

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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Staying Safe on Social Network Sites

Online social networking can be a great way to exchange ideas, information, photos, and games, create profiles and communities, expand your networks and pursue new interests. While you are enjoying the benefits of social networking, remember that putting your personal information online does come with some risks. Personal details you upload to the internet can be a target of criminal activity.

While the majority of people using these sites do not pose a threat, malicious people may be drawn to them because of the accessibility and amount of personal information that's available. The more information malicious people have about you, the easier it is for them to take advantage of you.

FACT: Delete ≠ Disappear. Hitting the delete button doesn't always solve the problem. You never know how many people have printed or saved your profile or pictures.

FACT: Employers are on Facebook.

Many companies have begun looking at online profiles of potential candidates before granting interviews.

FACT: Predators LOVE the Web. Posting your cell phone number, apartment location and class schedule online leaves you open to becoming a victim of stalking and harassment.

How can you protect yourself? Limit the amount of personal information you post - Do not post information that would make you vulnerable, such as your address or information about your schedule or routine. Also be considerate when posting information, including photos about your connections.

Remember that the internet is a public resource - Only post information you are comfortable with anyone seeing. This includes information and photos in your profile and in blogs and other forums.

Be wary of strangers - The internet makes it easy for people to misrepresent their identities and motives. Consider limiting the people who are allowed to contact you on these



UTSA-SD wants you to stay safe on social network sites. (Photo courtesy of tent5.videojug.com)

sites. If you interact with people you do not know, be cautious about the amount of information you reveal or agreeing to meet them in person. Be skeptical - Don't believe everything you read online. People may post false or misleading information about various topics, including their own identities.

Evaluate your settings - Take advantage of a site's privacy settings. You can customize your settings to restrict access to only certain people.

The web is a great way to connect with others and social network sites are great ways to join an ever-growing community. By following the tips above you can enjoy these sites in a safer manner.

References: www.us-cert.gov, acma.gov.au & *Face the Facts* by Kelsey Bratcher

UTSAPD Participates in Area Police Memorial Week

The UTSA Police Department and the Alamo Area Chief's Association hosted a Peace Officers Memorial Day ceremony at 9 a.m., Friday, May 15 at Bill Miller Plaza on the UTSA Downtown Campus as part of National Police Week.

The Peace Officers Memorial Day ceremony brought together all branches of the San Antonio and Bexar County law enforcement communities including local police, police from special jurisdictions such as college campuses, and park police, state troopers, military police and federal agencies including

ATF, DEA, FBI, Secret Service and U.S. Marshals.

The ceremony included presentation of the colors and roll call for the absent. Ralph Diaz, special agent in charge in the FBI San Antonio office, was the keynote speaker during the ceremony.

National Peace Officers Memorial Day began in 1962 when President John F. Kennedy designated the week encompassing May 15 as National Police Week. Every 57 hours, a law enforcement officer gives up his or her life in the line of duty.

In 2008, Texas lost 14 law enforcement officers. Since 1963, 29 university police officers nationwide have died in the line of duty protecting college campuses.

Reference: Lt. Stephanie Padula for UTSA Today



Combined Honor Guards from area police agencies proceed to the police memorial ceremony
(photo Capt. Dan Kiley)



Ofc. Gallegos (L) & Cpl. LoBrutto (R) recently instructed ALERRT training for UTSA officers



Congratulations to Ms. Helen White for her promotion from Administrative Assistant to Administrative Associate I. Her willingness to work hard and to be a team player merit this promotion.



Congratulations to Cpl. LoBrutto for his nomination for ASIS Award

UTSAPD Participates in ALERRT Training

Recently, there has been a lot of focus on the safety of the students, faculty and staff at UTSA and other universities around the country. UTSA was affected when a UTSA student was involved in a shooting at a nearby apartment complex.

UTSAPD has been involved with on-going plans to ensure we are properly trained and prepared to respond to these types of incidents. UTSAPD recently sent two officers to an Active Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) instructor school. This gives us the capability to train our officers to respond to an active shooting situation. All UTSAPD officers receive extensive training, but this gives us additional training and techniques to use in stressful situations. Most of the officers have already received this training. However, the two instructors will be able to teach the officers who do not have the training. They will also be able to coordinate on-going refresher training in order to reinforce the skills taught in the original class and pass-on any new training updates.

The ALERRT training is a rigorous class. The officers spend very little time in the classroom. Most of the time is spent performing actual skills. Team movement, communications and injured person rescue are a few of the topics taught. At the end of the course the officers must put all the training together in a practical scenario. The scenario ensures that officers have learned the techniques and concepts that were taught with stresses similar to that of an actual situation.

