

The University of  
Texas at San  
Antonio

POLICE  
DEPARTMENT

# Runner Beat

Protecting Your Future... Today

A Campus Safety Newsletter from the University Police Department



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## Sgt. Calucci Receives Prestigious Fultz Award

Each year the Texas Association of College and University Police Administrators (TACUPA) present the Larry W. Fultz Memorial Award for Excellence to an outstanding campus police officer. On December 10, 2008, TACUPA awarded the 2008 Larry W. Fultz Memorial Award for Excellence to Sergeant Thomas J. Calucci from the UTSA Police Department.

Thomas Calucci currently serves as a Detective Sergeant with the UTSA Police Department where he heads up the Criminal Investigations Section. Sgt. Calucci supervises a staff of two detectives and has successfully investigated numerous important criminal cases. Sgt. Calucci also developed and co-chaired the UTSA Behavior Intervention Team, which addresses threats of violence made from any member of the UTSA community. Sgt. Calucci

works very closely with other university offices on campus such as Student Judicial Affairs and the Counseling Center.

Sgt. Calucci currently holds a Masters level certification through the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards of Education and is also an active police instructor and Mental Health Officer. He is a certified Crisis Intervention instructor and serves as the department's first contact when dealing with people in psychological crisis. Sgt. Calucci also assists the San Antonio Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team, which has been nationally recognized for excellence for the past three years.

Before being assigned to the UTSAPD Criminal Investigations Section, Sgt. Calucci served as a patrolman and a Field Training



Sgt. Calucci receives award

Officer. Sgt. Calucci has received numerous departmental awards during his time with UTSAPD. Some of these awards have included the Chief's Commendation Award, which he received twice from two different Chiefs; The UTSA Team Spirit Award; Officer of the Semester; and the American Society of Industrial Security (ASIS) Local Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Please join us in congratulating Sgt. Calucci for his excellent performance and awarding of the 2008 Larry W. Fultz Memorial Award. Reference: VPBA Newsletter

## Burglary of Vehicle Prevention Tips

One type of property crime that seems to never go away is burglary of vehicles where a thief enters a car to steal items. Vehicle burglary is most often a crime of opportunity and sometimes our own carelessness often causes our vehicles to be broken into. There have been almost 50 vehicle break-ins on UTSA campuses during 2008. Since November 19, 2008, eight of these car break-ins have happened in the parking lots of University Oaks Apartments during the overnight hours. Most, however, happen during the daytime hours when most students and staff are on campus.

The main cause of vehicle burglaries is the placement of valuable items visible within the passenger compartment. Laptop computers, cellular phones,

purses, briefcases and camera equipment are some of the most frequently stolen items. This is attributed to how easily the property can be seen by potential thieves from outside of the vehicle. Once inside a vehicle, the burglar steals what he sees that is valuable and easy to take. He typically checks the glove compartment, middle console, under the seat and above the visor.

The UTSA Police Department would like to stress the importance in the value of prevention. By simply being cognizant and taking a few simple steps in securing your property, the chances of becoming a victim of property theft can be considerably reduced.

Lock your vehicle and take your keys. Close all windows, including

sunroofs. Install a good alarm.

Remove visible items from your vehicle. Your car is not a great storage place. If you leave items visible in your car, you are a target. Take items with you or lock them in your trunk before arriving home or to a parking lot.

If you observe suspicious activity that makes you think someone is committing a crime, immediately call the University Police at 210.458.4911. An officer will be dispatched to the location to determine if a crime is being committed.

Don't wait to become a victim of property crime. You can minimize your chances of being a victim by taking away the opportunity by following the above tips above.

References: City of Carritos & City of Manhattan Beach, CA PD's, Sacramento Sheriff's Department



UTSA-PD want you to be informed of spamming and phishing Photo from Clip Art



**Welcome!**

Welcome to our new employees starting on January 5th, Guard Kenneth Bowen, Administrative Assistant Tiffany Schmidt and Police Officer Carlos Munoz. Welcome aboard!



Be aware and safe when walking alone. (Picture from Microsoft Clip Art)

## Spam Warning for Campus Community

The UTSA Office of Information Technology (OIT) has issued a warning about UTSA faculty and staff members reporting an influx of e-mail messages with Subject lines such as "University of Texas at San Antonio" requesting you reply with specific account information about your UTSA e-mail account.

This latest round of spoof messages claims that personal information is needed "As part of our continuous effort in providing a higher level of service." The message requests a

user's password, secret question and date of birth, among other items.

This e-mail was NOT sent by the Office of Information Technology or UTSA - it is an attempt to steal your account ID and password information. OIT will never ask for this information via e-mail or phone.

It's called "phishing", which is the sending of an e-mail to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private

information or money that will be used for identity theft. Do not become a victim of identity theft - simply delete this and any similar e-mail message.

OIT has a "E-mail Best Practices" page on it's website with tips and suggestions to improve the security of using e-mail. Go to [www.utsa.edu/oit/security/sec\\_email\\_best.html](http://www.utsa.edu/oit/security/sec_email_best.html) for more information.

