What is the Annual Security Report?

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act is the landmark federal law that requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. Because the law is tied to participation in federal student financial aid programs it applies to most institutions of higher education both public and private. It is enforced by the U.S. Department of Education.

The "Clery Act" is named in memory of 19 year old Lehigh University freshman Jeanne Ann Clery who was raped and murdered while asleep in her residence hall room on April 5, 1986. Her parents discovered that students hadn’t been told about violent crimes on the campus in the three years before her murder. They joined with other campus crime victims and persuaded Congress to enact this law.

The law was amended in 1992 to add a requirement that schools afford the victims of campus sexual assault certain basic rights, and was amended again in 1998 to expand the reporting requirements. The law was most recently amended to require campuses comply with "Megan’s Law" beginning in 2003. "Megan’s Law" requires campuses to provide the public with information about registered sex offenders on campus could be obtained.

Clery Act Summary
- Schools must publish an annual report disclosing campus security policies and three years worth of selected crime statistics.
- Schools must make timely warnings to the campus community about crimes that pose an ongoing threat to students and employees.
- Each institution with a police or security department must have a public crime log.
- The U.S. Department of Education centrally collects and disseminates the crime statistics.
- Campus sexual assault victims are assured of certain basic rights

Laptop Locator Software Helps Recover Stolen Laptops

Theft of laptop computers at UTSA continued to plague students. In 2007 laptops accounted for 8% of all items stolen on campus. A laptop's portability and small size make the computers especially appealing to criminals. There are some basic physical methods to protect your machine, but there is always the risk of theft. This is where laptop locator software comes in. It is a piece of software that combines two basic components; one part is the software itself and the other is the theft recovery team.

In the event a laptop is stolen, the complainant first calls the police. Then he/she contacts the software company and provides them with the police information. The company will begin to track the stolen laptop through the Internet. When a thief steals a laptop, they will commonly plug it into the Internet. However, they are unaware that when the laptop connects to the Internet, it "phones home" and lets the theft recovery team know important information in order to recover the machine. Once installed, laptop locator software is invisible to the user. It does not show up in a programs list and it cannot be easily uninstalled.

There are several companies that sell laptop locator software such as Lojack for Laptops, GadgetTrack or Tometa Software. Subscriptions can cost between $30 to $50 a year. Each one is different, so please research carefully. Most of these companies have a proven record of recovering laptops.

UTSA-PD moved one step closer to receiving accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies this month with the highly anticipated site visit from CALEA assessors. The CALEA assessors were here September 27 through October 1 for our on-site assessment which included a review of UTSA-PD files, General Orders and a “static display” of equipment, interviews with PD employees, ride-a-longs with officers and facilities inspection.

CALEA accreditation is consistent with UTSA’s strategic plan toward becoming a premier research institution. Formed in 1979, CALEA was created through the combined efforts of four major law enforcement executive associations to develop a set of standards that meet professionally recognized criteria for excellence in management and service delivery.

The purpose of CALEA’s accreditation program is to improve the delivery of public safety services, primarily by: maintaining a body of standards, developed by public safety practitioners, covering a wide range of up-to-date public safety initiatives; establishing and administering an accreditation process; and recognizing professional excellence.

The CALEA accreditation process required a dedicated team to complete a comprehensive review and update of all department policies, procedures and operations of the police department. The UTSA-PD Accreditation Section consists of Sgt. Robert Hudson as the Accreditation Manager and Guard Gene Garcia as the assistant. Officers Melody Piepho and Mark Smith were temporarily reassigned from their normal duties for a period of several months to help complete the process.

Chief Hernandez commented that the accreditation process continues to move forward with a number of positive compliments from the CALEA team leader from his preliminary review of our files.

The final step in the process is for UTSA-PD to attend a national conference and take part in a question and answer panel with information based on the on-site visit. This would take place later this year or early in 2009. A decision concerning the award of accreditation to UTSA-PD would come shortly afterwards from CALEA.

Employee Kudos: Congratulations to Officer Maria Salazar for her quick thinking and reaction to a recent vehicle burglary at the Downtown Campus. Her great police work led to the apprehension of a dangerous criminal. Thanks also to Officers Canull and Diaz who assisted in the apprehension. This is truly teamwork at its best. Great work! Way to go!

Be Smart...Be Safe: Halloween Safety

Social gatherings and parties are frequently part of college life. At their best, social gatherings or parties are a great place to meet new people, relax, and have fun. At their worst, however, they can be the source of alcohol poisoning, drug overdose, and sexual assault. Any amount of alcohol or drug use can lead to impaired judgment, which can possibly lead to dangerous consequences. It is the responsibility of organizers and attendees to make sure that social events remain fun and safe. Luckily, there are a number of easy steps you can take to increase your level of safety and help make your memories good ones.

Obey the law! The legal drinking age in Texas is 21 and furnishing alcohol to a minor is an arrestable offense!

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.

Avoid illegal drugs — you don’t know what’s in them or what effect they’ll have on you, and they can get you arrested!

Watch out for your friends. Don’t let them drive if they have been drinking. Don’t leave them at parties alone.

