “MaZinga” for allegedly killing a police officer last year in Kadoma. Officers from CID Bulawayo got a tip off that the suspect who had been terrorising the community in Inyathi area had been spotted at a business centre in the area. Dinga was arrested after a dramatic 40 km high speed chase that saw his accomplice jumping out of their vehicle and escaping on foot.

ZVISHAVANE

On **11 April 2020 and at around 03.40am** one of our security guards manning a booster in Zvishavane noticed that there was an intruder inside the fence. The guard fired stones at the intruder who then took cover behind the machinery and later escaped. Inspection around the booster indicated that the top guarding razor wire was lowered. Nothing was stolen.

MASVINGO

On the night of **25 April 2020 at around midnight**, thieves broke into a residential property in Pangolin high density suburb. The house owner was asleep alone in her bedroom with the lights on. The intruders managed to open her window and fished out her handbag using a wire with a hook.

The woman awoke as they were fishing out her handbag and she screamed for help but the thieves managed to run away with it and disappear into dark streets before neighbours could come to her aid. There was R300 rand and USD56 and 400bond in the bag. The matter was immediately reported at Chesvingo Police Station.



MARONDERA

On 07/04/20 at around 10.30am five unknown persons arrived at a Base Station manned by two security guards from another security company while wearing army uniform and tied up the two guards. The criminals fled after the guards started screaming for help. Items stolen were not mentioned.

On the night of 25 April 2020, 2 goats were stolen at one of the farms in Karimazondo area in Marondera. The matter was reported at Police Station and accused are still at large.

During the night of 29/04/20 about 252 hundreds of maize cobs were reported stolen from a field at one of the colleges in Marondera. The suspects had a blue Honda fit vehicle which they used as their escape vehicle. The accused are still at large.

CHEGUTU

On 20/04/20 at around 7pm, Pfupajena suburb residents were alerted by the police about thieves stealing from homes using the spraying method. The criminals are targeting food stuffs, money, accessories and cell phones. Guard-Alert urges you to make sure that all the windows and doors are properly secured at all times and to ensure that you arm your alarms before going to bed.

CHIPINGE

On the 7th of April 2020, one of our security guards arrested an employee at the commercial property where he is stationed for theft of company property. The stolen property was recovered. The matter was dealt with internally.

In a fraud case that keeps on deepening, two men have appeared in court on the 28th of April 2020 for allegedly defrauding Econet Zimbabwe of \$14 million. The duo, Gavin Tinashe Guwu (31) and Tshambo Madhava (41), appeared before Chipinge magistrate, Mrs Elizabeth Hanzi, facing fraud charges. The Manica Post reported that two Econet Zimbabwe employees based in Chipinge had allegedly teamed up to swindle the mobile telecommunications giant of \$24 million over a period of three months.



In the latest development on the fraud saga, Mukai Mapanzure, a sales consultant in Chipinge, is again at the centre of the fraud. Guwu and Madhava were not asked to plead when they appeared in court. They were ordered to pay \$10 000 bail each. The matter was remanded to May 15 for trial. Prosecuting, Mr Timothy Katsande told the court that from December 30 last year to March 27 this year, the two connived with Mapanzure who had access to the database to defraud the telecommunications giant. He replaced a sim card for Econet's merchant mobile broadband number 0784953460 and processed a private identification number to access the complainant's merchant. Mapanzure then transferred \$6 million from Econet's account into Guwu's agent number 0784718093. On a separate occasion, Madhava received \$8million on his agent number 0771337884. It is the court's case that the \$14 million was used to buy United States dollars on the black market. Guwu then handed US\$40 000 over to Madhava who then handed it over to Mapanzure. Only \$3 million was recovered.

RUSAPE

Three Rusape men have been arrested for allegedly stealing 16 solar batteries and diesel from an Econet Wireless booster. Trymore Robson (19), Nesbert Mafema (28) and David Sidhuma (51), who were employed as general hands at Patels Industrial Plot in Rusape approached the booster during the night and used an unknown object to break the burglar bars securing the booster and gained entry. Whilst inside, they stole 8 x 2volts backup solar batteries and drained 360 litres of diesel and drove away unnoticed.

Econet replaced the stolen batteries and, a week later, the trio went to the same booster again and stole the new batteries and 360 litres of diesel.

On the 4th of April, the trio stole 40 x 3,8m of standard poles and fence from Coca-cola company in the same town. Detectives received information that Trymore Robson was in possession of security fence believed to have been stolen leading to his arrest. Trymore implicated his accomplices who were also arrested and led to the recovery of 12 x3m of security fence and 5 x3.8m of standard iron poles. However, none of the property stolen from Econet Wireless was recovered.



MATEBELELAND REGION

Suburb	Armed Robbery	Assault	Break-In	Fraud	Hijacking	Intruder	Theft	Theft from vehicle	Total
BULAWAYO									
Belmont		1							1
City Centre		3							3
Donnington		1							1
Luveve		1							1
Nkulumane		2				2	1		5

SOUTHERN REGION

Gweru									
City Centre					1				1
Delsford					1				1
Mkoba 17			1						1
Southdowns					2				2
Kwekwe									
City Centre					1				1
Chegutu									
Pfupajena						1			1
Masvingo									
City Centre					1				1
Pangolin		1			1	1			3
Rhodene					1				1
Zimre Park					1	1			1

SOUTHERN REGION

Mutare									
Murambi			1			1			2
Palmerstone						1			1
Chipinge				1			1		2



Crime Hotspots

Harare Region – Aspindale, Greendale, Waterfalls, Workington

Matabeleland Region - Bulawayo CBD

Southern Region – Southdowns (Gweru), Pangolin (Masvingo)

Eastern Region – Murambi , Mutare CBD