If you have a question about the validity of any e-mail message, please contact the OIT Help Desk, 458-5538.

Reference: UTSA Today, UTSA OIT website, Capt. Kiley e-mail

With the start of a new semester, students probably received new laptop computers, MP3 players, game systems and so on. UTSAPD wants you to keep your new electronic device by remembering to

### Secure It. Keep It.

- Never leave property unattended.
- Engrave valuables.
- Mark textbooks.
- Record serial numbers.
- Buy a good lock for your bike.



**Employee Kudos:** Go out to dispatcher Veronica Rangel for her work on Dec. 28, 2008.

TCO Rangel was able to handle several calls for service during a busy night that included several arrests and citations, a person arrested with out-of-county warrants and two juveniles involved in criminal activity. TCO Rangel kept all the dispatch entries correct and up to date. **Way to go!**

## Personal Safety Precautions

Virtually all activities in life entail some level of risk, and we all have different attitudes toward risk. At one end of the scale is refusing to engage in an activity by exaggerating the level of risk involved. At the other end is engaging in very risky activities while refusing to take any precautions. Neither of these attitudes are useful for living an empowered life. What is useful is to accurately assess the risks, take those precautions that make sense, and live as fully as possible. The following precautions should be adopted within a cultural/gender context. They will not guarantee

safety, but they *will* minimize criminal opportunities.

#### In Your Home Or Apartment

- Have lights at all entrances.
- Have good locks on all doors and windows.
- Do not use your full name on your mailbox or on your answering machine.

#### On The Street

- Be very careful using outside ATMs at night or in unfamiliar surroundings.
- When walking, walk in the middle of the sidewalk and walk facing oncoming traffic.

- Try not to overload yourself with packages or other items.

#### In A Car

- Always park in visible, well-lighted areas.
- When operating your vehicle, keep the doors locked and the windows rolled up.
- Have your keys ready when approaching your vehicle to reduce the time needed to enter.

For more tips, go to [www.utsa.edu/utsapd](http://www.utsa.edu/utsapd) and click on Safety Brochures.

Reference: "The Complete Campus Crime Prevention Manual" by The AEGIS Protection Group.

**Did you know?** That our own communications officer Ralph Petiton plays in a jazz band? His band, *Henry Brun and the Latin Jazz Playerz*, played for President Ricardo Romo's holiday breakfast on December 8, 2008. TCO Petiton plays the bass guitar in the band and has done so for about a year. The food & fun was great and the function was festive with the addition of the jazzy music!





**Volunteer to be a floor captain for UTSA.** (Photo from University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee website)

**“Safety Highlights”** *by Donovan Agans (Director BCEM)*

The UTSA Floor Captain Safety Liaison Program was initiated to empower volunteer employees with the knowledge required to help fellow floor occupants evacuate as quickly and as safely as possible should an emergency occur. During the evacuation these volunteers assist emergency responders in an efficient evacuation, particularly in assisting those who need physical aid in leaving a building. More volunteers are required to increase the effectiveness of this program.

Floor Captain Safety Liaisons are not required to put their own safety in jeopardy. They are not expected to perform any duties

that require expertise and/or extensive training, such as putting out large fires.

Floor Captain Safety Liaisons must attend Floor Captain Safety Liaison Basic Training with the Office of Business Continuity and Emergency Management (BCEM). This training is done yearly to ensure all volunteers are familiar with roles and responsibilities before and during an emergency.

Upon completion of the training Floor Captain Safety Liaisons are expected to let faculty and staff on their assigned floor know who they are and are expected

review the UTSA Emergency Response Plan.

Floor Captain Safety Liaisons assist emergency personnel in evacuating people and help in the effort to restore order.

Commit to taking the safety of yourself and others into your own hands. Become part of the solution. If you are interested in becoming a Floor Captain Safety Liaison please contact the Office of Business Continuity & Emergency Management today at extension 6851 or 6756. For more information please go to our website at [www.utsa.edu/oep](http://www.utsa.edu/oep). Commit to a safer UTSA community today!

**Chief Hernandez says:**  
**Compliments to Officer Jovany Vega for his handling of a call where the victim wrote, “I was very pleased that I was treated with respect and I felt like the officer actually cared about the situation”. Great work!**

**The UTSA PD is proud to announce that it has received accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).**



We will be officially presented with the accreditation certificate on January 22, 2009 at 2:00 pm at the Retama Room of the University Center. Special guests include President Ricardo Romo, VPBA Kerry Kennedy and Dr. Theron Bowman, CALEA Commissioner & Chief of Police Arlington, Texas.



The public is welcome to attend.

**“Detective Time”** *by Sgt. Thomas Calucci (Supervisor, Criminal Investigations)*

I'm often asked what happens after the UTSAPD Criminal Investigations Section completes an investigation on a case. As you know, we work very closely with several different agencies, including the Bexar County District Attorney's Office. They are the prosecutorial entity that, like us, seeks justice and the protection of all persons within our community. The District Attorney's Office is led by Susan Reed, a San Antonio native and a UT Austin Alum, who was elected in 1998.

