This crime alert is to inform the university community about two incidents of concern. The first incident occurred on our campus, and the second incident happened on the University of Pittsburgh’s campus.

On Monday, December 14, at 1:38 a.m., CMU officers responded to a fire alarm at the Robert Mehrabian Collaborative Innovation Center (CIC) at 4720 Forbes Ave. It was a false alarm. Subsequent review of the building’s video system revealed that an unknown suspect had entered the building and activated the alarm. The suspect appeared to be approximately 5'9'' to 6' tall with a slim build, and wearing black trousers, a black coat, and a brown wide-brimmed hat. A black mask covering the lower part of the face made it difficult to identify the suspect's race. The suspect exited the building and fled on foot toward the Scott Hall construction site.

Pitt Police have advised us that they are investigating an incident that occurred shortly after the CIC fire alarm. At approximately 2 a.m., several Pitt students reported being followed by a male matching the description of the suspect in the CIC incident. This incident began in the area of the Schenley Plaza.

According to a Pitt Crime Alert, “The subject was acting erratically and followed two individuals to the area of David Lawrence Hall. He was behaving in a manner that suggests he was impersonating a police officer. Additionally, the subject was reported to be armed.”

It is believed that the same suspect was involved in both incidents. We are asking that anyone with information regarding either of these incidents contact University Police at 412-268-2323. CMU and Pitt Police are working together on these cases.

Prevention and Safety Tips:

- Stay alert to your surroundings at all times.
- Use the University Shuttle/Escort Service when possible.
- Use SafeWalk when possible.
- Stay close to friends and do not interact with strangers.
- Do not approach suspicious persons or vehicles.
- Avoid using devices that impair your hearing or sight while walking.
- Report any suspicious incidents, persons or vehicles to Campus Police at 412-268-2323, or off campus to the Pittsburgh Police at 911.

Chief Tom Ogden
University Police