

**MARCH 2020**

**REACTION AND CRIME**

# **NEWS**



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## Dear Valued client

**W**elcome to the Guard-Alert reaction and crime news March edition. The whole world has been affected by the Corona Virus COVID-19 pandemic and a new pattern of crime is emerging. With most of the population staying at home, they have been fewer traffic violations, less drunk driving and fewer frauds. However, there has been a steady increase in domestic violence, residential and commercial break-ins and thefts of essential goods such as fuel, cash and groceries.

It is important to note that with limitations on movement, work and recreation so many businesses sitting empty remains too tempting a target for criminals who never self-isolate enough. In light of this, Guard-Alert (Pvt) Ltd remains open to serve you, our valued clients, and ensure that you, your home and your business are safe at all times.

We have implemented emergency measures to curb the spread of the virus. Security personnel are being screened before deployment, staff vehicles and equipment are being sanitised and protective gear will be made available when needed. Our primary focus is on the health and safety of our staff and clients and to ensure that we continue to meet your security needs in the safest way possible.

Please avoid false alarms and unnecessary activations and call outs.

Protect your health while we protect you and your physical assets. Stay home and stay safe.

Call **(0242)754291-6** for inquiries.



## REACTION NEWS

### HARARE

On **13/03/2020 at 11.59pm** our control room received a panic alarm signal from a domestic client in Greendale. On arrival they were advised by the house owner that intruders had scaled the wall and stolen a television set from a cottage that was not locked. The client had cancelled an earlier activation alert which we received at 9.44pm. When electricity was restored however, he discovered that a television set was missing and pressed the panic button. Client declined to report the matter to the Police.

On **25/03/2020 at 12.28am** our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a commercial property in the avenues. On arrival at the premises the Reaction team met the caretaker and the property owner who advised that intruders scaled the perimeter fence and proceeded to break the lock securing the pharmacy. When the alarm sounded the intruders fled before entering the pharmacy. The incident was reported to the Police in the morning.

On **26/03/2020 at 07.20pm** our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a commercial property in Milton Park. On arrival at the premises they discovered that intruders cut the razor wire on top of the wall and entered the premises. When the alarm triggered they left the property nothing was stolen.

On **28/03/2020 at 11.19pm** our control room received a panic alarm signal from a domestic client in White Cliff. The Reaction Team proceeded to the property and on arrival they met the house owner who advised that intruders entered the yard and forced open a French door with an iron object which alerted the occupants. The intruders fled before entering the house when they heard the alarm sounding. The matter was reported to the police.



## **BULAWAYO**

On the **9th of February 2020 at 06.21pm** a burglary signal was received from a commercial property in Bulawayo city centre. The Reaction Crew was dispatched and upon arrival discovered that the client had left the Cash Office door open. Management was advised and came back to lock the door. Guard-Alert urges you to ensure that all doors and windows are secured before leaving your property.

On the **11th of March 2020 at 01.36pm** a panic signal was received from a gold dealer's house in Killarney. The Reaction Crew was despatched and upon arrival, discovered that the client had observed a strange vehicle parked at the front gate and activated the system. The Reaction Crew interviewed the occupants of the vehicle who identified themselves as members of Ministry Of Mines.

On the **16/03/2020 at 06.00pm** a panic signal was received from a commercial property. The Reaction Crew attended and upon arrival were handed a shoplifter who was taken to the Police Station.

## **GWERU**

On **05/03/2020 and at 12.20am**, our control room received a burglary alarm signal from service station along Bulawayo Road. Our reaction team attended and on arrival they reported that all was in order. The criminals fled on activation of the alarm and nothing was stolen.

On **12/03/2020 and at 11.40pm**, our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a residential property in Delsford. Our reaction team was dispatched to investigate and reported that all was in order. The robbers fled on activation of the alarm and nothing was stolen.

On **20/03/2020 and at 12.22am**, a burglary alarm signal was received from a residential property in Athlone. Our reaction team was sent to investigate and on arrival they reported that everything was in order. The sound made by the siren scared away intruders and nothing was stolen.

On **29/03/2020 and at 02.47am**, our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a beer hall in Mkoba 5. Our reaction team was sent to investigate and reported that everything was in order. The intruders fled on activation of the alarm.



## **RUSAPE**

On **29/03/2020 at 07:30pm** our control room received a panic alert signal from a domestic client in Silver Bow and the reaction team attended and on arrival the client told them that he had apprehended an unlawful entry intruder into his premises. The culprit was taken to ZRP Rusape Central for investigations and constable Nyabeza received the report.

## **KADOMA**

On **03/03/2020 at 06.22pm** a burglary alarm signal was received from a commercial company in the CBD. The Reaction Team attended and reported that all was in order. The siren sound scared away the intruders causing them to flee.

On **05/03/20 at 01.00am** burglary alarm signal was received from a commercial property in town. The Reaction Team attended and found all in order. The intruders fled on activation of the alarm and nothing was stolen.

On **10/03/20 at 00.47am** alarm signal was received from Bridal Boutique in the CBD. The Reaction Team was dispatched and upon arrival found all in order. The sounding siren scared away the intruders. Nothing was stolen.

## **MARONDERA**

On **08/03/20 at 02.50am** our control room received a burglary alarm signal from a commercial property in Cheritombo area. The Reaction Team attended and upon arrival discovered an unknown intruder at the main door of the building pushing the screen in an attempt to force it to open. The Reaction Team apprehended the criminal and handed him over to Marondera Central Police Station. Nothing was stolen.

On **14/03/20 at 09.51pm** a burglary signal was received from a residential property in Winston Park and the Reaction Crew attended. As they conducted a physical check of the premise they discovered that the garage door was left wide open. The owner was advised and the garage door was closed.



