

**SAVANNAH STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**ANNUAL FIRE
SAFETY AND
SECURITY REPORT**

2017

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Savannah State University Office of Equity and Diversity

Statement of Non Discrimination

Savannah State University is committed to excellence through diversity and ensuring nondiscrimination in the workplace. Per federal regulations, SSU will take affirmative action to ensure equal employment opportunities for all qualified applicants and employees regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or veteran status.

ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT

REPORTING CRIMES AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

Savannah State University has a number of ways for campus community members and visitors to report crimes, serious incidents, and other emergencies to appropriate University officials. Regardless of how and where you decide to report these incidents, it is critical for the safety of the entire University community that you immediately report all incidents to the Savannah State University Police at (912) 358-3004 or (912) 358-3010 to ensure an effective investigation and appropriate follow-up actions, including issuing a Crime Alert or emergency notification.

Voluntary, Confidential Reporting

If crimes are never reported, little can be done to help other members of the community from also being victims. The Savannah State University community is encouraged to report crimes promptly and to participate in and support crime prevention efforts. The University community will be much safer when all community members participate in safety and security initiatives.

The Savannah State University Police Department encourages anyone who is the victim or witness to any crime to promptly report the incident to the Savannah State University Police at (912) 358-3004 or (912) 358-3010. All police reports are public records under state law therefore the Savannah State University Police Department cannot hold reports of crime in confidence. As a result, the Savannah State University Police Department does not have a procedure to allow voluntary confidential reporting of crimes. All complaints are addressed through the official investigative process.

Individuals who wish to report crime confidentially and even anonymously can do so by contacting the Savannah area Crime Stoppers at (912) 234-2020. Information, withholding contact information, submitted to Crime Stoppers may be shared with University Police in an effort to combat crime and provide a safe learning environment.

Reporting to University Police

Savannah State University encourages all members of the University community to report all crimes and other emergencies to the Savannah State University Police in a timely manner. University Police have a dispatch center that is available by phone at (912) 358-3004 or (912) 358-3010 or in person twenty-four hours a day at Hubert Tech Science-Building C-Rooms 309/305. Though there are many resources available, University Police should be notified of any crime, whether or not an investigation continues, to assure the University can assess any and all security concerns and inform the community if there is a significant threat to the University community.

Emergency Phones

Savannah State University has installed 12 emergency phones throughout the University campus. Phones are located in public areas of buildings including parking lots, athletic fields, residence hall complexes, administration buildings, and also numerous outdoor locations. Each emergency phone can be identified by the bright blue coloring and the labeling “Emergency Call Box” on the side of each. Emergency phones provide direct voice communications to the Savannah State University Police Dispatch Center. Please visit <http://www.savannahstate.edu/faculty-staff/public-safety/communications-div.shtml> for further information on Emergency Phones and other public safety attributes on campus.

Reporting to Other Campus Security Authorities

While Savannah State University prefers that community members promptly report all crimes and other emergencies directly to the University Police at (912) 358-3004 or (912) 358-3010 or 911, we also recognize that some may prefer to report to other individuals or University offices. The Clery Act recognizes certain University officials and offices as “Campus Security Authorities (CSA).” The Act defines these individuals as “official of an institution who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline and campus judicial proceedings. An official is defined as any person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution.”

While the University has identified several hundred CSAs, we officially designate the following offices as places where campus community members should report crimes:

Official	Campus Address	Phone Number
University Police & Public Safety	Hubert Tech Science-Building C-Rooms 309/305	(912) 358-3004 or (912) 358-3010
Vice President for Student Affairs	King-Frazier Complex, Suite 247	(912) 358-3118
Vice President for Human Resources	3219 College Street Colston Adm. Bldg. #120	(912) 358-4194
Office of Student Conduct	King-Frazier Student Center, Room 225	(912) 358-3122
Office of the University Counsel	Hill Hall	(912) 358-4057
The Office of Residence Life	Adams Hall	(912) 358-3132

Pastoral and Professional Counselors

According to the Clery Act, pastoral and professional counselors who are appropriately credentialed and hired by Savannah State University to serve in a counseling role are not considered Campus Security Authorities when they are acting in the counseling role. As a matter of policy, the University encourages pastoral and professional counselors to notify those whom they are counseling of the voluntary, confidential reporting options available to them.