The scenario involved the officers and the suspect actors being armed with simunition handguns. The simunitions are similar to paintballs. When the officer or actor is hit with the paint round it stings and can bruise or break the skin. This training indoctrinates the officer to this type of stressful situation and teaches them how to respond and deal with the actual situation. Not only does it teach them the physical techniques of how to deal with an actual situation, but the mental processes necessary to respond to an on-going shooting situation. By the

end of the training the officers have learned skills necessary to respond to a person in the process of shooting and harming others. These skills are reinforced through practical scenarios that have taught the officers to trust the techniques, other officers and themselves. A class was recently held at Chisholm Hall dormitory for UTSA officers. Many UTSA community members pitched in as actors to make scenarios more real for the officers who took part in the training.

UTSAPD is committed to keeping all its students, faculty and staff safe. This training is but one endeavor the UTSAPD is pursuing in order to fulfill this commitment.

Reference: Cpl. Jo LoBrutto



Training was recently held at Chisholm Hall

Employee Kudos: Thanks to Sgt. Patnode for his actions in apprehending the offender in the case of extensive physical damage to projection equipment and several classrooms and restrooms. Sgt. Patnode located and identified the suspect and affected the arrest without any further incident. **Way to go!**

Cpl. Joseph LoBrutto Nominated for ASIS Award

In honor of Law Enforcement Appreciation Month, ASIS International San Antonio chapter hosted the 19th Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Luncheon. The function was held on Thursday, May 14, 2009 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Oak Hills Country Club to recognize outstanding law enforcement officers from area law enforcement agencies and departments.

The UTSA Police Department is proud to announce that Corpo-

ral Joseph LoBrutto was one of 14 nominations accepted for the prestigious "Distinguished Officer of the Year" award. Corporal LoBrutto was recognized for his outstanding service to the community. Although he was not selected for the final award Cpl. LoBrutto has served the department with "heart".

ASIS International is the pre-eminent organization for security professionals. Founded in 1955, ASIS is dedicated to

increasing the effectiveness and productivity of security professionals by developing educational programs and materials that address broad security interests, such as the ASIS Annual Seminar and Exhibits, as well as specific security topics.

Please join us in congratulating Corporal LoBrutto. It was a great achievement and honor for him to have been selected as a finalist.

References: Lt. Paul English e-mail, asisonline.org



“Safety Highlights” by Donovan Agans (Director BCEM)

According to the Center's for Disease Control and Prevention H1N1 is a new flu virus that was first detected in April 2009 and commonly referred to as the Swine Flu. The virus is infecting people and is spreading from person-to-person in the same way that regular seasonal influenza viruses spreads.

It's uncertain at this time how severe or widespread this H1N1 outbreak will be. In addition, currently there is no vaccine to protect against H1N1 virus. CDC anticipates that there will be more cases and more hospitalizations associated with this new virus in the coming days and weeks.

UTSA first became aware of the developing virus on 24 April 2009 via San Antonio Metrohealth. In response to this developing situation, UTSA convened its Emergency Response Team. Some of

the response actions undertaken by ERT included:

- Intensified cleaning of door handles, labs, busses & stocking of soap in restrooms
- Tracking of sick students and faculty
- Placement of Hand Sanitizer in select locations
- H1N1 information update through email, Electronic Signage & Website
- Posting of Cover Cough / Wash Hands information in restrooms

The UTSA ERT continues to monitor the H1N1 situation and updating of UTSA website if necessary. Here are some actions the individual can do to stay healthy:

- Stay informed. The UTSA website will be updated regularly as information becomes available.
- Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through

coughing or sneezing of infected people. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Stay home if you get sick. CDC recommends staying home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

It is uncertain at this time how severe the H1N1 outbreak will be in terms of illness compared with other influenza viruses. This is a developing and ongoing situation and the UTSA ERT will do all it can to keep the community prepared and informed.

Crime Prevention Tip

When leaving your apartment or dorm, lock your door and carry your key even when you take the trash out or go next door for only a few minutes.

“Detective Time” by Det. Jessenia Skelton (Detective, Criminal Investigations)

My name is Detective Jessenia Skelton. I'm filling in for Sgt. Calucci as he's out catching bad guys. Many of us have been victims of theft or know someone who has been a victim. So how can you make it easier for Detectives investigating your theft case? Here are a few tips to help with the recovery or identification of your personal property that has been stolen.

First, record information that will help identify your property. Keep it filed in a safe and easily accessible location so you can provide it to the Detectives if you file a theft report. You should consider photographing your property and writing down its serial number, brand name and model on the back of the photograph. This will alleviate some

stress when the Detective asks you to provide a description of the stolen item.

If you have credit or debit cards, have the number and card type saved and stored somewhere accessible. Call and cancel your stolen credit card and immediately request for a statement for information pertaining to any non authorized charges. This will help expedite the investigation process and allow us to possibly obtain surveillance video, if available, from locations where the card was used.

Secondly you should etch your driver's license number to the back of your property near the serial number. This will make it easier to identify if it is recovered or pawned. A pawn shop should not accept any property that belongs to a third

party without proof of ownership. If you do not have the capability of etching your driver's license to your property, the UTSA Police Department Crime Prevention Section provides this service free of charge.