Create a buddy system with your friends. Keep tabs on each other and don’t leave a friend stranded without a ride home. Be assertive if you perceive a potentially dangerous situation.

Reference: http://www.thecenter.ucla.edu/parmid.html
WHAT IS SHELTER-IN-PLACE?
The term, Shelter-In-Place, means to seek immediate shelter and remain there during an emergency rather than evacuate the area. It is designated for those situations in which it is safer for individuals to remain indoors than to evacuate.

Once the decision has been made to Shelter-In-Place the notification will be made using all means of communication available such as Reverse 911, Giant Voice, mass email or local media.

When an emergency notification is made to Shelter-In-Place please do the following:
- Move to rooms or hallways with no windows that can open or are open
- Close any open windows and doors if you cannot move
- Notify those around you, and encourage others to remain in your room/office
- Stay away from windows

- Check media resources to receive more information.
- Stay in place until you are directed by emergency personnel that it is safe to vacate.

In the event that a call to Shelter-In-Place must be declared it is usually for a short duration of time, a few hours at most.

When a crisis situation strikes and Shelter-In-Place is declared please act quickly and calmly to safeguard yourself and others.

The Fall Semester of 2008 has started off with a bang. The greatest problem identified so far this year is theft of unsecured property. It is clear at this point if you leave property unsecured in any of the libraries, or the common areas of the academic buildings or in an unlocked car, someone will want it more than you. This includes books, laptops, back packs, credit cards, MP3 players or anything that is of value. I know that you feel your car should be a safe place for your property; however it’s not. If your property is out of sight, it will help but it’s no guarantee that it’s safe. The “Secure It and Keep It” is hard at work. Make sure to lock and secure your valuables wherever they may be. The program is only as good as the people who choose to participate. Please help us to keep your property safe.
Chief’s Corner  
**By Chief David Hernandez**

**Secure It. Keep It.**

We recently started a campaign to reduce thefts on our campuses simply because one theft is one theft too many. Our efforts are not about focusing on things that are not important but rather addressing a problem that can be impacted by simply getting our customers to help us. Thefts as a whole are not high when you consider that in the last three years we had an average of 132 thefts per year. Add to that the fact that our campuses have more than 28,000 students and over 4,000 employees, we are fortunate to have a low number of thefts. Still, the goal is to reduce the number of thefts as much as possible especially in those areas where we can clearly make a difference.

The “Secure It. Keep It.” campaign focuses on getting you our customer to take a few extra precautions to reduce the chances that you will become a victim of a theft. We simply ask that you think about how you can better secure your belongings in order to keep them. This means locking car doors and windows before leaving your vehicle, ensuring that any belongings are locked in the trunk versus being left in the vehicle compartment, ensuring that you do not leave your personal property unattended in a public area where it is easy for someone to take it, and taking the extra precaution to ensure that you have secured the door to your room or suite so that others cannot enter and steal your belongings. Our “Secure It. Keep It.” posters and banners are placed in highly traveled areas as a reminder that if you secure your belongings you get to keep them. Notices are being placed in vehicles which are found unsecured as a reminder to secure the vehicle and its contents before you walk away. Every effort we make is focused on helping you to help us prevent thefts.

In a recent Paisano article about this campaign, several students were interviewed and commented about how the police have more important things to address. I couldn’t agree more, unfortunately it would not bode well for us if every theft victim that called was told that we have more important things to worry about. The fact is that every time we respond for the report of a theft, we are pulled away from our parking lot patrols, building patrols, and other duties that are critical to ensuring the safety of all of our customers. Every theft requires an investigation which unfortunately it would not bode well for us if every theft victim that called was told that we have more important things to worry about. The fact is that every time we respond for the report of a theft, we are pulled away from our parking lot patrols, building patrols, and other duties that are critical to ensuring the safety of all of our customers. Every theft requires an investigation which again pulls resources away from other critical investigations. In the end, reducing thefts will enable us to focus on more important duties that will ensure we are protecting your future...today! Please Secure It. Keep It!

Yield to Emergency Vehicles: It’s the Law

Just about everybody, at one time or another, will be involved in some type of emergency situation and in need of help. The emergency outcome can affect you directly. 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.

Frequently, drivers do not check rear view mirrors often enough and it is difficult to hear an approaching siren with windows up, the radio turned on or talking on a cell phone. It is important to check your side and rear view mirrors every 10 seconds and always be alert to the possible presence of emergency vehicles around you.

State laws, and common sense, dictate that drivers yield to emergency vehicles that are operating their lights and siren. Remember, if you were in need of emergency help you wouldn’t want thoughtless or inattentive drivers delaying those enroute to help you in your time of need. Keep these safety tips in mind when you are on the road and you hear an emergency vehicle’s siren or see their flashing lights. It is important to move out of their way quickly and safely because in the future, it may be you calling for help.


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The UTSA Police Department was recognized by Our Lady of the Lake University at a City of San Antonio Council meeting along with SAPD, SAFD, Saint Mary’s University, and Edgewood School District for the support we provided to OLLU during their critical fire incident.