The month of April has been designated Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The goal of Sexual Assault Awareness Month is to raise public awareness about sexual violence by focusing on sexual assault and rape and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence.

Sexual assault takes many forms. It is any unwanted sexual contact, including rape or attempted rape. It can affect people of any gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or ability. According to the National Violence Against Women Survey, 1 in 6 American women has been the victim of rape or attempted rape. Another study found that nearly 5 percent of college women are victimized by sexual assault in any given calendar year. Over the course of a college career, the percentage of sexual assault victimization among women in college might climb to between one-fifth and one-quarter of all college age women.

The UTSA Counseling Services office offers students and the campus community a variety of professional services for any concerns important in the lives of students. UTSA also has a licensed counselor designated as a Sexual Assault Advocate.

In conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a survey has been developed to assess UTSA student’s experience with and knowledge of sexual assault and to gauge UTSA student’s awareness of services available to victims of sexual assault. The hope is to determine needs based education and response to sexual assault at UTSA. Your participation is appreciated. The survey can be accessed at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SARC2013

Working together as a community, we can raise awareness, change attitudes, and help prevent sexual assault from occurring to our loved ones. If you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted, please call the UTSA Police Dept. at 210.458.4242 to report the incident. UTSA Counseling Center (210.458.4142) or the San Antonio Rape Crisis Center (210.349.7273) can also assist. References: nsac.org/laam, osw.usdoj.gov, utsa.edu/wrc/ & ncjrs.gov

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month
Protect yourself with knowledge
Photo: Google Images

Sexting: A Disturbing Trend

If you own a cell phone with a camera and text messaging capabilities, you are capable of participating in the latest trend for teens and young adults. Sexting is a disturbing trend in which someone sends sexually provocative pictures to others by a picture text message. This is a dangerous practice that has serious repercussions that students and the general public need to be made more aware.

It may seem like its okay for college students to participate in sexting because owning nude pictures of someone over the age of 18 is not illegal, but there are still several repercussions college students can face if they do participate. They could be considered as registered sex offenders and charged with child pornography if the person in the picture was considered underage at the time the photo was taken.

Obviously, once a picture is out there it can be shared or forwarded to others without the owner’s permission and even posted online. This can lead to several embarrassing situations. According to the law, anyone in possession of child pornography could be charged, even if it was an obscene picture of themselves when they were under 18. If someone sent a picture of themselves when they were under-aged and is now over 18, whoever has the picture in that possession could still be charged with child pornography. Texas laws that pertain to sexting are under Penal Code Chapter 43 Section 43.22, 43.24 and 43.26, which state: "Obscene display or distribution. Sale, distribution, or display of harmful material. Possession or promotion of child pornography."

So carefully consider the following: Don’t take or send nude or sexually suggestive photos of yourself or anyone else. It may cost you that perfect job or to be in violation of the student code of conduct. In some cases, revenge between ex-boyfriend/girlfriend can be a reason for sexting. The bottom line: Stay alert when using digital media. People aren’t always who they seem to be, even in real. References: stuWeb.com, rapecenter.org, cnowpaper.com, connectindulgy.org

Be Smart...Be Safe
Protect yourself from sexting
Photo: Google Images

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UTSAPD Celebrates Public Safety Telecommunications Week

