



A campus safety newsletter for the UTSA community

Runner Beat

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Avoid Traffic Problems on Campus
UTSAPD officer directs traffic at Lot 5
Photo From: UTSA Police

With the start of the new academic year, there has been an increase of vehicle and pedestrian traffic in and 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 tips that may reduce the risk of becoming involved in a traffic accident:

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 traf-

fic 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 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 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

Secure It. Keep It. Properly Lock Your Bike

One of the best ways to get around campus is on a bike. Bicycling to class takes less time than trying to find that "perfect" parking spot, is healthy for you and good for the environment. Unfortunately, bicycles are very easy to steal because most owners leave the bike unlocked or improperly lock the bike. Understanding the most common types of theft can help you protect your bike and lock it with confidence.

Keep your bicycle locked at all times, and use a strong lock. Use a case-hardened U-type lock. Weak or inexpensive locks will not deter a thief. Make sure to fill up as much space inside the "U" as possible.

If you notice someone "hanging around" a bicycle rack, report this to UTSA-PD. Call 210.458.4911 if you notice suspicious people anywhere on campus.

Engrave your bicycle with your driver's license number. Your

driver's license number is a recognizable identifier that a police department would be able to use to try to get the bicycle back to you.

Record your bicycle's make, model and serial number and store this information in a safe place. In case it is stolen, you will have this information available.

Protect your bike by registering it. Registering your bike greatly aids in its return to you if it is recovered by the police. Options include the National Bike Registry at



Prevent bike theft by properly locking it
Photo: Google Images

www.nationalbikeregistry.com or registering your bike with the UTSA-PD. Call 210.877.4006 for more information.

References: <http://www.sfbike.org/?theft> & <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/offices/dps/crimprev/biketef.shtml>



Learn About Drug/Alcohol Issues

Protect yourself with knowledge
Photo From: Google Images

About half of U.S. college students binge drink or abuse drugs, and the number who abuse prescription medication such as painkillers is up sharply, according to a recent report.

The study, issued by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University in New York, provides a detailed look

The Dangers of Binge Drinking and Drug Abuse on Campus

at substance abuse among America's college students based on surveys, interviews and other research.

The report found that 49 percent of full-time college students ages 18 to 22 binge drink (consuming five or more drinks at a time), or abuse prescription drugs such as painkillers or illegal drugs like cocaine and marijuana. That translates to 3.8 million students. In 2005, 23 percent of them met the medical criteria for substance abuse or dependence, it said.

But the proportion who binge drink frequently, defined as three or more times over two weeks, rose

by 16 percent from 1993 to 2005. Drinking 10 or more times per month rose 25 percent, and drinking three or more times per month rose 26 percent.

Substance abuse has contributed to alcohol-related deaths and injuries, and sexual assaults against female students, the report said. The report was based on results of a nationally representative telephone survey of 2,000 students along with other data.

From 1993 to 2005, the proportion of students who abuse prescription painkillers such as Percocet, Vicodin and OxyContin rose more than 300 percent to 3.1 percent (about 240,000 students), the re-

port said. Abuse of prescription stimulants like Ritalin and Adderall doubled to 2.9 percent (225,000 students).

During the same period, daily marijuana use more than doubled to 4 percent (310,000 students). Overall use of other illegal drugs such as cocaine and heroin rose by half to 8.2 percent (636,000 students).

Another comment from the report states the proportion of college students who drink and binge drink has stayed constant. But what is troubling is the tremendous increase in the intensity and excessiveness of drinking and drug use and the of it.

Reference: Mar 15, 2007 By Will Dunham - WASHINGTON (Reuters)



Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over: UTSAPD is participating in a nationwide impaired driving crackdown that combines high-visibility law enforcement with a public information and education campaign. Between August 19 and September 6, law enforcement officers will be working overtime to stop and arrest impaired drivers. If you're caught drinking and driving, you are going to jail.



Employee Kudos: Goes to Detective Armando Gonzalez for his investigation into a recent theft. Based on that description, you recognized the suspect as a career criminal that we have dealt with several times in the past. Ultimately, the stolen computer was recovered and an arrest warrant for the suspect was obtained due to Detective Gonzalez work. **Way to go!**



Crime Prevention Officer Melody Piepho

Officer Piepho's Crime Prevention Tip of the Month

Have a Safe Start to a New Semester

A new semester has started and many of you will be spending late hours in the library and around campus working on class assignments and term papers. Be mindful of your surroundings and never leave your laptops, cell phones, text books and personal items unattended. Theft of property left unattended accounts for 60-70% of crime on campus. So just remember, Secure It! Keep It!

