



A campus safety newsletter for the UTSA community

# Runner Beat

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**Assistant Chief of Police:**  
Dan Pena  
**Patrol Div. Commander:**  
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### UTSAPD Wants You To Be Safe

Be careful this holiday season  
Photo: Google Images

The University of Texas at San Antonio Police Department conducted its sixth promotion ceremony on Tuesday December 13, 2011 at the Denman Room of the University Center at the Main Campus. Two officers were promoted during the ceremony and several department and community members were recognized for their outstanding service.

The master of ceremonies was Captain Dan Kiley. To start the ceremony, the UTSA-PD Honor Guard posted the colors. The keynote address

## UTSAPD Holds Promotion and Award Ceremony

was given by Mr. Mauricio Fernandez, Assistant Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (San Antonio Field Office). Mr. Fernandez spoke on leadership qualities and how leadership is important in the law enforcement community. He also commented on how recognizing the efforts of officers and community members is important in law enforcement.

Officers who were promoted were sworn in by Chief Steve Barrera (Chief of Police for the UTSA Police Department). Joseph LoBrutto was promoted to Sergeant. Sgt. LoBrutto was previously assigned as a corporal working third shift. His new assignment will be the sergeant over training for the UTSA Police Department. Steve Patrick was promoted to Corporal. Cpl. Patrick has been with the police department

since 2003 and will be a supervisor for the third shift.

Several awards were given to various department members for their contributions to UTSAPD. Guard Supervisor Ramiro Nino was recognized as the Supervisor of the Year for his work at the Institute of Texas Cultures. Officer Allan Crocker was acknowledged as the Officer of the Year for his work with the UTSA football team. Other departmental awards were Guard of the Year to Guard Cordell Robinson; Communications Operator of the Year to Connie Kimbrough and Employee of the Year to Mr. Ronald Russell.

The golden whistle is awarded for a member of the community outside of the police department that had made an exceptional contribution to the department through their ef-

forts and cooperation. 2011 recipients were USAF Lt. Beaudry Barnett for his keen observation of a serious incident; Captain Mike Gorhum (SAPD) for his work with UTSA football and Judy Verdon (UTSA Human Resources) for her administrative staff training program.

The Chief's Commendation Award was given to Sgt. Odom, Cpl. Diaz, Detective Vega, Officers S. Smith & Palacios and Guard Robinson for their work in an arrest of a car burglar; and to Sgt. Merritt, Cpl. Carter and Officer Piepho for their work in National Night Out. Assistant Chief Jose Banales of SAPD was given special recognition for his continued support of UT San Antonio PD. Closing remarks were made by Chief Barrera.

## UTSAPD Changes to New Uniform and Patch

On December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the police cadets of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Basic Peace Officer Class graduated from the University of Texas System Police Academy. Three of the graduates are from UTSA and they are shown in the photograph to the right. From left to right in the photo are Officer's Jonathan Pfaff, James Lee and Patrick Lopez.

There was one very noticeable change in this class that had not been seen since April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1989, and that was the uniform they wore at graduation. All 15 of the UT System institutional Police Departments will have three years to transition to the new uniform; however, UTSAPD has begun the transition immedi-

ately and should complete the transition within the next three months. During this time, you may see officers wearing both uniforms around campus until the transition is complete. In addition to the uniform all officers will be wearing a new police patch.



**New UTSAPD uniform is now dark blue with new patches**

All UTSAPD officers will begin wearing this soon  
Photo: UTSAPD



**Watch For Traffic & Pedestrians**  
 UTSAPD wants you to have a safe semester  
 Photo From: UTSAPD

With the start of the new semester, there has been an increase of vehicle and pedestrian traffic around campus. The UTSA Police Department wants to ensure the well being of all members of the university community when it comes to traffic safety. Here are a few safety tips:

## Traffic Safety Tips for the Beginning of the Semester

**Give the Right of Way:** Most traffic accidents involve one car failing to yield the right of way to another car. Avoid accidents by waiting for a sufficient gap in traffic before entering.