There are several different sec-

tions of the District Attorney's Office which include; White Collar Crime (employee related crimes), narcotics, check fraud, and felony and misdemeanor intake. When we take a case downtown to file, we have to know which section to take the case. In some instances, particularly in higher profile cases, we will talk to a prosecutor of the section where we are filing the case and "screen" it to ensure that we are putting a thorough package together.

We will then physically put the case together in an orderly way

to ensure that the intake prosecutor can easily understand what occurred. We then take the case downtown and turn it in. In all cases, we must complete a form, which is also signed by the DA's Office, as a receipt that the case has been filed.

In a few cases, we may be tasked to do some additional investigation, but usually the case goes through without any problems. In the next Runner Beat, I'll talk about what happens to the case after it is accepted by the DA's Office.



**The UTSA Police Department would like to welcome all new and returning students, faculty and staff to UTSA! Have a safe Spring 2009 semester!**





Be aware of stalking behaviors from ex-boy/girlfriends. (Photo from <http://www.4woman.gov/violencetypes/stalking.cfm>)

## NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

JANUARY 2009

**During January 2009, communities across the country will observe National Stalking Awareness Month, This year's theme, "Stalking: Know It. Name It. Stop It."**

**UTSA Women's Resource Center will offer a workshop and discussion on Wednesday, January 21, from 7-9pm in the UC Pecan room.**



**UTSA Police Chief David Hernandez**

## Stalking Awareness Month

Many young adults have trouble dealing with an ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend who just won't let go of the relationship. In fact, recent surveys show that as many as 30% of college students experienced intrusive contact after ending a relationship. The ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend may do things like call repeatedly or call late at night, leave notes at an apartment or dorm room or send unwanted e-mails. They hope that maintaining contact will help get the relationship back together. Sometimes the ex is simply annoying, but other times can be frightening or dangerous.

Intrusive contact occurs when someone intentionally contacts or tries to contact you when you have asked that there be no contact. Unfortunately, you are not in complete control. Intrusive contact may continue or even get worse. However, you have the right to set reasonable limits on the contact that your ex has with you. You first need to decide

what they are and then you then need to communicate those limits.

In Texas, Stalking is an offense when a person on more than one occasion and in the same course of conduct directed specifically at a victim follows him/her, threatens bodily injury to the victim or threatens to destroy someone's property.

If you think you are being stalked, take these steps:

- If you are in immediate danger, find a safe place to go. If you can't get out of danger, call 911 or 210.458.4911 on campus.
- File a complaint with the police. Tell us about all threats.
- Write down every incident that happens. Include the time, date, and other important information.
- Keep answering machine/voicemail messages, photos of property damage, and letters.
- Contact support systems to help you, including the UTSA Counseling Center (458-4140).
- Tell important people about the

stalking problem, including family, friends, and neighbors.

By learning more about stalking, communities can support victims and combat the crime. "If more people can recognize stalking," said Jessica Muniz, LMSW, co-coordinator of the Women's Resource Center, "we have a better chance to hold offenders accountable. Knowledge can help communities support victims and prevent tragedies."

UTSA Women's Resource Center will partner with Counseling Services, Student Judicial Affairs, UTSA Police and Student Activities to offer a workshop and discussion on Wednesday, January 21, from 7-9pm in the UC Pecan room (UC 2.01.26). The event will promote awareness and public education about stalking during the annual observance and empower students to take a stand against this crime. For more information, please contact Melissa Hernandez, LCSW at 458-4140. Reference: Jan. 08 Runner Beat, UTSA Women's Resource Center Press Release

## Chief's Corner By Chief David Hernandez

### No Do Overs!

"Do over, do over", a phrase commonly used when playing games where the play didn't go your way and you want to do it over again. Yes, when you are kids you can call for a do over and if you argue enough the others will tend to give in and let you do it over. Unfortunately, life does not offer us to many opportunities for a do over. The decisions we make every day will impact our lives in a positive or negative way, and we can't simply yell "do over" when the outcome is a negative one.

Prudence dictates that we think carefully before acting so as to ensure that we don't find ourselves wishing we could do it

over again. Everything we do and say has consequences and thus thinking before taking action is critical if we are to avoid serious errors in judgment. Too often, we see students or staff members who make decisions that place them in a very difficult position; compromising their ability to continue their studies or employment. Most often, the first mistake involved not taking the time to think about the consequence of the action they were taking. Most of these individuals quickly admit that the warning bells went off, but that they didn't take the time to think about all of the possible consequences before acting.

It is my wish for everyone, that

in 2009, we would all make it a point to do three things:

1. At the start of your day, think about all the things you need to do and plan accordingly.
2. Think about critical decisions beyond the immediate result to the long term possible consequences before you act.
3. At the end of your day, think about what you accomplished or failed to accomplish, and ensure that you do better the next day.

These are three simple steps that if put into practice will provide for greater success and eliminate the need for you to ever find yourself yelling, "do over, do over!"