Whenever there is an emergency situation, we have all been trained to pick up the phone and dial 9-1-1. Our society has been so thoroughly trained that there are many documented examples of young children making that call that ultimately saved the life of an adult. If you need a police officer, a firefighter, or an ambulance you call 9-1-1, but the person who answers the phone isn’t a police officer, a firefighter or even a paramedic, at UTSA, the individuals who answer the phone are known as Police Communication Operators (PCO’s). Most people only realize the vital importance of 9-1-1 and the Police Communication Operators role when they have an emergency. In reality, PCO’s are the first responders in cases of fire, criminal acts, medical issues and other emergencies. They are the calm, clear-headed voice that gives lifesaving safety instructions and makes sure that the appropriate emergency service is dispatched to the scene. It’s not an easy task being a PCO, and the pay certainly isn’t going to make them rich, but they all receive a sense of job satisfaction even though they don’t always hear the praise they truly deserve after a long and stressful day. That’s why it’s important that all of us take the time during the 2nd week of April to recognize all personnel in the emergency communications career field. They are the link between those who need assistance and those who can provide it in the field. More than often they are capable of resolving a problem over the phone thus allowing personnel in the field to devote their time to keeping the community safe. Because PCO’s are on duty 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, they are, at times, the only link between a person with a problem and a solution to that problem. Many times the person with the problem vents his or her displeasure by taking it out on the PCO. For example; the fact that the complainant received a parking ticket or had their vehicle immobilized is not the fault of the PCO but the complainant has no one else to vent to at 11 pm on a Friday night so the PCO gets caught in the cross fire. In 1991, the second week in April was declared by Congress as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. The UTSA Police Department will celebrate this week by recognizing our Police Communications Operators who are; Cindy Cantu, Ray Mesa, Rebecca Moreno, Gilberto Morales, James Garcia, Rafael Petiton, Jeffrey Volz, Monica Crist, David DePaz, Connie Kimbrough, and April Saenz. So the next time you call the police department for assistance, please take the extra few seconds it takes to thank the person at the other end of the line for the service they provide to the community.

I saw a bumper sticker that said “Police Communications Officers – They tell the police where to go”. Although humorous, it does have some truth. Without them, we as police officers could not do our jobs. I have, on more than one occasion, required the assistance of emergency personnel while off-duty. I may not ever meet the person who sent the police officer and the ambulance, but I know that because they were on duty I am here today and for that I am truly grateful.

Capt. Dan Kiley is the Support Services Division Commander. He is a graduate of both the FBI National Academy and the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas.

In conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a survey has been developed to assess UTSA student’s experience with and knowledge of sexual assault. The hope is to determine needs based education and response to sexual assault at UTSA. The survey can be accessed at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SARC2013

Employee Kudos: Sally Bench (Director of Registration and Records, Registrar’s Office), thanked TCO James Garcia and PSO Kaitlin Fegely for their excellent customer service for a recent motorist assist. She said James was very helpful and within a minute or two Kaitlin arrived and was very courteous. She said she didn’t thank either of them at the time but appreciated the prompt and professional service. Way to go!

Be Smart...Be Safe: Sexual Assault Prevention

Rape or sexual assault can happen to anyone, woman or man, and it’s never the victim’s fault. It’s important to know that alcohol is a factor in almost all sexual assaults on college campuses and many perpetrators of sexual assault are someone the victim knows. While you can never completely protect yourself from sexual assault, there are some things you can do to help reduce your risk of being assaulted.

Avoiding Dangerous Situations

Be aware of your surroundings. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you to find a way to get out of a bad situation.

Don’t allow yourself to be isolated with someone you don’t trust or someone you don’t know.

In a Social Situation

When you go to a social gathering, go with a group of friends. Arrange together, check in with each other throughout the evening, and leave together.

Trust your instincts. If you feel unsafe in any situation, go with your gut.

Don’t leave your drink unattended. If you’ve left your drink alone, just get a new one.

Don’t accept drinks from people you don’t know or trust.

Watch out for your friends, and vice versa.

While individuals of both genders are perpetrators of sexual assault, the majority of those who commit sexual assaults are men. Even so, it is important to remember that the vast majority of men are not rapists. There are many things men (and women) can do to help prevent sexual violence. If you see someone in danger of being assaulted, step in and offer assistance. Ask if the person needs help. If it means putting yourself in danger, call 911 instead. Don’t leave. If you remain at the scene and are a witness, the perpetrator is less likely to do anything.

Sexual assault is a crime of motive and opportunity. Ultimately, there is no surefire way to prevent an attack. If you or someone you know has been affected by sexual violence, it’s not your fault. You are not alone. Help is available through the UTSA Police Department, the UTSA Counseling Center or the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800.656.HOPE, and online at rainn.org.

Reference Image: rainn.org
Going to Fiesta San Antonio This Year? Have Fun, Stay Safe.

Fiesta are the Fiesta Carnival, St. Mary’s University Oyster Bake and Night in Old San Antonio. The Fiesta Carnival has rides and a wide assortment of foods in downtown San Antonio. St. Mary’s University Oyster Bake began in 1916 as a small gathering of alumni. Since that time the event has grown into one of the most popular Fiesta celebrations especially with college students. NIOSA is the largest historic preservation festival in the nation and has more than 240 elaborately decorated food and drink booths. All of these events and more will be held in the hot outdoors, with big crowds and plenty of alcoholic beverages.

