Traffic Safety Important at Start of Fall Semester

Give the Right of Way: Most traffic accidents on and near campus involve one car failing to yield the right of way to another car by selecting too short a gap in traffic when entering a busy street. Avoid accidents by waiting for a sufficient gap in traffic before entering.

Unsafe Speeds: Drivers who follow vehicles too closely cause rear-end collisions. 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 on or depart campus. Heeding instructions from the uniformed police officers directing traffic helps to ensure the safety of motorists and pedestrians as well as shorten the time to arrive on or leave campus.

Emergency Vehicles: The UTSA Police Department reminds you that 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 sirens 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 a service drive, building entrance, or driveway. 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.

References: Runner Beat Sept 07 & Sept 08

Cpl. Diaz Awarded Meritorious Service Award

Congratulations to Corporal Jason Diaz for being awarded the Meritorious Service Award for his role in the aborted robbery at a commercial establishment.

This June, Cpl. Diaz witnessed an armed robbery that occurred in the near northwest side of San Antonio. The two robbers were armed with a pistol. Cpl. Diaz was able to observe the robbers and provide the San Antonio Police Department positive identification. The two robbers were arrested a short time later by SAPD thanks to the quick thinking of Cpl. Diaz.

In an award letter from Director Michael Heidingsfield (Director, University of Texas System Police), it was stated “Your actions during this offense went above and beyond your lawful obligation as an off duty Texas peace officer and reflect personal courage, resolve, and a powerful commitment to public safety. You were not slowed by the fact that you were unarmed nor were you intimidated by the lethal characteristics of the situation you encountered. Instead, you opted to protect the innocent victim and ensure the responsible parties were brought to justice.”

The Meritorious Service Award is for outstanding achievement or meritorious service during an encounter with a criminal offender. Fantastic job Jason! At a recent award presentation, Chief Barrera presented Cpl. Diaz with his award ribbon. A formal award ceremony will take place later this year to recognize Cpl. Diaz as well as other UTSA police staff that have contributed to the safety of the university.
The jump to college can be stressful. You’re leaving behind your school, friends, family, and home, and going off to explore a new place, make new friends, learn new things, and set your own priorities. The more prepared you are for college when you get there, the more ready you’ll be to confront any new pressures. Here are some realities to consider, and a few common-sense ways to help you handle them:

Financial Responsibility: Practice basic money management even before you get to campus. Make a budget, avoid splurges and consider big buys seriously before you commit all or part of financial responsibility.

Study Tips: That means working out a regular study schedule, setting good habits such as reviewing class notes each day after every class and avoiding studying with distractions around you.

Use Classroom Time Wisely: When you miss class, zone out, and fall asleep you really undercut your college career. Stay at your peak in class by getting plenty of sleep at night and concentrating on the lectures.

Residence Living: Living away from home is a whole new experience as well, especially with a new roommate. A little cooperation on both of your parts can make dorm living less stressful. Develop clear lines of communication with your roommate right away. Also, be mindful of each other’s personal space and possessions.

Safety on Campus: A safer college is a more enjoyable college experience. Save our emergency number (210.458.4911) in your cell phone’s speed dial so you can call us quickly. Also, know where the blue emergency phones are. Above all, have common sense and be sensible. You can get through college and retain your sanity by having fun while maintaining your safety. The UTSA Police Department is here to help you through your college experience. References: gocollege.com & collegeboard.com

Be Prepared For The New Academic Year

Employee Kudos: Go to PSO Cordell Robinson for helping out two UTSA staff members this summer. Both staff members are family and when a serious health incident occurred to their father, PSO Robinson went out of his way in locating one of the staff members who was working out of the office. The staff member was informed of the family emergency. Both staff members, and the rest of the family, was appreciative of PSO Robinson for his assistance. Way to go!

Officer Piepho’s Crime Prevention Tip of the Month

Cell Phones and Driving

Although the State of Texas has yet to place a ban on cell phones while driving the City of San Antonio has enacted a city ordinance that bans Texting while driving….and for good reason. The National Safety Council published, “that it estimates at least 28% of all traffic crashes — or at least 1.6 million crashes each year — are caused by drivers using cell phones and texting. NSC estimates that 1.4 million crashes each year are caused by drivers using cell phones and a minimum of 200,000 additional crashes each year are caused by drivers who are texting. Your life is worth more than a text message!

September is National Campus Safety Month

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September is National Campus Safety Month

Soon, the arrival of thousands of students at UTSA will signal the start of the 2012 fall semester. Campus life, whether students live off-campus, on-campus, or at home, brings with it a new sense of independence for most students. With so many changes and adjustments students, and often their parents, forget about campus safety, not to mention their own safety. For many reasons, college campuses may feel safe because as a student, your peers surround you and dorms start to feel more like your bedroom at home. It is important to be sensible and aware of your surroundings. Therefore, colleges and universities across the United States have recognized September as National Campus Safety Awareness Month. This awareness campaign provides an excellent opportunity to promote safety information to the campus.