It's Up to Each of Us

Savannah State University takes great pride in the community and offers students, faculty and staff many advantages. This community is a great place to live, learn, work and study, however, this does not mean that the campus community is immune from all of the other unfortunate circumstances that arise in other communities. With that in mind, Savannah State University has taken progressive measures to create and maintain a reasonably safe environment on campus. Though the University is progressive with its policies, programs, and education, it is up to each one of us to live with a sense of awareness and use reasonable judgment when living, working or visiting on campus.

PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT AND DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS

Savannah State University Police Department prepares this report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Crime Statistics Act using information maintained by the University Police, information provided by other University offices such as Student Affairs, Residence Life, and other Campus Security Authorities and information provided by local law enforcement agencies surrounding the main campus. Each of these offices provides updated policy information and crime data. This report provides statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus, in certain off-campus buildings or property owned, leased or controlled by Savannah State University. This report also includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as policies regarding sexual assault, alcohol and other drugs.

Savannah State University distributes a notice of the availability of this Annual Security and Fire Safety Report by October 1 of each year to every member of the University community. Anyone, including prospective students and employees, may obtain a paper copy of this report by contacting the University Police at (912) 358-3004 or (912) 358-3010 or by visiting <http://www.savannahstate.edu/faculty-staff/public-safety/index.shtml>

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



James Barnwell
Chief of Police



Deputy Chief Hayes
Assistant Chief



Lt. F. Denson
Specialized Unit Commander



Captain R. Hall
Divisions Commander



Lt. L. Brown
Patrol Commander

The Savannah State University Police Department protects and serves the campus community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Department is responsible for a number of campus safety and security programs including Emergency Management, Community Safety and Security Education and special event management.

The Savannah State University Police Department is comprised of:

- 12 Patrol Officers
- 23 Security Officers
- 6 Police Dispatchers
- 1 C.O.P Officer
- 1 K9 Units
- 1 Criminal Intelligent Analyst
- 2 Police Detectives
- 1 Internal Affairs Investigator
- 1 Training Officer
- 1 Accreditation Manager

The police officers at Savannah State University complete a training course required of all state certified peace officers in the State of Georgia. They receive 20 hours per year of in-service training certified by the Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training Council to include the areas of Firearms Requalification and Use of Force. Savannah State University Police officers are authorized under Georgia O.C.G.A. 20-3-72 to make arrests on, and within 500 feet of any property owned, controlled by the Board of Regents within the State of Georgia.

Security officers at Savannah State University are unarmed personnel who serve as a support system for the sworn law enforcement on campus. Security officers assist with student escorts, disabled vehicles, and securing buildings. In addition, security officers serve in an access control function at the main entrance and exit gates on campus- checking identification and issuing parking passes.

Savannah State University Police Department has a group of student safety patrol officers commonly referred to on campus as “Tigers on Patrol”. These students support the police department by assisting with parking and directing traffic during large campus events, escorting fellow students to on campus locations in the evening hours, and checking for campus IDs during campus event.

Savannah State University Police and Public Safety Mission Statement: “To enhance the quality of life in our community by working cooperatively with the public to prevent crime, preserve the peace, enforce the laws with respect to the constitutional rights of all citizens, reduce fear, and provide for a safe community environment.”

Working Relationship with Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

The University Police maintains a cooperative relationship with the State Police, Local Police, and surrounding police agencies. This includes interoperate radio capability and a joint police records computer system, training programs, special events coordination, and investigation of serious incidents.

Savannah State University Police participates in an Intermunicipal Mutual Aid Agreement that authorizes police officers and supervisors of the participating agencies to request mutual aid for incidents based upon a reasonable belief that such aid will enhance the public’s and/or officer safety and efficiency. The agencies participating in the Agreement include Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and Chatham County Sherriff’s Office. The agreement also allows for joint training and cooperation on other matters, such as pre-planned large-scale special events, amongst the participating agencies.

Crimes Involving Student Organizations at Off-Campus Locations

Savannah State University does not have any recognized student organizations off campus. The University relies on its close working relationships with local law enforcement agencies to receive information about incidents involving Savannah State University students on and off campus. However, some Savannah State University students reside in private housing in neighborhoods near to the Savannah campus. The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and Chatham County Sherriff’s Office have primary jurisdiction in all off campus areas. In coordination with local law enforcement agencies, the Savannah State University Police Department will actively investigate certain crimes occurring within 500 yards of campus property. If Public Safety learns of criminal activity involving students it will coordinate with the appropriate external law enforcement agency to forward information about the situation to the Office of Student Conduct, as appropriate.

