Group Name:
The MIT Crime Club

President's Name:
Shavonne Hylton

President's Athena Username:
nyoshiv

Treasurer's Name:
Adora Asala

Treasurer's Athena Name:
adora

Initial Membership:
adora
nyoshiv
manisha
agonz
mcanulty
gracie
cchin

Statement of Purpose
The founders of the MIT Crime Club are dedicated to improving general safety for MIT students (both on- and off-campus). We believe that on-campus safety (including the security within undergraduate and graduate dormitories) can be further improved and maintained by increasing student awareness of the crimes that occur on campus, and promoting safety precautions. The MIT Crime Club seeks to be the middle-man(?) between the administration and the student body in the improvement of campus safety.

How is this group unique? Could the ASA find similarities with other groups? If so, why should this group obtain recognition? What are the differences?
Yes, we believe so. Even though there are a few spontaneous events coordinated by students (both independently and in association with other student groups or institute departments), which we feel could fall under our "jurisdiction," we believe that the existence of a single group with campus safety as their main purpose will make a solid contribution to student life. To illustrate, the MIT Police Department's self-defense class (offered to women) could be more widely publicized, and the group could also aid the Undergraduate Associations with their on-going efforts to improve the Saferide shuttle service, especially since the UA has many other issues currently on the table.

Why does the group need ASA recognition? What resources do you expect to use?
The MIT Crime Club would need ASA recognition in order to reserve space for meetings, seminars and much larger events for our purposes. Since we believe student

awareness to be a key factor in the improvement of campus safety, we will be holding a number of seminars to promote awareness on various issues related to safety. For example, we're thinking about putting together a "safety precautions" seminar during orientation (geared towards freshmen, but open to the entire student body), which would provide a walk-thru of the resources students have available to them when they arrive on campus e.g. Saferide vans, campus police emergency pick-up etc. However, to hold that seminar during orientation, we would need ASA clearance.

How do you plan to fund the group?
As of now, we do not think that the club will be exceedingly expensive to run. However, we plan to apply for some funding from the ASA for the running of seminars and student workshops. The funding, which we would require from the ASA, would mainly be for food and beverages during seminars. We are also aware of the possibility of Women's Studies Department (for events related to women's safety).

What type of events or meetings will the group have? Give specific examples.
As afore-mentioned, the MIT Crime Club is currently working on a safety precautions seminar for the entering freshman class during orientation week. We are also organizing a student workshop in order to get feedback from undergraduates on what they would like to see improved within their dorms, the student center, etc. with regards to security. Meetings that involve just members of the group will involve brainstorming about ways to work with housemasters, GRTs and other MIT administration concerned with student life. A few issues we would be working on include the numerous laptop thefts, increased lighting of certain Saferide route stops, and decreased dorm accessibility to strangers.

Who is the intended audience of the group?
All MIT students (undergraduate and graduate) as well as all other MIT-affiliates.

How do you plan to recruit new members?
We are hoping to recruit new members at our seminars. We will also be open to students who have heard about the group and are interested in helping us achieve our goals. The activities midway in the fall will also be very useful in recruiting freshmen. Right now, the group is made up predominantly of upperclassmen, and we are looking to attract underclassmen who will continue to keep the group active after senior members have graduated. We also have a kick-ass logo that's bound to attract students.

What has already been accomplished?
We held a small workshop/seminar during IAP, intended to get feedback from students and help us get started with a few projects we had in mind. A member of the MIT Police Department was present for guidance, to answer questions and give suggestions to students. It was a decent turn-out, in spite of our last-minute postering, and we actually recruited one of our members from that seminar.

As part of another group (not-affiliated with MIT, we've contributed to the project "U-Cab," currently being reviewed by the administration at Harvard University for approval. With the recent shut-down of the night-owl on the Boston T, there has been expressed

concern from students on returning to their campuses safely after being out on the weekends. Basically, U-Cab would involve an arrangement with a few local cab companies (such as the Tech cash arrangement with Dominoes and other restaurants), so that students could use these cab companies after a certain hour, receive a discount and charge it to their student card. The aim would be reduce the risk of students being stranded on relying on less-reputable means of transportation to return to their dorms/living groups after a night out.