

CAMPUS SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS – Awareness is your best self-defense. Know what is happening around you. Be especially careful and alert if you are alone. Watch where you are going and what is going on around you. Look for potential problems and be prepared to react to them. Avoid going to secluded areas of the campus alone. Find a trusted classmate or colleague to go to these areas with you. You may call 210-458-4242 and request a safety escort.

WHEN WALKING, PLAN THE SAFEST AND MOST DIRECT ROUTE – Use well-lit, busy streets, sidewalks and pathways. Walk with friends or a group. When out at night, don't go alone. Let someone know where you will be going and when you plan to return. Avoid areas you are not familiar with, including alleys, deserted streets, secluded and wooded areas.

PROJECT CONFIDENCE – Walk as if you know where you are going. Stand tall. Walk in a confident manner, and hold your head up.

TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS – Don't accept a false sense of security because you are in a group or in a remote area. If you think something is wrong, remove yourself from the situation. Trust your instincts: if it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. Don't be afraid to call for help.

HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED READY – Hold your keys—equipped with a whistle—when going to and from your car, home and office. This will save you time and give you some security. Be wary of self-defense products. Any device you carry can be used against you. If you do carry a device, know how to use it and be prepared to use it if necessary. Don't carry more money than what you will need.

IF YOU ARE BEING FOLLOWED ON FOOT OR FEEL THREATENED – Cross the street, change direction and go to a safe, busy area where you can ask for help or call the police. If a car is following you, turn around and walk in the opposite direction if possible. Write down the license plate number and description of the car and occupants.

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY – Criminals do not want to be seen or heard. They rarely commit crime in front of police officers. We rely on the community to report suspicious activity. We would much rather respond and not be needed than to not be called when a crime could have been prevented or stopped. Trust your instincts; if something does not feel right, it probably isn't.