**Unsafe Speeds:** The speed limit on UTSA campus roads is 20 mph and in the parking lots the speed limit is 10 mph.

**Traffic Control:** UTSA police officers routinely direct traffic on campus streets that become congested as students arrive or depart campus. Heeding instructions from the police officers helps to ensure the safety of motorists and

pedestrians

**Emergency Vehicles:** Texas law requires drivers of every vehicle to immediately move as close as possible and parallel to the nearest edge of the road, clear of any intersection, and stop whenever an emergency vehicle with warning lights and siren operating is approaching. The driver shall remain stopped until the emergency vehicle has passed and no other emergency equipment is in sight.

**Pedestrians:** UTSA parking regulations state that every pedestrian has the right-of-way at marked crosswalks, in intersections, and

on sidewalks extending across driveways. Texas Law states that a pedestrian may not suddenly proceed into the path of a vehicle so close that it is impossible for the vehicle operator to yield.

Operating a motor vehicle on campus and in the surrounding area of UTSA is a unique and challenging experience. Operators need to develop safe driving habits. We encourage every member of our community to drive safely, giving special attention to the speed limits, seat belt laws and most importantly their surroundings.

**Employee Kudos:** On 12/21/2011, a tool bag with high dollar tools was reported stolen. While a theft report was being investigated, Grd Trevino started asking employees about the tool bag. Eventually, she found an employee who had taken the tool bag for lost & found. Grd Trevino actions led to a quick resolution to this case and the return of the tools to the owner. **Way to go!**



Crime Prevention Officer Melody Piepho

## Officer Piepho's Crime Prevention Tip of the Month

### 10 Signs That You Are Being Stalked

Lurking around your workplace or your living area. | Being watched. | Repeated phone calls. | Inappropriate gifts. | Finding yourself in the position of needing to be rescued. | Manipulation. | Internet Stalking. | Defamation of character or insults. | Violence. | Cumulative unwanted contact of any kind.

Stalking is often subtle, yet pervasive. The stalker is counting on you feeling as if his/her actions are ordinary demonstrations of affection. If you find yourself experiencing any of these situations on a consistent basis, you may be the victim of stalking. Your quick reporting to the police is the most effective tool in putting an end to the stalker's terror.

(For in-depth description go online to [www.lifescrypt.com](http://www.lifescrypt.com))

## January is Stalking Awareness Month

Stalking sneaks into a victim's life. Often by the time anyone begins paying serious attention to the stalker, the stalking has already escalated to dangerous behaviors. Although there are many forms of stalking, the two most common types are the stalking of former intimates or a love obsession.

Recent surveys show that as many as 30% of college students experienced intrusive contact after ending a romantic relationship. The love obsession stalker develops a fixation on another person with whom they have no personal relationship. Both hope that maintaining contact will keep or establish the relationship. Sometimes it is simply annoying, but other times he/she 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 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 voicemail messages, photos of property damage and any 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 UTSA Women's Resource Center, "we have a better chance to hold offenders accounta-



**Be aware of stalking behaviors**  
 January is Stalking Awareness Month  
 Photo From: Google Images

ble. Knowledge can help communities support victims and prevent tragedies."

UTSA Women's Resource Center has many resources and programs available for victims of stalking or dating violence. Go to their webpage at [www.utsa.edu/wrc/wrc/](http://www.utsa.edu/wrc/wrc/) for more information.

Reference: Jan. 08 Runner Beat, UTSA Women's Resource Center, Vanderbilt.edu/ProjectSafe/stalking.html



Begin the year right with emergency preparedness. Let's all be safe this year!

Photo: Google Images

## Welcome to the UTSA Police Department:

Welcome to Humberto Barrera, Jimmy Caraway, Charles Speck and Matthew Santos. All four were hired as guards for the UTSA Police Department and will undergo training this spring. Their training includes use of a police radio, patrol procedures and CPR/First Aid.

Welcome to all!



### Detective Time

Skills used by detectives

Photo From: Google Images

## Safety Highlights *Lorenzo D. Sanchez, MPA (UTSA Director of Emergency Management)*

With the New Year in full swing, the UTSA Office of Emergency Management would like to remind you of a few simple ways you can engage yourself in emergency preparedness. This time of year is a great time to get everything in order so you and your family can be ready when seconds count!

