



POLICE DEPARTMENT Crime Analysis Unit

COMMUNITY BRIEFING

03/01/04

Bulletin # CAU 04-007 public

Community Bulletin

ATM Tampering Adhesive-type strip placed into card slot

There have been two cases at a local bank where the ATM was tampered with. This resulted in the suspect getting the victim's ATM card and accessing one of the accounts.

The suspect places an adhesive-type strip inside the ATM slot and waits nearby. When the victim's card gets stuck inside the ATM, the suspect approaches, pretending to be the next ATM customer. The suspect then offers assistance and suggests the victim enter the PIN again (as the suspect watches). The card remains stuck and both victim and suspect agree the machine is out of order and leave. The suspect returns shortly and removes the card and the adhesive strip.

SUSPECT DESCRIPTION: MW 30s, 507 185, dark hair, wearing a BB cap, jeans – POSSIBLY RUSSIAN OR ARMEANIAN

ATM - THINGS TO BE AWARE OF:

- **Both cases occurred when the bank itself was closed;**
- **The suspect is very helpful and may even say he worked at the bank previously;**
- **DO NOT enter your PIN when anyone is watching;**
- **Be aware of your surroundings, especially when the bank is closed. If you see anything suspicious, come back later or use another ATM;**
- **Contact the bank and the Redondo Beach Police Department (379-5411) if you believe you have been the victim of this type of crime**