There are three steps you should do to help make yourself safe: prepare an emergency supply kit, make an emergency plan, and be informed.

Prepare an Emergency Supply Kit: You can customize your kit by including any items you think are important. However, remember to think first about the basic necessities of life: fresh water, food, clean air, and warmth.

Make a Plan: Experts advise families and individuals to make a plan ahead of time, spending time thinking and talking about what they will do during an emergency.

Be Informed: Be informed of the hazards you face and learn what you can do to mitigate their effects. A variety of severe weather hazards periodically threaten the area including strong rain, flooding and tornados.

Other safety tips include:

• Be aware of your surroundings and know safe and direct routes to campus destinations.
• Try not to walk alone after dark. If you do, try to utilize well-lit and populated routes on campus.
• Keep the UTSA emergency number in your cell phone (210.458-4911).
• Trust your instincts, especially when you feel that something is “not right.”
• Be aware of what you post online social networks. You can never be sure of who is viewing your personal information.
• Do not accept drinks from strangers as they could be easily contaminated with a drug.

References: nscam.org, mcsns.gov & unt.edu

UTSAPD Wants You To Be Safe

September is Campus Safety Month

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

**Get Prepared, Stay Prepared**  
Now that the semester is under way, the UTSA Office of Emergency Management would like to get back to basics with you when it comes to emergency preparedness. With all the stressors in our daily lives, mixed with our busy home and work schedules, we often forget how important it is to prepare for emergencies. If you follow the simple measures outlined in this article, you’ll be prepared to act when disaster strikes.

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 an 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.

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 Preparedness 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.

To stay informed regarding university emergencies or closures, visit the UTSA Campus Alerts website at [www.alerts.utsa.edu](http://www.alerts.utsa.edu). 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 the UTSA Campus Alerts website at [www.alerts.utsa.edu](http://www.alerts.utsa.edu). Be Prepared – Make a Plan – Stay Informed! Be safe UTSA!

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

Welcome to the Class of 2016. My name is Sgt. Tom Calucci and I currently lead the UTSAPD Criminal Investigations Section. Our section currently has three Detectives and One Sergeant. Our main goals are to conduct follow-up investigations, conduct special investigations, recover stolen property and successfully prosecute criminal Offenders.

To accomplish these goals, we value and promote: Professionalism, Compassion, integrity and teamwork. We strive to obtain these goals each and every day. We hope to provide unparalleled service through professionalism, training, innovations and partnerships with the community.

I’d like to offer a couple of tips to you. First, don’t leave your laptop, cellphones, tablets or other valuables unattended. Even if you walk away for two or three minutes, someone is sure to help themselves. Second, if you know the serial number of these items, write them down and keep the list safe somewhere. One of the best ways to track a stolen item is by serial number. We are not going to return an item to you if you cannot prove ownership. Lastly, there are cameras almost everywhere these days. If you are thinking of helping yourself to someone else’s property, don’t.

As always, the UTSAPD provides a silent witness page on our website. If you have information that you’d like to share with us, but want to remain anonymous, check out the page.

I truly hope that you all have a healthy and safe semester.
Schedule of Events For September 2012

Monday Sept. 4, 2012
Operation Identification
11:00 am at University Center
UTSAPD Crime Prevention Unit provides FREE engraving of your valuables!

Thursday Sept. 13, 2012
Coffee with the Cops
Begins 7:00 am at UC Starbucks
The UTSAPD Crime Prevention Unit will be at the UC Starbucks. Come have some coffee with us!

Friday Sept. 21, 2012
Rowdy Wing Fling
7:30 pm at East Convio Lawn
Open to all UTSA students and provides a fun and informative environment that allows students to gather in an alcohol-free space.

Monday Sept. 24, 2012
SD350: Personal Safety
2:30 pm at DTC
Find out how to reduce your risks of becoming a victim of crime both on and off campus.

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.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Books/Binders/Folders/Spirals</td>
<td>Various Brands &amp; Colors</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Prescription Glasses/Sunglasses</td>
<td>Various Brands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bank of America Card</td>
<td>Luis Olivo, Huda Bawazir,</td>
<td></td>
<td>Electronics</td>
<td>Headphones, iPods, misc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aetna Card</td>
<td>Mohammed Alharthi, Abdulaziz Alshamardl</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wallets</td>
<td>Shetel Anassi, Sophie Neilon, Ting Zhang, Marcs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Frost Card</td>
<td>Jackson S Rowe, Michael Hilmer</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Jewelry &amp; Watches</td>
<td>Rings, Bracelets, Watches, Earrings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Capital One Card</td>
<td>Juji-Kai Kuo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Umbrellas</td>
<td>Various Types, Styles &amp; Colors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Costco Card</td>
<td>Jillan Heller</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>TX License Plate</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>TX Lic</td>
<td>Melissa Munoz, Anderson, James, Leyva</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Small Make-up Bags</td>
<td>Pink w/ stripes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Calculators</td>
<td>Angela</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Important papers</td>
<td>(1) Boarding Pass (1) Immunization record for BrianeOrtiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chargers/Cords/Adapters</td>
<td>Various Brands</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Record</td>
<td>Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cellphones</td>
<td>Various Brands</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Golf Club</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mark Your Calendar for National Night Out!