TIMELY WARNING REPORTS – CRIME ALERTS

In an effort to provide timely notice to the campus community in the event of a Clery Act crime that may pose a serious or ongoing threat to members of the community, the University Police issues “Crime Alerts.” The University Police will generally issue Crime Alerts for the following crimes: arson; aggravated assault; criminal homicide; robbery; burglary; sex assaults; and hate crimes. University Police will post these warnings through a variety of ways, including but not limited to posters, e-mails, and media. The University also has the ability via Blackboard to send text message alerts to those who register their cell phone numbers. The text messaging can be a very effective way to send important information to the campus community.

The purpose of these Crime Alerts is to notify the campus community of the incident and to provide information that may enable community members to protect themselves from similar incidents. Savannah State University will issue Crime Alerts whenever the following criteria are met: 1) a crime is committed; 2) the perpetrator has not been apprehended; and 3) there is a substantial risk to the physical safety of other members of the campus community because of this crime. Such crimes include, but are not limited to: 1) Clery Act crimes that are reported to any campus security authority or the local police; or 2) the University determines that the incident represents an on-going threat to the campus community.

Additionally, the University Police may, in some circumstances, issue Crime Alerts when there is a pattern of crimes against persons or property. At Savannah State University, the Chief of Police will generally make the determination, in consultation with other University offices, if a Crime Alert is required. However, in emergency situations, any police supervisor may authorize a Crime Alert. For incidents involving off-campus crimes, the University may issue a Crime Alert if the crime occurred in a location used and frequented by the University population.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Emergency Management at Savannah State University

The University Police Department is responsible for the Emergency Management Plan. This plan is designed to be an all-hazards disaster response and emergency management plan that complies with FEMA guidelines for Higher Education that includes planning, mitigation, response, and recovery actions.

Savannah State University's priorities in accordance to emergency management are:

- Life safety, infrastructure integrity, and environmental protection during an emergency
- Coordination with university departments to write, maintain, test, and exercise the Emergency Management Plan.
- Cooperation, Integration, and Mutual Aid with local, state and federal planning, response, and public safety agencies and their emergency operations section.

A summary of the University's emergency response procedures is located at

http://www.savannahstate.edu/faculty-staff/public_safety/docs/Quick%20Reference%20Guide.pdf.

Drills, Exercises and Training

Annually, Savannah State University conducts an emergency management exercise to test emergency procedures. The scenarios for these exercises change from year-to-year, and include several departments from across the campus.

To ensure the University's emergency management plans remain current and actionable, the University will conduct an emergency management exercise, at a minimum once yearly. These exercises may include tabletop drills, emergency operations center exercises, or full-scale emergency response exercises. The University conducts after-action reviews of all emergency management exercises.

In conjunction with at least one emergency management exercise each year, the University will notify the community of the exercise and remind the community of the information included in the University's publicly available information regarding emergency response procedures

Emergency Notification

Savannah State University is committed to ensuring the campus community receives timely, accurate, and useful information in the event of a significant emergency or dangerous situation on campus or in the local area that poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of campus

community members. The University uses the emergency notification system known as Blackboard to issue warnings to the campus community. Blackboard is an emergency notification service available to students, staff, and anyone in the University community who wants to subscribe. Blackboard can be used to send emergency messages within minutes of the occurrence of an incident.

Savannah State University performs a University-wide annual test of the system. The following procedures outline the process the University uses when issuing emergency notifications.

Procedures Used to Notify the Campus Community

In the event of a situation that poses an immediate threat to members of the campus community, the University has various systems in place for communicating information quickly. Some or all of these methods of communication may be activated in the event of emergency notification to all or a segment of campus community. These methods of communication include the mass notification system Blackboard, the University's e-mail system, and verbal announcement within a building and public address system on police cars. The University will post updates during a critical incident on the homepage. If the situation warrants, the University will establish a telephone call-in center to communicate with the University community during an emergency situation.

Confirming the Existence of a Significant Emergency or Dangerous Situation and Initiating the Emergency Notification System

The Savannah State University Police Department may become aware of a critical incident or other emergency situation that potentially affects the health and/or safety of the campus community. Generally, campus first responders become aware of these situations when they are reported to the Communications Division at the University Police Department or upon discovery during patrol or other assignments.

Once first responders confirm that there is, in fact, an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all members of the campus community, first responders will notify supervisors in the University Police Department to issue an emergency notification.

