Spring Break Safety

College aged students are at the highest risk for being sexually assaulted. That’s why it’s so important that to be aware of some simple things you can do to reduce the risk and prevent you or a friend from being the victim of sexual assault.

1. **Trust your instincts.** If you feel unsafe in any situation, go with your gut. If you feel uncomfortable or something doesn’t feel right, leave and get to a safe place immediately. If someone is pressuring you, it’s better to lie and make up a reason to leave than to stay and be uncomfortable, scared, or worse.

2. **Be wary of the “You Only Live Once” mentality.** Being spontaneous and adventurous goes hand-in-hand with spring break. However, being too carefree can lead to dangerous situations.

3. **Don’t let your guard down.** A spring break destination can create a false sense of security among vacationers. Don’t assume that fellow spring breakers will look out for your best interests; remember they are essentially strangers.

4. **Protect your location on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Foursquare etc.** If someone you don’t know or trust asks you to go somewhere alone, let him or her know that you would rather stay with the group. Use any excuse you can think of to get out of a difficult situation.

5. **Get local.** Know your accommodation address and the safest routes to and from your local destinations. Have your hotel’s address, number for a local cab company and local police. If traveling internationally, have the contact information for the U.S. Embassy with you.

6. **Be a good friend—stick together & have a plan.** Check out your surroundings before you go out and learn a well-lit route back to your hotel or rental property. Be alert and aware at all times.

7. **Use your cell phone as a tool.** If you find yourself in an uncomfortable situation, shoot a quick text for a "friend-assist." Make a back-up plan before you go out just in case your phone dies. If you are traveling internationally, buy a pay-as-you-go phone or activate international coverage during your trip.

8. **Drink responsibly and know your limits.** Establish a meeting spot in the event your friends get separated. Before you go out, identify a safe way to return to your hotel or rental property.

*Article resource www.rainn.org 1-800-656-HOPE (4673)*
While going out and being social and having fun during Spring Break is a common theme shared by college students. The UTSA Police Department, along with the TABC would like to remind you of a few safety tips to keep in consideration when in a social drinking environment.

You can prevent drink tampering by making a conscious decision before hand not to accept any drinks from people the first time you meet them. You should only accept drinks from people you really know.

Recognize that accepting drinks from a stranger or someone you are not familiar with is simply not a good practice and could place you at a greater risk for victimization.

If someone is truly genuine and wants to buy you a drink, go to the bar with them and accept the drink directly from the bartender. Someone with pure intentions will be understanding to your safety precautions. Anything less than an understanding attitude would be a cautionary clue to avoid interaction with this person.

Remember the rule of thumb is ... when you go out together as a group; you should make a pact to stay together and never leave together. Watch your friends closely and watch their drinks.

SWAT robot ($24,000), whereby they were also honored at the dedication event. In attendance were SAPD Chief Trevino, SAPD Command Staff and SWAT representatives, Firehouse Subs Corporate Team, and UTSA Emergency Management Staff.

The Firehouse Subs dedication event highlights UTSA’s dedication to public safety, preparedness, and partnership within our community. For more information on emergency preparedness at UTSA, visit the Campus Alerts website at alerts.utsa.edu, send us an email at BePrepared@utsa.edu, or call the UTSA Office of Emergency Management at (210) 458-6851. Be safe UTSA!

Left to Right: Taniesa Williams, Tracy Merritt, Director Lorenzo Sanchez, Jesse Vela, and Gene Garcia.
Saint Patrick's Day Drunk Driving Prevention

Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving

For too many Americans, St. Patrick’s Day has ended in tragedy due to drunk drivers getting behind the wheel. Over St. Patrick’s Day from 2009 to 2013, there were a total of 276 lives lost in drunk-driving crashes.

ALL ACCESS: by Teresa Mailard (Administrative Assistant, Security Services)

Miguel Orozco, Mike, as we like to call him is our UTPD – Security Services PSO. He is the person behind all our Blue Emergency Telephones, among other security systems. He inspects them regularly, and he makes a great effort to ensure that every one of them is in working condition, clean and well displayed. He checks to ensure that the blue lights work and since many of these telephones have security system cameras, he makes sure that they are working properly and as well. Mike is an experienced Public Safety Officer and takes safety very seriously. He has worked under the direction of Jessenia Skelton, and together have worked eagerly to ensure that our security systems are well maintained to provide a safe environment to our students, staff and faculty.