On Tuesday, October 2nd, 2012, the UTSA Police Department will host the annual National Night Out (NNO) celebration. NNO is a neighborhood crime and drug prevention event that occurs annually every October, and it is celebrated in every city, town and village in the United States. In addition to increasing awareness of crime and drug prevention programs, NNO also strengthens neighborhood spirit and community-police partnerships, while sending a message to criminals that “neighborhoods are organized and fighting back against crime!” This year’s NNO will be extra special due to the efforts of Richard Barber, an Administrative officer with the UTSA Police Department who applied for and was awarded a $1,100.00 grant through the Public Safety Grant Program which is sponsored by Target. The money from the grant will be used to purchase various giveaways, food and beverages which will be given out at the event. Many thanks to Richard for winning the award and to Target for providing the funds necessary to help make this event a success. By Capt. Dan Kiley

Crime Report for the Month of August 2012

The below is a summary of the crimes that occurred as of February 28. For more information, go to www.utsa.edu/utsapd and click on Crime Stats.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thefts</th>
<th>11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burglary of Vehicle</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assaults</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft of Motor Vehicle</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol Arrests</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Arrests</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWI/DUI Arrests</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Crimes</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
You Can Be Prepared for Critical Incidents (by Sgt. Joe LoBrutto)

I would like to welcome all of our new and returning students, faculty, and staff. One of the first topics I will discuss will be preparedness. This can be general disaster or crisis preparedness or more specifically response to an active shooter. Before we get to an active shooter situation let’s discuss general preparedness. Many of you are new to the school and trying to find your way around. One of the best ways to prepare for an emergency is to know all of the ways out of a building or area. While you’re wandering around looking for your classrooms you can be studying the area you will be in. Know where emergency exits, stairwells, and corridors lead. Walk the stairs and around the building as much as possible. In addition, prepare yourself mentally. Ask yourself what you might do if various situations occur in or around your daily locations. Be aware of yourself and what actions you are willing to take to save yourself or someone else. An important aspect of trying to deal with an emergency is calling 911. Most of you should have learned that calling 911 from a cell phone will send you to the San Antonio Emergency Communications center. In disasters, you want the police there as quick as possible. The quickest way to reach the UTSAPD is by either dialing 911 from a university extension or dialing 210-458-4911 if there is an emergency or 210-458-4242 for non-emergencies. If you still have an old phone that last number is actually 458-HAHA. That’s a pretty easy way to remember the number. If the crisis is an active shooter situation ADD is the acronym to remember: Avoid, Deny, Defend. Avoid the killer, if that’s not possible Deny them access to your location, and if that’s not possible Defend yourself in any way you can. The city of Houston produced an excellent video using words similar to Avoid, Deny, Defend. They used Run, Hide, Fight. The video can be viewed at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0. Prepare yourself before the crisis happens and you will have a much better chance of navigating through it.

Welcome to New UTSAPD Members!

Over the summer we added several new members to the UTSAPD family. Please welcome our newest Administrative personnel: JoAnn Arista who takes over the Lost & Found and Taniesa Juul, who works in Access Services at the front desk. We also recently hired a new Police Officer, Maranda Tupper, who started on August 13, 2012. Please welcome her to our team.

The Bottom Line by Chief Steve Barrera

As the new school year begins please remember to take the time to avoid rushing around and not letting your guard down when it comes to protecting your property. Many people learn the hard way by leaving a laptop or other electronic device lying in plain view in a vehicle. Car thieves are looking for “smash and grab” opportunities and know that many people tend to be in a hurry or preoccupied this time of year and let their guard down by leaving their property unprotected. It’s so easy for thieves to simply break the window and grab what is in plain view in a matter of seconds. When parking in parking lots or garages, please hide any valuables in the trunk or carry them with you. Carrying it with you also requires that you not let it out of your sight, even for a moment. For example, when you have to go to the restroom and leave your laptop, iPad, or backpack unattended in the library or elsewhere on campus, it can easily be taken while you are gone. This is not a good feeling especially when you have lots of data or homework stored on your laptop. We have a program called “Secure it Keep it”, which emphasizes to never leave property unattended, engrave valuables, mark textbooks, record serial numbers, and buy a good lock for your bike. We also have other crime prevention programs on protecting your property and personal safety as well. Please feel free to visit our website at www.utsa.edu/utsapd to view these and other suggestions on how you can reduce your chances of becoming a crime victim. If there is ever anything we at the Police Department can do to assist or improve your safety while on campus, please don’t hesitate to contact us. Welcome to our new students and staff and welcome back to our returning students. Have a great year and we look forward to seeing you on campus.