The UTSA Police Department wants you to have a safe and enjoyable Fiesta this year. Please follow these safety tips to help avoid problems:

- Watch what you drink and know your limits. A good rule is 0-1-3: 0 drinks if you’re driving or underage, 1 drink per hour, no more than 3 drinks in an evening.
- DO NOT DRINK & DRIVE. Use a designated driver or choose public transportation.
- Park in well lighted areas. You can park at the Downtown Campus parking lots with your student permit.
- Avoid over exposure & limit your time in the sun.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Keep your money in a safe place.

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission will have undercover and uniformed officers at various Fiesta events. The undercover officers will look for minors who attempt to purchase alcoholic beverages and vendors who sell alcoholic beverages to minors. Law Enforcement agencies of the Bexar County DWI Task Force will have extra officers on patrol during the Fiesta events to assist with DWI and alcohol enforcement. Remember, No Refusal mandatory blood draws are in effect for anyone arrested for DWI. Various alcohol violations can range from a $500 fine all the way to one year in jail. Driving While Intoxicated offenses can result in six months in jail, a $2000 fine and loss of your driver’s license. Above all, have fun and stay safe this 2012 Fiesta.

Reference: www.drinkandsafe.org & San Antonio Fiesta Commission

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ALL ACCESS: Door Audits and Card Access

The members of Access Services take pride in our work and excel in our goals and missions; that’s why we are happy to mention that our team will be presented with the Team Spirit Award on April 9th. This Award is part of the 2013 University Excellence Awards. We are very honored to receive this award. We are very proud of our department and it is an honor to work with and serve the UTSA Campus community.

Here in Access Services we work hard to provide exceptional services and we strive to keep the tri-campus safe for all of our customers. One way we do this is by conducting door audits of our access control systems. Departments are encouraged to audit their doors each semester or at least once a year. There are several ways that we can audit doors; one is for who has access to a space, and another is for who has actually accessed a space.

-Departments may request a report of faculty, staff or students who have access to their space to ensure that only authorized personnel have access when needed. We typically do this at the end of each semester. A department may request that we print out a report that they can review. From that list they should determine who needs to be removed.

-Separating employees are removed from card access after we receive their official separation notice. Each department should contact us of any employee who has been terminated or is separating so we can ensure they are removed quickly.

-We work closely with the UTSAPD Criminal Investigations Division (CID) to aid in various investigations. We assist them by providing access reports that may provide them with information about who entered a space at a particular time. If you suspect that a crime has occurred, contact the Police Department at 458-4242 or 458-4911 to make a report.

Reference: Loveisrespect.org

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UTSA Office of Business Affairs: Your Partner for Successful Solutions!
Safety Highlights  

Lorenzo D. Sanchez, MPA (UTSA Director of Emergency Management)

When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!

Spring is upon us, and with the changing of the seasons comes the threat of severe weather and flooding. Take time on a sunny day to be prepared for those occasional stormy days. What does severe weather mean, you may wonder? Severe weather includes thunderstorms, downbursts, lightning, tornadoes, waterspouts, tropical cyclones (hurricanes), and dust storms. With the increased risk of severe weather in our area during the spring time, it’s important to recognize what our number one threat is - flooding. A flood or flash flood WATCH means a flood is possible in your area. A flood or flash flood WARNING means flooding is already occurring or will occur soon in your area. A severe thunderstorm WATCH means conditions are favorable for thunderstorms—WARNING indicates severe thunderstorms are occurring and/or capable of producing large hail or high winds causing significant damage. The best defense for severe weather is awareness and preparedness. When a thunderstorm is approaching, keep an eye on the sky. Look for darkening skies, lightning, or increasing wind. When thunder roars, go indoors! If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning. Go to safe shelter immediately. Severe thunderstorms can produce flash flooding in the San Antonio metro. Did you know moving water only six inches deep can sweep you off your feet? Twelve inches can sweep a car off the road. It’s best to turn around, don’t drown. Standing flood water may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines. Crossing or disregarding a barricade in San Antonio is a Class B misdemeanor that includes a fine of up to $2,000 and up to 180 days in jail. Moving a barricade posted at a low water crossing also is a Class B misdemeanor that may result in a fine of up to $1,000 and up to two years in jail. You can be arrested for either offense. Additionally, the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) charges a fee of $400 for each person rescued from a designated low water crossing. Remember that the best decision you can make during severe weather and/or a flood is to shelter-in-place and ride out the storm. For more information on flooding in our area, please visit the www.floodsmart.gov or the National Weather Service at www.weather.gov/austin. During a storm, listen to local radio or TV stations for flood information, and monitor the UTSA Campus Alerts webpage at http://alerts.utsa.edu

Congratulations to BARR and Student Activities!