On **23/03/20 at 12.37am** an alarm signal was received from a residential property in Winston Park. The Reaction team attended and arrival, they were given a report by the owner of the house that he had heard a sound of vehicle skidding from his gate when the siren sounded. The Reaction Crew checked around the house. Nothing was stolen.

#### MASVINGO

On **18/03/2020 at 08.25pm**, an alarm signal was received from a residential property in Zimre Park. The Reaction Crew was dispatched and upon arrival, reported that all was in order. The thieves ran away when the alarm sounded. Nothing was stolen.

#### MUTARE

On **11 March 2020** our Reaction Team received burglary message from a residential property in Murambi and attended. On arrival they discovered the screen door wide open and the owner confirmed that he pressed the panic button after he noticed an unknown person trying to force open the front door. The criminal ran away empty handed after the alarm made noise. Nothing was stolen.

On **25 March 2020** our Reaction Team received a burglary message from a residential property in Murambi and proceeded to the site. On arrival, the client informed them that he pressed the Panic Button after he heard footsteps of unknown persons walking around the yard.





## CRIME NEWS

### BULAWAYO

**R**esidents have expressed concerns over the increase in crime over the past few weeks as there has been a marked increase in robberies, house break-ins and theft among other things. In an effort to curb this, community members have been urged to join Neighbourhood Watch Committees and assist the police in the fight against crime.

A member of the Zimbabwe National Army based at 53 Infantry Battalion has appeared in court over a robbery charge involving more than US\$20 000.00. The accused appeared before the court and was charged with three other suspects who are still on large. The accused approached the complainant who was seated in his car and assaulted him accusing him of illegally dealing in foreign currency. It is alleged that during the assault the accused person dragged the complainant out of his car and searched him before stealing US\$20.000 00 and ZW\$420.00 from the complainant. The accused person then fled the scene after the complaint had fired one warning shot from his pistol. The accused was apprehended with the help of the public and was handed over to Police.

### MARONDERA

During the night of **04/03/2020** two security guards of another security company who were manning one of the Base Station at Theydon Mountain were attacked and assaulted by 4 armed robbers. Items stolen were Base Station batteries, diesel, 303 weapon and their mobile phones. The matter was reported to Marondera Rural Police Station.



On 12th March 2020 at 02.05pm three unknown person arrived at one of the network Base Station and asked for assistance from one of the guard of another security company. They were looking for water saying their vehicle had developed a boiling problem. After being assisted they left the place. Then at about 05.45pm the same crew came back and grabbed the guard from the back and dragged him into the guardroom whilst the other hand was holding a machete. The other one was holding a knife and they tied guard hands and legs using tire cables.

The unknown person searched everything in the guardroom and took guards mobile phone and rechargeable torch. During that time the other two were breaking the palisade fence and the cabinet for the batteries. Items stolen were 4 x 12v batteries costing \$600-00USD. The matter was reported at Marondera Rural Police Station.

On 27/03/20 at around 02.30am a break in had occurred at one of the phone shop in Marondera town and some mobile phones had stolen. The shop was not having a guard or even an alarm system.

### **MUTARE**

On Sunday 22 March 2020 a gang of about six armed robbers shot and killed a Mutare Business man at his house when he was conducting a church service. They went away with undisclosed amount of money and a brand new unregistered Honda Fit vehicle. The Honda Fit was later recovered at 22 miles along Birchnough/Chipinge road after the robbers were involved in a road accident with the vehicle.

### **NYANGA**

On 03 March 2020 armed robbers invaded a Service Station in Nyanga and got away with 20 000USD and 2 x 25 litres of fuel which was kept at the garage. The garage is one of the garages selling fuel using hard currency. The robbers tied the two internal guards who were guarding the place, before fleeing with the mentioned amount of money.





## CRIME STATISTICS

### TARGETED ITEMS

- Cash - Foreign currency
- Car Batteries
- Fuel
- Solar batteries
- Groceries
- Mobile phones
- Firearms

## HARARE REGION

Suburb	Armed Robbery	Assault	Break-In	Fraud	Hijacking	Intruder	Theft	Theft from vehicle	Total
<b>HARARE</b>									
Ardbennie			1			1			2
City Centre			1				1		2
Greendale							1		1
Milton Park						1			1
Southerton							1		1
Willowvale	1						1		1
White Cliffe			1						1
<b>MARONDERA</b>									
Cheritombo						1			1
City Centre			1				1		2
Winston Park						1			1
Theydon	1								1



## MATEBELELAND REGION

Suburb	Armed Robbery	Assault	Break-In	Fraud	Hijacking	Intruder	Theft	Theft from vehicle	Total
<b>BULAWAYO</b>									
Belmont			1						1
Burnside			2						2
City Centre			4						5
Luveve		1	3				3		7
Newton West							1		1
Woodlands		1							1
<b>Beitbridge</b>				4					4

## SOUTHERN REGION

<b>Gweru</b>									
Athlone						1			1
City Centre						1			1
Delsford						1			1
Mkoba 5						1			1
<b>Kadoma</b>									
City Centre						3			3
<b>Masvingo</b>									
Zimre Park						1			1



## EASTERN REGION

Suburb	Armed Robbery	Assault	Break-In	Fraud	Hijacking	Intruder	Theft	Theft from vehicle	Total
<b>Mutare</b>			1						
City Centre	1		2			1			2
Murambi		1	4			1			2
<b>Nyanga</b>			3						
City Centre	1								1
<b>Rusape</b>									
Silver Bow		1				1			2

## Crime Hotspots

**Harare Region** – Arbennie, Harare CBD

**Matabeleland Region** - Luveve, Bulawayo CBD, Beitbridge

**Southern Region** – Kadoma CBD

**Eastern Region** – Murambi , Mutare CBD

