

## Cybercrime spooks students at Hampton U. technology forum

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*By Khalida Volou*

Hampton Police Sergeant Mark Kincaid, a speaker at a cyber security seminar Thursday at Hampton University's 38th Annual Conference on the Black Family, said that there has been a series of burglaries on Mariners Cove Road.



As he said that, the crowd gasped in astonishment.

Mariners Cove Road is located in the Hampton Harbors Apartment complex on the edge of the HU campus. Kincaid said that after taking the burglary suspects in for questioning at the police station, the majority of them confessed that they were able to burglarize student's homes because of the easy access of looking at their social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat.

Most of the students stated their whereabouts and that they were out of town last week for spring break. This sensitive information leaked on the Internet made the students vulnerable to theft.

Who would have ever thought that an area that you live in will be victimized because of something so overlooked like posting things on social media?

The other forum speakers, Amber Boehnlein from **JLab** and retired FBI Special Agent James Talley, chimed in on the cyber security issue as well. After this seminar it was pretty evident that no one is truly safe on the Internet, regardless of the amount of privacy settings one may have. Looking out for yourself, your brand, and the things you post will have to be taken into account in the cyber world.

The campus School of Science is the **conference host** and the theme is "Full STEAM [Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math] Ahead: Health Minds and Bodies, Securing Our Future."

*The writer is a student in the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications.*

