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## UTSA-PD Holds Third Promotion Ceremony

The University of Texas at San Antonio Police Department conducted its third promotion ceremony on Friday October 17, 2008 at the Retama Auditorium of the University Center Building at the 1604 Campus. Four officers were promoted to the rank of corporal during the ceremony.

To start the ceremony, the UTSA-PD Honor Guard posted the colors and the National Anthem was sung by Leah Wilson. Ms. Wilson also sang a beautiful tribute song to those officers being promoted.

The keynote address was given by Ms. Bettina Richardson, JD (Assistant U.S. Attorney, Western District of Texas). Ms. Richardson commented on the leadership qualities of each one of the newly promoted officers and how that leadership is important in the law enforcement community.

Officers who were promoted were sworn in by Chief David Hernandez. Those officers include: Corporals Hector Barrera, Joseph LoBrutto, Mark Smith and Matthew Stacy.

Recognition was also given to two community members for their contribution to the police department with the Golden Whistle Award. Dr. Thomas F. Cannon received a Golden Whistle for his work on the Secure It, Keep It program. Mr. William K. Finley was recognized for his contribution in assisting an officer with the capture of an assault suspect.

Awards were also given for Officer of the Semester to Ofc. Eric Weber and Employee of the Semester to Guard Charles Nail for their contributions.

In addition to friends and family, honored guests included chiefs



**Ms. Richardson during her keynote remarks.** (Photo from Mark McClendon, UTSA Photographer)

and command staff officers from the San Antonio Police Department, Our Lady of the Lake University Police Department and St. Mary's University Police Department. Many other UTSA officials also attended the ceremony.

Closing remarks were made by Mr. Kerry Kennedy (Vice President of Business Affairs).



**Photo from UTSA-PD promotion ceremony.** (Photo from Mark McClendon, UTSA Photographer)

## Road Safety Tips for Your Thanksgiving Holiday Travels

The Thanksgiving Holiday traditionally features some of the highest traffic volume of the year, which multiplies the potential for automobile accidents. As travelers hit the Texas highways, Texas Department of Public Safety troopers will be looking for drivers who are endangering themselves and others by breaking traffic laws. Troopers will be looking for violations such as speeding, driving while intoxicated and drivers and passengers who are not wearing safety belts.

You should expect a large number of travelers on the road

Wednesday through Sunday of the Thanksgiving period. UTSA-PD encourages drivers to leave themselves plenty of time to get where they are going and avoid bad driving habits that lead to road rage, such as not using turn signals, driving in the passing lane and tailgating, flashing lights or honking at other cars when unnecessary.

The Texas Department of Public Safety has a Motorists Helpline that was designed to assist motorists in various times of need. Call toll free 1-800-525-5555 if your vehicle is disabled or you are stranded on the side of any

Texas highway.

Motorists can also avoid being victims of highway emergencies by preparing for their trips, staying sober and buckling up all occupants. Travel preparation should include plenty of rest before departing, preparing the vehicle for potentially inclement weather, and adjusting driving behaviors for the traffic volume and road conditions.

Reference: [www.txdps.state.tx.us](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us) & [www.troopers.state.ny.us](http://www.troopers.state.ny.us)



**Stranded/Disabled  
Motorists Helpline  
1-800-525-5555**



**UTSA-PD wants you to be informed about car burglaries** (Photo from makemoneyinformatons.blogspot.com)

## Be Smart...Be Safe: Vehicle Burglary Prevention

Unfortunately, vehicle burglary can be a common crime that occurs within parking lots on campus. While students are attending class, thieves may be looking into their cars' windows, looking for -- and all too often finding -- valuables in plain view. An experienced vehicle burglar can break a window, grab valuables and be gone in a matter of seconds.

Please be aware of suspicious activity and follow these suggestions to reduce your chances of becoming a victim of this type of crime:

- Lock your car - approximately 20% of all vehicles bro-

ken into on campus were left unlocked.

- Don't leave valuables in plain view - Don't make your car a more desirable target and attract thieves by leaving valuables in plain sight.
- Completely close car windows when parking - Don't make it easier for a thief to enter your car.
- Engrave and record information on expensive accessories - Engrave personal ID numbers on car stereos, cell phones, etc., so a thief will have difficulty selling them.

The UTSA Police Department

has an on-line safety video on our website. Go to [http://www.utsa.edu/utsapd/Crime\\_Prevention/index.html](http://www.utsa.edu/utsapd/Crime_Prevention/index.html) and click on "Parking Lot Safety Tips" to view the video.

If you observe suspicious activity that makes you think someone is committing a crime, immediately call the University Police at 210.458.4911. An officer will be dispatched to the location to determine if a crime is being committed. Suspicious activity includes looking into cars, roaming the lots for unknown reasons or cars passing up legitimate parking spaces.

Reference: UTSA-PD Crime Watch Alert & www.parkpatrol.org

**SECURE IT.  
KEEP IT.**



**UTSA Police Department**

**Employee Kudos:** Kudos to Rebecca Gomez for completing her training with SAPD's Family Assistance Crisis Team. She is now a volunteer working with the team to assist victims of domestic violence. **Way to go!**

### Helpful Tip Of The Month:

If at any time you feel unsafe, contact the UTSA Police at our emergency number 210.458.4911 to investigate the situation. You may also want to program our emergency number into your cell phone.