The University's authorized representatives will immediately initiate all or some portions of the University's emergency notification system. If, in the professional judgment of first responders, issuing a notification potentially compromises efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency, the University may elect to delay issuing an emergency notification. As soon as the condition that may compromise efforts is no longer present, the University will issue the emergency notification to the campus community.

Determining the Appropriate Segment or Segments of the Campus Community to Receive an Emergency Notification

University and/or local first responders on the scene of a critical incident or dangerous situation will assist those preparing the emergency notification with determining what segment or segments of the University community should receive the notification. Generally, campus community members in the immediate area of the dangerous situation (i.e. the building, adjacent buildings, or surrounding area) will receive the emergency notification first. The University may issue subsequent notifications to a wider group of community members. In addition to the emergency notification that may be issued via the University mass notification system (Blackboard), the University will also post applicable messages about the dangerous condition on the University homepage to ensure the rest of the campus is aware of the situation and the steps they should take to maintain personal and campus safety. If the emergency affects a significant portion of the entire campus, University officials will distribute the notification to the entire campus community.

Determining the Contents of the Emergency Notification

The office responsible for issuing the emergency notification (usually the Police Dispatchers) will, in concert with University and local first responders, determine the contents of the notification. The University has developed a wide range of template messages addressing several different emergency situations. The individual authorizing the alert will select the template message most appropriate to the on-going situation and modify it to address the specifics of the present incident. In those cases where there are no pre-determined template messages in the system, the individual authorizing the alert will develop the most succinct message to convey the appropriate information to the community. The goal is to ensure individuals are aware of the situation and that they know the steps to take to safeguard their personal and community safety.

Procedures for Disseminating Emergency Information to the Greater Community

If an incident were to occur on Savannah State University's campus, the Chief Information Officer of the University is responsible for issuing a statement to the greater community. The Chief Information Officer may consult with the University Police Department prior to issuing a statement.

Enrolling in the University's Emergency Notification System

Savannah State University encourages members of the campus community to enroll in the Blackboard system during the registration period for each year. University community members are reminded to regularly update their information using the same site to assure they receive they important information.

SECURITY OF and ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY FACILITIES

At the Savannah State University, administrative buildings are open from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and academic buildings generally are open from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. Academic buildings are scheduled to be open on weekends only as needed. Access to individual classrooms and laboratories is limited to those enrolled in the courses meeting there. Other facilities such as the bookstore, library, and performance center are likewise available to those are part of the campus community. Likewise, access to most programs is limited to those enrolled in the program or otherwise authorized access.

Many cultural and athletic events held in the University facilities are open to the public however, individuals may be asked to show identification for security purposes. Only those who have demonstrated a need are issued keys to a building.

Special Considerations for Residence Hall Access

At the Savannah State University campus, all residence halls operate under key access, which the resident of a particular room or townhouse is issued a corresponding key. Public Safety Officers are responsible for checking and securing doors, when needed. When a door is malfunctioning, personnel are summoned for immediate repair. Remember to lock your doors and windows.

Only residents and their invited guests are permitted in the living areas of the residence halls. It is the resident's responsibility to ensure that his/her guest are aware of the University and residence hall policies. Guests are not provided with room keys or door access cards. Guests of the opposite sex must be escorted by a resident of the building at all times. All exterior doors are locked 24 hours a day. It is the responsibility of residents and staff members to challenge or report individuals who cannot be identified as residents or the guests of residents. When University Police receive a report of an unescorted person in a residence hall, a police officer is dispatched to identify that person. University Police assigns the largest number of its officers between the hours of 10:30 p.m. until 4:00 a.m. Most of these officers spend much of their time patrolling in and around the residence hall complexes. During the summer when groups who are not regularly associated with Savannah State University are using the University residence halls, exterior doors are locked 24 hours a day. Residence Halls are staffed 24 hours per day. University Police personnel also conduct regular checks of residence hall areas.

Security Considerations for the Maintenance of Campus Facilities

Savannah State University is committed to campus safety and security. At the University, locks, landscaping and outdoor lighting are designed for safety and security. Sidewalks are designed to provide well-traveled, lighted routes from parking areas to buildings and from building to building.

Sidewalks and building entrances are illuminated to provide well-traveled, lighted routes from parking areas to buildings and from building to building.

The Department of Physical Plant, in conjunction with representatives from the Police Department, conducts surveys of University property twice each year to evaluate campus lighting. We encourage community members to promptly report any security concern, including concerns about locking mechanism, lighting, or landscaping to the University Police.