The UTSA Police Department has installed approximately 133 emergency phones throughout our main campus, as well as our Downtown campus; they have been placed for easy access inside parking garages, parking lots, housing areas and along sidewalks. Many of these telephones have security system cameras that monitor the area around them, and may provide video evidence in the event of a criminal act. These telephones communicate directly with the UTSA Police Department Communications Center. The moment one of these telephones is activated, a blue light on top of the tower flashes and one of our UTPD Communications Dispatch Operators answers the call, who in turn can relay the exact location to an officer who is patrolling the area. These telephones are intended for emergency situations, but they may also be used to report suspicious activity.

The “Blue Boys” are inspected periodically, and we are very pleased that Mike has all of them 100% operational. Mike Orozco must be commended for his high level of dedication to keep everyone safe and secure, and for his excellent service to our UTSA community. We are very fortunate to have him as part of our team.
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 is a summary of the crimes that occurred as of the 20th of the last month. For more information, go to www.utsa.edu/utsapd and click on Crime Stats.

<table>
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<th>Crime Type</th>
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<td>Alcohol Arrests</td>
<td>Various Brands, Color &amp; Styles</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Drug Arrests</td>
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<td>Other Crimes</td>
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Sexual Assault Awareness Month
April 7, 2015
Day of Action
10:00 am—2:00 pm
Location: Paseo

If your organization is interested in participating with the S.A.A.M Day of Action Event.

Contact
Officer Maranda Tupper
210-458-6974
maranda.tupper@utsa.edu
especially on the northeastern part of our country. Even northern Texas and our hill country have been impacted with snow and ice conditions. Due to our location, just below the start of the hill country, we are fortunate to have only experienced one day where we had to temporarily close our campus early and delay a workday start time, which had a minimal impact on our operations due to it occurring on a weekend. Whenever we get a major ice storm that impacts the entire city, the Texas Dept. of Transportation and City of San Antonio typically treat all bridges with anti-icing agents to help prevent them from freezing over. If necessary, all the bridges are also closed to prevent accidents from occurring, which effectively shuts down our city. This is all done in the name of public safety to prevent traffic accidents and injuries from occurring. Our Director of Emergency Management, Lorenzo Sanchez, does an excellent job of closely monitoring weather conditions and communicating with the entire university community. Ultimately, a decision has to be made on whether to delay start times until later in the day when the frozen precipitation/bridges threat is over or to cancel classes for the day, which is rare but has been done in the past. When this occurs you will be notified via text, email, voice and website messages. It looks like we are just about over our winter season for this year and hopefully will not have any further ice incidents. Please remember your safety is our number one priority. Stay safe and enjoy the spring season before the heat arrives.

The Bottom Line by Chief Steve Barrera

One definition of promotion is the act of moving someone to a higher or more important position or rank in an organization. I think to achieve a promotion, you have to start with a few basic things. First, you have to have an awareness of why you are in your current position. You have to have a reference point to go by. Do have the necessary strengths or any weaknesses to improve on. You then have to decide where you want to be and how do you get there. Saying you want to get promoted is not enough these days. Develop a clear plan on achieving the objective. Next is to have a good attitude. Put pride, passion and belief in everything you do. Be driven. Back that up with the necessary job skills, direction and action. See challenges as opportunities. Explore professional development. Look at these tasks as your opportunity to shine. Don’t complain about hard work or that your assignment is more difficult than your colleagues’. In everyone’s mind, their work is the most challenging. I also believe that to be promoted, you should know and play your part in the organization. Are you a follower or are you a leader? Knowing what you are makes you a better team member. When the team succeeds, so do you. Do more than what is necessary. If that means volunteering for extra shifts or staying late, so be it. It also means not sitting around and waiting for the work to come to you. Supervisors like people who can help them solve problems, even if it is not yours. If you want to get to the next level, start doing some of that work now.

The reason I’m addressing this, is that I have been recently promoted. I will no longer be leading the Criminal Investigations team. I will now be responsible for the five sections that comprise the Support Services Division. Yes, Investigations is one section, but I’ll also be overseeing Communications, Training, Crime Prevention, and Accreditation. I know I’ll have my hands full, but I couldn’t have gotten there without working hard.

Chief Steve Barrera
UTSA Police Department

Protecting Your Future... Today

We’ve had several recent close calls monitoring icy weather conditions that could have impacted our operations at UTSA. As you know this year has set records for snow and ice storms up north