Be A Responsible Roadrunner and Student Activities recently received the Outstanding Prevention Program award at BACCHUS Area 6 for Campus Crawl, which is a student-designed, student-organized program provides creative events to inform students about the risks and responsibilities associated with alcohol. The event took place during Alcohol Awareness Week in October 2012. The event was made possible by the resident assistants and staff at University Oaks, Laurel Village, Chaparral Village and Chisholm Hall; BARR; UTSA Athletics; Student Conduct and Community Standards; Student Activities and UTSA Police Department, Crime Prevention Unit.

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

For this month’s edition of the RunnerBeat, I’d like to talk about how the investigations Section brings closure to a case. As you know, we in the Criminal Investigations Section (CIS) investigate all crimes that are reported to us. Our goal is to investigate the case and identify a suspect so that they can be held accountable. There are some cases, however, that we are not able to solve or we solve several months later when we receive additional information. But first, let me explain to you what an “active” case is. An active case means that we are currently investigating it and are working on developing evidence and suspects. A case can stay active for days, weeks, months and even years depending on the crime. When CIS clears its cases, we utilize a system which is set forth in the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting System. This is a standardized way that all law enforcement agencies report their crimes to the Federal Government. There are several ways we clear our cases utilizing this standardized method. The first is when we arrest an offender. This is called “Cleared by Arrest”. It simply means that we have developed enough probable cause to either obtain an arrest warrant or file the case, at large, with the District Attorney’s Office. Another way we clear a case is “Exceptionally Cleared”. This has several classifications but usually means that once we have identified an offender in a crime, the Complainant no longer wishes to pursue criminal charges. This classification also applies when we charge a juvenile with a crime.

Next is “Unfounded”. This simply means that as we investigate a case, and obtain evidence that a crime did not occur or may have occurred outside of our jurisdiction, we close it with no further investigation. The next way we may clear a case is by making it “inactive”. This means that we have exhausted all of investigative resources and are not able to charge anyone with a crime. Sometimes, we discover information days, weeks or months later which can lead to the development of a suspect. All these classifications can change. For instance, when we inactivate a case and discover new information later on, the case then becomes active again. I hope this explains how we in the UTSAPD CIS clears its assigned cases. As always, I’m always available for any questions you may have regarding a case you filed. If you do, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

On a side note, I’d like to remind the entire UTSA community about our Silent Witness link on our website. We are always seeking assistance from the community when it comes to solving crimes. Please help us to keep this community safe.

Now hiring!

The UTSA Police Department is made up of dedicated and determined individuals with a desire to make a difference with the university community. Our department is seeking men and women from all backgrounds who want to take the initiative and make a difference in service to the university community. We are currently hiring for the position of “Police Officer”. This position requires applicants who have successfully completed a TCLEOSE approved Basic Peace Officer Course and successfully passed the TCLEOSE exam.

To apply, go to www.utsajobs.com and search for “Police Officer”.

UTSAPD is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.
**Schedule of Events For April 2013**

**Thursday April 11, 2013**  
*Coffee with the Cops*  
Begins 6:00 am at UC Starbucks  
The UTSAPD Crime Prevention Unit will be at the UC Starbucks. Come have some coffee with us!

**Thursday April 18, 2013**  
*SD 351: Community Repose to Active Shooter*  
3:30 pm at University Heights  
Learn strategies for surviving an active shooter situation.

**Monday Apr. 19, 2013**  
*Keep Off The Grass*  
9:00 am at UC Paseo  
This free event is hosted by UTSAPD, BARR, Residential Life and others on campus to educate the community on drug dangers.

