



Owner roasts coffee shop thieves

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BRISBANE (AAP): Kenton Campbell is as mad as hell, and he's not going to take it anymore.

An angry Mr Campbell, founder and CEO of the Zarraffa's chain of coffee shops, said he would not stand by after three Zarraffa's premises were broken into overnight on Thursday.

The break-and-enters brought to six the total of robberies of Zarraffa's business premises in the past six weeks.

The company's head office and roasting facility at Oxenford, between Brisbane and the Gold Coast, was entered through the roof about 11.30pm on Thursday and two men were seen carrying a security safe from the premises to a waiting car driven by a third person.

Shortly after Gold Coast franchises at Crestwood and Palm Beach were also robbed.

The latest crime spree convinced Mr Campbell that three previous robberies of Zarraffa's stores were not entirely random.

"When the thefts first happened we were understandably concerned but had attributed it to random bad luck," he said.

"The thefts last night confirm... that this wasn't just a random theft but rather something co-ordinated and therefore much more sinister."

Losses overnight on Thursday total in the thousands of dollars but the frustration of repeated thefts was worse, Mr Campbell said.

"As a community Zarraffa's is not going to stand by," he said.

"We're going to be as diligent as we can be and making it as hard as we can for these people to live off of us and our hard work. We're going to make it very, very difficult from now to make an easy dollar off of us."

A staff member noted the licence plate of the getaway car and it has been reported to police, he said.