September is National Campus Safety Month

Soon, the arrival of thousands of students at UTSA will signal the start of the 2011 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 fami-

lies 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 UTSAPD emergency



September is Campus Safety Month

Photo: UTSA website

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 on 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: ncsam.org, ncjrs.gov & unt.edu



Our Lady of the Lake University Main Building fire, 2008
Photo: Google images

News from the Office of Emergency Management:

UTSAPD welcomes Mr. Lorenzo D. Sanchez as the new Director of Emergency Management for UTSA. Mr. Sanchez comes to UTSA from the City of San Antonio where he developed and coordinated emergency response plans and programs for the San Antonio urban area.

Also new to the Office of Emergency Management is Ms. Tracy Merritt, Administrative Associate II. Mr. Sanchez and Ms. Merritt encourage everyone at UTSA to stay safe this school year.

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 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.

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.

Lastly, stay informed! Know the haz-

ards 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 www.utsa.edu/utsapd. Be safe UTSA!

SAPD / UTSAPD Joint Exercise

The UTSA Police Department and the San Antonio Police Department conducted an emergency training exercise Aug. 10 at Chisholm Hall. This was the second joint exercise between the two law enforcement agencies and included other area university police departments. This event is important to help achieve our goal of maintaining a safer environment for UTSA students, faculty, staff and visitors. Elements of the response included UTSA Police Department assets as well as the SAPD Hostage Negotiation Team and the SWAT Team. Cpl. Joseph LoBrutto of the UTSA Police Department was instrumental in the planning of this exercise. Chief Barrera wants to thank Chief McManus of the San Antonio Police Department and the many people who participated including the countless volunteers who helped make it a successful exercise.



Area University Police Participated in Joint Exercise
Officers from Trinity University, UT Health Science Center & Alamo Colleges PD (L to R) Photo From: UTSA Police

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

I'd like to start by saying hello to all of our new and returning Roadrunners. My name is Sergeant Tom Calucci and I run the Criminal Investigations Section of the UTSAPD. A little background on me, I have been in law enforcement for almost 20 years. I served in New York for a couple of years and then moved to Central Texas where I worked for about seven years. I moved to San Antonio in 2000 and have been loving this town ever since.

Let me explain to you all what the Criminal Investigations Section's Philosophy is. We are committed to

providing excellent criminal investigative services to the UTSA community by successfully identifying viable suspects in cases with solvability potential, submitting these cases to the DA's office and ultimately, bringing offenders to justice. We accomplish this by promoting Professionalism, Compassion, Integrity and Teamwork. Our overall mission is to bring those who violate our UTSA community trust, through criminal offenses, to justice.

So as we begin this new semester, I want to encourage you all to keep your property safe and secure by not

leaving it unattended anywhere, especially in your car. Remember to lock your doors and keep your eyes open. If you see something suspicious on campus, call us. Don't wait until the next day.

As always, the UTSAPD Criminal Investigations Section is here to assist you whenever we can. Please, if you witness a crime and want to remain anonymous, go to our UTSAPD home page and go to the silent witness link. Your eyes and ears can help us put the bad guys where they need to be.



Detective Time
Skills used by detectives
Photo From: Google Images

Schedule of Events For September 2011

Saturday Sept. 3, 2011

Inaugural Football Game

1:00 pm at Alamodome

Come watch the first Roadrunner football game in history. There will be many events near the Alamodome to celebrate the first game.

Thursday Sept. 8, 2011

Rowdy Wing Fling

6:30 pm at East Convo 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. 12, 2011

SD 351: Community Response to Active Shooter

11:00 am at University Heights

HR Training & UTSAPD presents this class on proper responses.

Friday Sept. 16, 2011

SD 350: Personal Safety & Security

10:00 am at University Heights

HR Training & UTSAPD presents this class to reduce crime risks.

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.



