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 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.
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 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

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.

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!


UTSA Office of Business Affairs: Your Partner for Successful Solutions!
“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 to review the UTSA Emergency Response Plan.

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

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.

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

I’m often asked what happens after the UTSA PD’s 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 sections 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!
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 contact that your ex has with you. You first need to decide what they are and then you then need to communicate those limits.

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 7-9 pm in the UC Pecan room.