First things first – prepare an emergency kit! In order to respond to any type of emergency, you are advised to put together an emergency kit for your home, car, and office/workplace. Why is it important to have 3 kits? You never know where you will be when a local emergency happens, and having the essentials to get you through the moment is important to your safety and well-being. Items to include in your kit include, but are not limited to, water/sports drink, snacks, medications, first-aid kit, important documents, change of clothes, flashlight, batteries, cell phone charger, and personal hygiene products. Although this is not an extensive list, these basic items will ensure you

have a level of comfort when normal resources are not available. As part of your checklist, include a test of your smoke alarms, fire extinguishers, and other safety equipment – replace old batteries or other materials as needed, and mark the date on your checklist.

Next on the path to preparedness is to develop an emergency plan. Preparing a plan ahead of time will assist you during an emergency and lessen the stress of figuring out what to do and who to contact. Your plan should include emergency contact information, phone numbers of family members and emergency services, important personal information for emergency responders (medical allergies, doctors, etc), and other basic preparedness information. Much like an emergency kit, a plan should be developed and stored at home, at work, and a brief plan/card in your wallet. A good resource to easily develop a plan is to visit the Texas Prepares website [www.texasprepares.org](http://www.texasprepares.org).

Lastly, stay informed! Know the

hazards that surround you at all times, and learn about how you can respond to different types of emergencies. For certain types of emergencies, such as severe weather, there is time to gather information and act appropriately. But, as is the nature of the beast, emergencies can jump out at you without warning. Therefore, listen to the news, monitor weather conditions, research local threats, and most importantly, share this information with your family, friends, and coworkers. Knowledge is the core of emergency preparedness – don't be scared, empower yourself!

Together, we can build and sustain a safe campus community. The UTSA Office of Emergency Management is committed to providing quality and accurate preparedness information to our campus family, and we hope you take steps to ensure your personal and family preparedness needs.

For more information on emergency preparedness, visit our website at [alerts.utsa.edu](http://alerts.utsa.edu). Be safe UTSA!



### DWI No Refusal is EVERYDAY in San Antonio & Bexar County.

All local law enforcement agencies will be able to get warrants and have blood tested for DWI cases.

**Don't Drink and Drive!**



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

2011 has been a very busy year in the Criminal Investigations Section of the UTSAPD. I'm still tallying up the statistics, but it looks like we have cleared more cases, completed more background investigations and performed more dignitary protection assignments than ever before. In fact, we have been so busy that we have been approved for another Detective for our section. This means that, very shortly, we will be staffing three Detectives and one Sergeant. I anticipate that this will allow us to achieve our goals in a more timely fashion.

Right now, you're probably asking yourself how we go about choosing a detective. I talked about this in another article a long time ago, so

let me cover it again. The core values that I look for in an officer who aspires to be a Detective are: Professionalism, compassion, integrity and teamwork. If an officer does not display any one of these values, they will have a hard time fitting in with our team. Aside from the core values mentioned above, I expect a lot from one of my detectives. I expect them to demonstrate the investigative skills necessary to conduct a thorough investigation, to adhere to all rules and policies of this department, to establish and maintain personal contact with the victim of a crime, to be punctual and ready to go to work when they walk in the door and to be professional at all times both on and off duty.

The next step for the candidate would be the oral board. This is where he or she meets with various members of the department and is asked a series of questions which gauges their knowledge of the job. Once the board has tabulated the final scores, the names of the top three candidates are given to the Chief of Police and a decision is made.

Once the person is chosen for the position, they will become acclimated with their responsibilities and expectations and will start by working smaller cases. Very soon though, they will be contributing to our section to make us more successful than ever.

## Schedule of Events For December 2012

**Friday Jan. 13, 2012**

**Operation Identification**

**Begins 9:00 am at various locations**

Bring your valuable items to be engraved with your driver's license number. Locations are Chap, Laurel & UOA.

**Tuesday Jan. 17, 2012**

**Spring Semester Starts**

**Begins 8:00 am at various locations**

The spring semester for UTSA starts on this day. Leave early to avoid traffic and parking issues.