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
5	Bikes	Various Brands & Colors	1	Car Max Pro Card	No Name
17	Books/Binders/Folders	Various Titles & Brands	1	School ID	Kingwood Booster Club
2	Back Packs/Bags/Purses	Make-up Bags	1	Social Security Card	Belonging to Faolan A Diaz
1	San Antonio Library Card	Belonging to Jean O'Brien	3	Tools/Hardware	Various Items & Colors
1	Bank of America Debit Card	Belonging to Synthia Vallejo	23	Electronics	Cell Phones, Chargers, Calculators, Disks
1	USAA Debit Card	Belonging to Samuel Bullard	3	Flashdrives	Various Colors & Brands
1	Military ID	Belonging to Ulrike Quijada	23	Prescription glasses/Sunglasses	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
1	Bank of America Bank Card	Belonging to Ruben Rivera	6	Hats & Caps	Various Brands, Colors & Styles
1	Via Big Pass	For the Month of July	13	Jewelry & Watches	Various Rings, Watches, and Earrings
1	Frost Debit Visa		26	Keys	Various Types, Styles & Colors
	Visa Debit, Lowes Cards, Famous Footwear				
1	Rewards & McDonalds	Belonging to Nana Gyambibi	1	Wallet	Unknown
1	Mobile Exxon	Belonging to Leaighton W. Moore	4	Umbrellas	Various Colors
1	TX DL's		1	Income Tax Paperwork	Belonging to Armando Herrera
		Jonathan N. Ramirez, Jennifer D. Orocio,			
	Belonging to Ian Clark	Tyler W. Wadkins,			
	Roberto Varela Jr	Monica A. Trevino, Austin F. Fontenot	1	Income Tax Paperwork	Belonging to Miriam Deleon



UTSA's Fourth Annual National Night Out is Tuesday October 4, 2011 starting at 5:00 pm at the UC Paseo.

Crime Report for the Month of August 2011

The below is a summary of the crimes that occurred in March as of August 20. For more information, go to www.utsa.edu/utsapd and click on *Crime Stats*.

Thefts =	12	Alcohol Arrests =	30
Burglary of Vehicle =	4	Drug Arrests =	10
Assaults =	0	DWI Arrests =	17
Theft of Motor Vehicle =	0	Other Crimes =	9



Be Prepared For The New Academic Year



UTSAPD Wants You To Be Safe
September is Campus Safety Month
Photo: UTSA website

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 are all 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 room-

mate 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

Chief Barrera Says:

Excellent police work by Corporal Elizabeth Carter! Due to the alertness and quick actions of Corporal Carter several thefts were solved and an arrest was made of a textbook thief. Thanks again for the great teamwork by our detectives and officers involved in this case!

Thank you for your hard work!

What's Magic About the Number 21?

Are you wondering what the deal is with the 21 minimum drinking age law? Sure, it's a law but it doesn't always feel like it. It's in all 50 states but do people pay attention to it? Here's a lowdown on the most relevant information.

Some folks think 21 was pulled out of the air. But despite what you may think, there are some pretty good reasons that age 21 was selected.

Back in the late 1960's and early 70's a number of states lowered their drinking age from 21 to 18. In many of

these states, research documented a significant increase in highway deaths of the teens affected by these laws. So, in the early 1980's a movement began to raise the drinking age back to 21. After the law changed back to 21, many of the states were monitored to check the difference in highway fatalities. Researchers found that teenage deaths in fatal car crashes dropped considerably - in some cases up to 28% - when the laws were moved back to 21.

Like it or not, it is clear that more young people were killed on the high-

ways when the drinking age was 18. Back in 1982 when the many of the states had minimum drinking ages of 18, 55% of all fatal crashes involving youth drivers involved alcohol. Since then, the alcohol-related traffic fatality rate has been cut in half! Research estimates that from 1975-2002 more than 21,000 lives have been saved. Hard to argue with that!

So in answer to the question "Why?" the 21 minimum age drinking laws were established to save your life.

Reference: Mothers Against Drunk Drivers website



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The Bottom Line by Chief Steve Barrera

As we begin the fall, 2011 semester I am reminded of cooler weather approaching in the near future and temperatures below 100. I say this because I know there are many people out there that are tired of the extreme heat/drought conditions and are looking forward to better weather during the fall semester. Let me welcome you to our campus as we look forward to working with you to make your experience at UTSA a safe and productive one. Our main focus is always on your safety and creating

an environment where you can succeed in your studies. Your success is our success and the better you do in school the better for all of us since you are our future leaders. We hope this translates into higher GPA's and wish you well in whatever your major field of study is.

Also, don't forget to have a good time while you're here and strive for excellence not perfection. There is already enough pressure in all our daily lives so make sure you

keep a proper balance of studying, rest and exercise to ensure you are well prepared for the fall semester. Just remember the police department is here to serve and protect you and your property. Don't hesitate to call on us for assistance.....that is why we are here. Before you know it the cooler weather will be here along with the holidays and you will be thinking the semester sure did go by fast! Good luck and enjoy the fall semester Roadrunners!



Chief Steve Barrera
UTSA Police Department
Photo From: File



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

