8 Tips for Avoiding On-Campus Thefts

by Sgt. Rick Allen, Emory Crime Prevention Unit, Campus Services
fallen@emory.edu

Persons commonly referred to as “office creepers” (OCs) target campuses as a source of expensive electronic items. OCs are looking for laptops, cell phones, and backpacks left unattended in offices, labs, libraries, coffee shops, and dining areas.

4 Tips for Avoiding OC Thefts:

1. OCs often come to campus to steal laptops and cell phones, especially Apple products. To a lesser extent, thieves are targeting purses, wallets and credit cards. If they are successful, they often continue to return to campus.

2. Suspects are young enough to pass for average college students.

3. The thefts tend to occur in areas that are unattended or where the occupants are focused on their lab work and are not aware that a stranger has wandered into the lab.

4. Thefts are often deterred by staff asking them if they need assistance or directions. If the person does not have a legitimate reason to be in the building, they tend to come up with an excuse that does not quite make sense, which makes them feel conspicuous, and results in the person leaving the premises.

In addition to OC Thefts, thefts can sometimes be attributed to “internal thieves” (ITs). ITs may be contractors or vendors that have been given temporary permissions to access our buildings.

4 Tips for Avoiding IT Thefts:

1. ITs often come to campus as temporary employees of Emory.

2. The thefts also tend to occur in areas that are unattended or where the occupants are focused on their lab work and are not aware of their surroundings.

3. Thefts are often deterred by escorting contractors or vendors in and out of buildings and labs.

4. Thefts may also be deterred by never allowing others to access a building with your badge.

If a person has no business in an area, report the incident to Emory police at 404-727-6111.
**EHSO Website Usability Test**

Help us improve our website!

Help us in one of two ways:

1. Provide us with feedback. Take the new EHSO survey at: [http://ow.ly/TXcLo](http://ow.ly/TXcLo)

2. Participate in a 30-min usability test. Contact Beth Savoy for more information at: beth.savoy@emory.edu

[ehso.emory.edu](http://ehso.emory.edu)

**New ELMS Video Tutorial**

Emory Learning Management System (ELMS) is a central online location where many Emory departments’ online courses and training records can be accessed. This includes many training courses from EHSO.

Our [Training page](http://ehso.emory.edu/training) now includes an [ELMS video tutorial](http://ehso.emory.edu/training) to help you get started with taking one of our training courses in ELMS. We also have a [Course Completion Guide](http://ehso.emory.edu/training) that may answer any questions you have about ELMS.

Watch our new ELMS video at: [ehso.emory.edu/training](http://ehso.emory.edu/training)

**Fire Extinguishers**

Visual inspections of your fire extinguishers are conducted monthly, confirming the following:

- Is it present and mounted in its proper location? Is it readily accessible?
- Is the pin in place and is the guage needle in the green?

After confirming these questions, initial and date the attached tag.

For servicing, contact Campus Services at 404-727-7463.

**Building Liaisons**

Radiation and Research liaisons can be found at the following:

[ehso.emory.edu/about/](http://ehso.emory.edu/about/)

**Feedback**

Send comments to:

biosafe@emory.edu

We look forward to reading your ideas and comments!

**About This Newsletter**

- This newsletter is a tool to help fulfill a legal requirement for ongoing safety training.
- Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that individuals in their area have read and understood the information that applies to their area.
- The signed newsletter should be placed into the PI’s EHSO Lab Safety Binder.

**Signature Here**

Your signature indicates that you have read and understand the information in this issue of Lab Rat Newsletter.

*Use an additional sheet of paper for more signatures, if needed, and attach to this document.*

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**SAFE Lab Spill Cleanup**

EHSO’s [Spill Response Team](http://ehso.emory.edu/training) is on-call, 24/7, to assist with safe spill cleanup and disposal. Call the new, dedicated 404-727-2888 right away for all mercury spills and spills you believe may cause harm or injury. See the Emory Just-in-Time Guide for additional spill information.