**Friday Jan. 20, 2012**

**SD352: Clery Act Training**

**9:00 am at Univ. Heights**

If you are an "Other Campus Security Official" per the Clery Act, this HR training class will be valuable for you.

**Tuesday Jan. 24, 2012**

**SD351: Active Shooter**

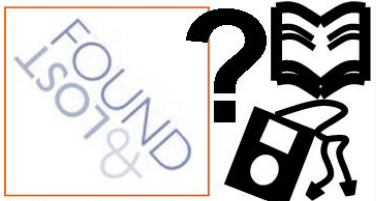
**11:00 am at Univ. Heights**

Would you know what do to if the unthinkable happened? Learn valuable survival skills in this HR training class.

## Lost and Found

All found property that is turned in to the University Police Lost & Found section is stored at the University Police Lost & Found for 60 days. After 60 days, the found property is transferred to the Surplus Property Department for public auctions or further disposition.

To report lost property items or to make inquiries regarding lost property call 210.458.6247 (Monday to Friday; 8am to 5pm). To claim found property items, individuals must present a valid Texas Driver's license, UTSA photo ID card or a valid photo ID card from another source; military ID or another state photo ID card. Individuals must be able to accurately describe the property that was lost in order to claim property from the lost & found section. **\*\* NOTE—Departments, please promptly turn in any lost and found items you may have so we can return them to their owners in a timely fashion.**



UTSA Police Department

The below listed items are currently being held by UTSAPD. If not claimed in 30 days, they will be disposed of in accordance with policy.

Qty	Item	Description	Qty	Item	Description
	Bikes	Various Brands & Colors	2	Baseball Caps	No name
	Books/ Binders/Folders/Spirals	Various Titles & Brands		Jewelry & Watches	(6) Various Rings, (3) bracelets
3	Backpacks	Various brands/colors	48	Keys	Various Types, Styles & Colors
1	Coahuila ID	For Angelica Sesma Espinoza	1	Certificate	For Frankie Rivera
1	Excel Academy ID	For Jennifer Lara	9	Umbrellas	Various Colors
1	AETNA Ins. card	For Bayan Shami	1	Poster	
1	Under 21 Texas License	For Adriana Daniela Tamez	1	Camera tripod	No name
1	AFMOA ID	For Orlando Gomez	1	Pocket knife w/tips	No name
1	Under 21 Texas License	Belonging to Gekai Shane Halton		Jackets/sweaters	No names
1	chest filled with art supplies	No name		DVDs	No name
1	Plastic school box filled with supplies	No name	1	Stole of gratitude from graduation	No Name
1	Under 21 Texas License	For Jaye Torme Washington	1	Black hand bag	Filled with make up (from graduation)
1	Bucket of change	No name	1	Beautiful multi colored scarf	No name
		(4) Cell Phones, Chargers, (6) Calculators,			
	Electronics	(1) camera (3) CDs.	1	Part of a car jack	No name
2	Flashdrives	Various Colors & Brands	1	Cake knife	No name
	Prescription glasses & Sunglasses	Various Brands, Colors & Styles	1	Brown purse	

*Bienvenido*

The UTSA Police Department would like to welcome back all students, faculty and staff for the Spring 2012 Semester. Have a safe and wonderful semester!

**WELCOME BACK**

### Crime Report for the Month of December 2011

The below is a summary of the crimes that occurred as of December 31. For more information, go to [www.utsa.edu/utsapd](http://www.utsa.edu/utsapd) and click on *Crime Stats*.

Thefts =	9	Alcohol Arrests =	8
Burglary of Vehicle =	3	Drug Arrests =	4
Assaults =	0	DWI/DUI Arrests =	6
Theft of Motor Vehicle =	0	Other Crimes =	7

**SECURE IT. KEEP IT.**

UTSA Police Department

January is

**NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH**

StalkingAwarenessMonth.org

## Resources for Weather Information & Campus Closures



**UTSAPD Wants You To Be Safe**  
Watch for winter weather  
Photos: UTSAPD

Several weather predictions for the San Antonio area indicate that it could be a cold and wet winter this year, so there is always the possibility that UTSA may temporarily close because of icy conditions.