**Thursday Apr. 25, 2012**  
*Party on the Paseo*  
Begins 6:00 pm at UC Paseo  
Party on the Paseo provides a safe and fun experience that allows student to gather in an alcohol free space.

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**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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Various Brands &amp; Colors</td>
<td>33 Jewelry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>Various Titles &amp; Brands</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pedro Palomino, Shanelle Jones, Klarissa Toca, Sergio Garcia</td>
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<td>Backpacks</td>
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<td>90 Electronics</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Chase Debit/Credit Cards</td>
<td>2 Longboards</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Eyewear</td>
<td>(10) Sunglasses, (14) Prescription, (4) Cases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Umbrellas</td>
<td>Variety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Longboards</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Crime Report for the Month of March 2012**

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

- **Thefts** = 21  
- **Alcohol Arrests** = 20  
- **Burglary of Vehicle** = 1  
- **Drug Arrests** = 15  
- **Assaults** = 1  
- **DWI/DUI Arrests** = 3  
- **Theft of Motor Vehicle** = 0  
- **Other Crimes** = 13

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**Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

Take the UTSA Survey at:  
https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SARC2013
Dating in college is supposed to be an enjoyable part of your college experience. Unfortunately, college dating turns violent more often than many people would like to admit. In dating violence, one partner tries to maintain power and control over the other through abuse. Dating violence crosses all racial, economic and social lines. Dating violence can refer to physical violence, such as pushing, grabbing, shoving, slapping, kicking, biting, hitting, beating up, or using (or threatening to use) a knife or gun. It often refers to sexual violence, a broad term covering sexual assault, abuse, aggression, coercion, and rape. Dating violence also encompasses stalking—willful and repeated harassment that instills fear in the victim.

Stalking behaviors may include following the victim, waiting for and watching the victim, showering the victim with unwanted attention or gifts, threatening to hurt the victim, and using technology such as hidden cameras to track the victim’s whereabouts.

As reported in the Campus Dating Violence Fact Sheet published by the National Center for Victims of Crime (NCVC), 32% of college students report dating violence by a previous partner; 21% report violence by a current partner; and 51% of college males admit perpetrating one or more sexual assault incidents during college. With such staggering figures, it’s good to know where and how to get help if you, or someone you know, has experienced (or is experiencing) dating violence.

Make Sure You’re Safe: If you, or a friend, has experienced dating violence of any kind, make sure you are in a safe place before doing anything else. If you need to, crash at someone else’s apartment.

Talk to Someone: Talking to someone is one of the best things you can do for yourself or your friend.

On-campus resources: The UTSA Counseling Center and the Women’s Resource Center are excellent on-campus resources with licensed counselors to help you deal with this issue. Call them at 458-4142.

Off-campus resources: San Antonio Police Department’s Victims’ Advocacy Office at 207-2141 or the Bexar County Women’s Shelter at 733-8810 are both great resources. When President Obama signed the reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act on March 7, 2013, it included amendments to the Jeanne Clery Campus Security Act. Not only does it afford additional rights to campus victims of sexual violence, the Clery Act now includes dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking as crimes to collect statistics on and have policies to address the university’s response to those crimes.

If you’re not sure what’s provided in your community, you can call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE. References: about.com, ncbs.org & acadv.org

Chief Barrera Says:

Professor Augustine Osman emailed me to say that for those who work late on campus, he wanted to extend his special “thank you” to all the staff who are actively involved in ensuring their safety and security. He occasionally talks with other faculty and their comments have been very impressive about the security on campus, especially for PSO Cordell Robinson.

Chief Steve Barrera
UTSA Police Department
Photo from file

The Bottom Line by Chief Steve Barrera

Since April is Sexual Assault Awareness month we have dedicated some important articles designed to educate you on this serious issue. We are fortunate that we have such a great support team of experts and advocates from the UTSA counseling center that are always available to assist anyone. We also have crime prevention presentations that teach personal safety, sexual assault prevention, acquaintance rape prevention, women’s self defense, and alcohol and drug awareness. Our Safety Escort Program is designed to have an officer escort anyone around campus or to their vehicle especially during evening hours. The Whistle Defense Program gives away whistles to have in your possession to alert someone if case you are ever in a dangerous situation. These programs are designed to help keep you safe so please take advantage of them and let us know if you ever need our services.