And the third tip involves one of the most popular stolen items on campus, but the hardest to recover. Textbooks are difficult to locate because there is nothing that uniquely identifies them as belonging to you. Therefore, you should write your name or something that identifies you as the owner of the book somewhere inside the book itself, even under a specific page. This will allow Detectives to look at books that have recently been resold to bookstores and identify yours.

The National Safety Council traditionally hosts National Safety Month every June to promote safety throughout the country, and this year's observances target the most significant reasons for unintentional deaths at home, in the workplace, and on the road, with the week of 2-6 June specifically set aside to encourage emergency preparedness messaging. For more information, go to: <http://www.nsc.org/nsm>





UTSAPD wants you to be informed about summer safety (Photo mlive.com)

Chief Hernandez says:
Great job goes out to Guard Sanders who recognized an offender that had been trespassed from the campus. Sanders quickly alerted patrol officers who were able to take the individual into custody.



UTSAPD Police Chief David Hernandez

Be Smart...Be Safe: Summer Safety Tips

School's out, pools are open and people across the country are looking for fun ways to cool down as summer temperatures heat up. As you head to the beach, to the pool, or to the mountains for a camping vacation, the UTSA Police Department encourages you and your family to keep safety in mind!

FUN IN THE SUN

Stay in the shade whenever possible, and avoid sun exposure during the peak intensity hours. Use a sunscreen with an SPF (sun protection factor) of 15 or greater.

WATER SAFETY

Always swim with a buddy; never swim alone. Obey all rules and posted signs. Swim in depths and areas that are conducive to your swimming ability.

HIKING AND CAMPING SAFETY

Many families will head to our national parks and forests this

summer to enjoy the great outdoors. But if you're not prepared to rough it in the woods, hiking or camping can be a less than enjoyable experience. The best way to help guarantee a good time for all is to plan ahead carefully and follow common sense safety precautions.

Heat Related Illnesses occur when your body can't keep itself cool and include: **Heat Cramps** - Muscular pains and spasms due to heavy exertion. Heat cramps are the least severe.

Heat Exhaustion - Occurs when people exercise heavily or work in hot, humid places where body fluids are lost through heavy sweating. Blood flow to the skin increases, causing blood flow to decrease to the vital organs. Results in a form of mild shock. If not treated condition may worsen. Body temperature will keep rising and victim may suffer heat stroke.

Heat Stroke - A life-threatening condition. The victim's temperature control system, which produces sweating to cool the body, stops working. The body temperature can rise so high that brain damage and death may result if the body is not cooled quickly.

To prevent heat illness during a heat wave:

- Stay indoors as much as possible and limit exposure to the sun.
- Slow down. Avoid strenuous activity in the afternoon hours.
- Drink plenty of water, even if you do not feel thirsty.
- Protect face and head by wearing a wide-brimmed hat.
- Never leave children or pets alone in closed vehicles.

UTSAPD wants you to have a safe and enjoyable summer. For further safety tips, go to our website at www.utsa.edu/utsapd.

Reference: Donovan Agans (Director, UTSA BCM), American Red Cross and the American Academy of Pediatrics web sites

Chief's Corner By Chief David Hernandez

Tuned In To Technology

Are you a technology junky? Do you need to have the latest and the greatest technology? Do you communicate via various technological devices? Do you Twitter, Facebook, Myspace, instant message, text message, and so on and so on....? Technology has taken communication to an entirely new level. Your police department is cognizant of this fact and is trying to do all it can to keep communicating with you via the same mediums that you utilize. This was evident in a recent story done by KENS television and KABB television news channels when they highlighted the UTSA PD's use of YouTube as a medium to identify subjects in one of our police investigations. Within hours of posting the video and sending out the crime bulletin, we had over 4,000 hits on the

site. That is incredible and demonstrates that utilizing those mediums most commonly used by our customers is an effective way to do business.

Today, more than ever your police department is tuned into the latest technology. With almost 400 cameras throughout our various campuses, many which are capable of capturing the license plate number on a vehicle, we can ensure that suspects can be tracked down and apprehended. Several access systems ensure that we can easily respond to a lost key card by immediately reprogramming the access to a residence, classroom or office. Police vehicles equipped with the latest technology ensure that we can communicate effectively and respond to your emergency without hesitation. Over 66 emergency phones throughout all of our campuses ensure that

our customers will be able to find a way to communicate their needs to us. I can go on and on, but the reality is simply that we are doing all we can to tune in to the latest technology so as to ensure the best possible service, reduce the cost of our services and improve on the timeliness of our services.

In closing, I should point out that with every effort to tune in to the latest technology comes a learning curve and the problems of working through software and hardware issues. Those issues are often misunderstood as a lack of concern or care when in fact they are challenges that we are doing our best to address as we tune in to the new technology. Please be patient and know that we are doing all we can to protect your future...today!