### Chief Barrera Says:

I just wanted to take a moment to highlight two wonderful people working for us in the Records Section, both student assistants, Ms. Kayla Larsen and Ms. Amy Perez. On several occasions, and without hesitation, they have helped take care of police department business. Thank you Kayla and Amy for all you do.



**Chief Steve Barrera**  
UTSAPD Police Department  
Photo From: File

There are several methods that UTSA administration communicates the operational status of the university:

- CampusAlerts website (alerts.utsa.edu)
- (210) 458-SNOW (7669)
- UTSA Web sites: UTSA home page, UTSA Today
- Local media

The CampusAlerts website is a single source for information on UTSA closures prompted by inclement weather, health and other emergencies, and construction and maintenance work. It was developed to keep students, faculty, staff and the general public informed on the status of the university.

UTSA faculty, staff and students can call 458-SNOW at any time for information about the Tri-Campus community regarding the status of classes and employee work schedules. The line accepts up to 138

calls at a time, but if there is a busy signal, please be patient and try again.

The UTSA Office of University Communications will update two Web sites (the UTSA home page and UTSA Today) with information on the university's status.

Although University Communications attempts to distribute current information to all media outlets in San Antonio, the process can be difficult because of the large number of phone calls received by newspapers and radio and television stations during periods of severe weather.

UTSA makes every attempt to provide all media outlets correct information in a timely manner, but the university initially communicates with both WOAI Television and WOAI Radio.

When adverse weather occurs during the night, the UTSA Police

Department advises the Vice President for Business Affairs concerning weather conditions. The Vice President consults with the Provost and Vice President for Student Affairs before advising the President, who determines whether or not to close the university. Officials attempt to make a decision about whether or not to close the campuses by approximately 5 a.m.

UTSA is StormReady accredited. StormReady is a National Weather Service program created to ensure American communities have advance warning of hazardous weather. The benefits of the StormReady program to UTSA are faster weather warnings, detailed requirements to improve weather operations and enhanced preparedness.

UTSA is committed to making the best decision relevant to the safety of all students, faculty and staff.

Reference: UTSA Today



**The UTSA Police Department Crime Prevention Unit will be at various locations during the spring semester to conduct Operation Identification. This is a FREE theft-awareness program. Check our Facebook page for times and locations: [www.facebook.com/UTSAPoliceDepartment](http://www.facebook.com/UTSAPoliceDepartment)**

## The Bottom Line by Chief Steve Barrera

In this month's edition we mention the unveiling of a new uniform look for our UTSA Police Officers that will also be worn by all UT System Police Officers. During the next few months we will be transitioning to a new color uniform and patch. Historically, many police departments have made several uniform changes throughout the years. Recently, a move toward a dark navy blue police uniform has been the trend in many national and most local law enforcement agencies. Some call the current uniform "LAPD blue" as it has become known since LAPD was one of the first to move to this uniform

color many years ago. The New York Police Department has also had this same color uniform for some time. Our local San Antonio Police Department made this move approximately 6 years ago and the Bexar County Sheriff's Office more recently. I feel this "uniformity", no pun intended, is good for the profession as it shows police departments are united in the fight against crime and are here to serve and protect. There will always be a few uniform colors around such as tan or different shades of blue but we are all the same and have the same authority if you are a sworn police officer for any city,

county, state or federal agency. One distinction I would like to make is our security guards, who wear a white uniform shirt, but don't have police authority. Our security guard team is a vital part of our security plan on campus and we appreciate the job they perform. Our security guards are here to assist you as well and can always call a sworn police officer if necessary. Bottom line is we're all here to help keep you and our campus safe whatever uniform we wear, so please don't hesitate to ask for assistance from any of us.



The University of Texas at San Antonio Police Department  
One UTSA Circle San Antonio, Texas 78249 | 210.458.4242 210.458.7602 fax  
UTSAPD is a CALEA and IACLEA accredited law enforcement agency  
Please visit our website at [www.utsa.edu/utsapd](http://www.utsa.edu/utsapd)