## Capt. Dan Kiley Is Recent Graduate of FBI National Academy



**Capt. Dan Kiley recently graduated from the 234th Session of the FBI National Academy.**

Captain Dan Kiley was born and raised in Green Bay, Wisconsin. In 1974 after graduating from high school he enlisted in the United States Air Force where he served as a Security Policeman until his retirement 21 years later. While in the Air Force he earned his degree in Industrial Security from the Community College of the Air Force.

After retiring from the USAF he moved to San Antonio and attended the 61st class of the University of Texas System Police Academy, graduating in September of 1996. Captain Kiley is also an alumni of UTSA graduating with a Bachelor of

Arts degree in Criminal Justice in August 2000.

In June 2007, Captain Kiley graduated from the 10-week Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (LEMIT) Leadership Command College. Captain Kiley also attended and graduated from the 234th Session (July 6 through September 12, 2008) of the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

The FBI National Academy is a professional course of study for law enforcement leaders that serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments and agencies. Those who attend are leaders and

managers of federal, state and local police agencies. Participation is by invitation only though a nomination process.

After working his way up through the ranks Captain Kiley served in various positions within the UTSA Police Department. He served as the Patrol Commander for 7 years and is currently assigned as the Support Services Commander which manages Criminal Investigations, Access Control, Training, Accreditation, Crime Prevention, Communications and Information Technology. He enjoys the daily challenges associated with police work and the demands of his position.

References: Letter from Capt. Kiley & www.fbi.gov



Front entrance at UT Medical Branch in Galveston, TX shows heavy damage.  
Photo from UTMB website

## UTSA-PD Officers Assist UTMB With Hurricane Ike

On September 13, 2008 Hurricane Ike made U.S. landfall at Galveston, Texas as a Category 2 hurricane. The resulting storm surge damaged many parts of Galveston island including the University of Texas Medical Branch campus.

Due to the heavy damage inflicted on UTMB, the UTMB Police Department requested assistance from all UT component schools. The UTSA Police Department sent four officers over a two week time period to supplement the UTMB police patrol shifts. Officers Vega,

Gallegos, Torres and Criswell worked 12 hour shifts to ensure buildings were secure and no looting occurred throughout the night. Officers worked night shift and day shift depending on the needs on the campus.

"While at UTMB, I received many thanks and appreciation from the UTMB police officers and guards and from the hospital staff" said Officer Vega. "(They were) very friendly people despite the devastation of their homes and lives."

All the UTSA officers that were

sent to Galveston remarked that assisting the City of Galveston and UTMB in a law enforcement capacity during the hurricane recovery brought a sense of pride and personal satisfaction.

References: Officers Vega and Torres



Ofc. Gallegos stands a post at UTMB  
Photo from Ofc. Gallegos

**Chief Hernandez says:**  
**Congratulations to Corporal Geoff Merritt for being the guest coach of the Women's UTSA Volley Ball Team on October 18th. He provided the pep talk prior to the start of their game which led them to a victory.**



UTSA Police Chief David Hernandez

**Have you witnessed a crime, want to report it, but wish to remain anonymous?**

**You may use the Silent Witness to provide the UTSA Police Department with valuable information anonymously.**

**Go to**

**[www.utsa.edu/utsapd/witness.cfm](http://www.utsa.edu/utsapd/witness.cfm)**

## Chief's Corner *By Chief David Hernandez*

### Having Fun The Right Way!

I recently received feedback from a student who had been cited for consuming alcohol as a minor. The student wanted the police department to know that college is about having fun and that we need to lighten up when it comes to underage students drinking alcohol. Having fun is definitely an important part of the college experience and there is no desire on the part of anyone at the police department to interfere with our students having fun. In fact, we are committed to doing all we can to ensure that all of our students have the opportunity to enjoy a safe and fun learning environment. The problem is in how we define fun as compared to how others

choose to define it.

Our definition of fun does not permit the violation of the university's student code of conduct or the law. Experience has taught us that when you mix having fun with the illegal use or legal abuse of alcohol, the fun can turn tragic. There is no sure proof way to ascertain which minors will drink responsibly and which will drink to the point of intoxication; we simply have rules and laws that help us do all we can to avoid tragedy. From alcohol poisoning deaths to deaths resulting from intoxicated drivers killing themselves and the other occupants of their vehicle or the vehicle they strike, the tragedies are too many to list. The abuse of alcohol by those underage as

well as those of legal age results in a tremendous burden for the families of those responsible for the tragedy as well as the victims of the tragedy.

There are no easy answers when it comes to the subject of alcohol abuse, there is simply a commitment on the part of your UTSA Police Department to do all it can, both from an educational and enforcement strategy, to prevent a tragedy from happening to you. A feedback survey complaining about our enforcement efforts depriving a student from having fun, is better reading than a front page article depicting the alcohol related death of one of our students. You can have fun without alcohol; you can have fun the right way!