CAMPUS SECURITY POLICIES, CRIME PREVENTION & SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAMS

In addition to the many programs offered by the Savannah State University Police and other University offices, the University has established a number of policies and procedures related to ensuring a reasonably safe campus community. These policies include:

Crisis Intervention & Response Team

It is Savannah State University's policy to promote a safe environment for its students. The University is committed to working with students to maintain an environment free from violence, threat of violence, harassment, intimidation, and other disruptive behavior. The Crisis Intervention & Response Team focuses on gaining or maintaining immediate safety, coping, and/or stability in an emergency situation. The Crisis Intervention & Response team is coordinated by the Student Affairs' Office of Counseling and Disability Services in cooperation with other University officials. The campus community is encouraged to contact the University Police Department at (912) 358-3004 or (912) 358-3010 for emergency assistance or the Office of Student Affairs for information regarding the Crisis Intervention & Response Team.

Weapons Policy

Savannah State University is designated as a school safety zone by Georgia law. Georgia's Safe Carry Protection Act prohibits an individual from possessing, carrying, or having any explosive compound or weapon under his or her control, on any property in a school safety zone. The school safety zone covers property owned or used by Savannah State University, including residence halls and college owned vehicles.

Individuals holding a valid weapons carry license may possess a weapon in a vehicle when transporting a student to/from campus and may have a weapon in a vehicle that is in transit through or parked within a school safety zone. However, weapons are strictly prohibited from being removed from a personal vehicle while on campus grounds. Weapons carry license holders must have the license in his or her immediate possession at all times when carrying a weapon.

Violation of this policy is also a violation of Georgia law and will result in appropriate action, including but not limited to, expulsion, termination, dismissal and/or referral for criminal prosecution.

Crime Prevention and Safety Awareness Programs

In an effort to promote safety awareness, the University Police maintains a strong working relationship with the community. This relationship includes offering a variety of safety and security programs and services and crime prevention programming. If you or your organization would like to request a specific program, please contact the Savannah State University Police Department at (912) 358-3004 or (912) 358-3010. Below are some of the programs and services available:

1. Sexual Assault/Prevention
2. Defensive Tactics/Self Defense for Men/Women
3. Theft Prevention
4. Campus Safety Week
5. Drugs/Alcohol abuse and prevention
6. Domestic Violence Prevention
7. Crime Prevention

Student Conduct

The Office of Student Conduct

The mission of the Office of Student Conduct is to promote a safe, orderly, and civil University community and to encourage and inspire students to become good citizens by engaging in personal responsibility, ethical decision making, and demonstrating respect for the rights and safety of others.

The Office of Student Conduct is responsible for administering the Code of Conduct for Students, which articulates the behavioral standards and the equitable procedures employed by the University to respond to allegations of student misconduct. The Code of Conduct for Students is administered at all University campuses on University property and may also address off campus student misconduct when a student's behavior affects a Substantial University Interest.

Students who are found responsible for violations may be subject to sanctions ranging from Disciplinary Warning, Disciplinary Probation, up to Suspension or Expulsion from the University. Students residing in University housing may also lose the privilege of living on campus for violating University rules and regulations or conditions of the housing contract.

In most cases, the Office of Student Conduct will also assign developmental and educational interventions designed to promote greater awareness and improved decision-making for students and to further deter future misconduct.

In instances where there is reasonable cause to believe a student is an immediate threat to the safety of himself/herself or other persons or property or is an immediate threat to disrupt essential campus operations, the Office of Student Conduct may assign an Interim Suspension and/or other actions, designed to protect the health and safety of the community and members therein.

The Office of Student Conduct is also responsible for conducting pre-admission, pre-enrollment, and re-enrollment reviews for prospective students with known behavioral problems.

Any individual or entity may submit reports alleging student misconduct to the Office of Student Conduct or designee at the campus where the incident occurred.

The Office of Student Conduct also provides outreach programming designed to inform and educate students and to promote the Savannah State University principles. Please visit the Student Conduct homepage at <http://www.savannahstate.edu/student-affairs/student-ethics.shtml> where you may find the Student Code of Conduct, Student Records Policy and links to all policy and procedural guidelines related to the Student Conduct process.

Additional Information Regarding the Student Code of Conduct

Savannah State University is obligated to provide all students with the University regulations, policies, and procedures governing student conduct. Savannah State University policies and procedures, including the Code of Conduct for Students and the Off-Campus Misconduct Policy are published on the Student Conduct website: <http://www.savannahstate.edu/student-affairs/student-ethics.shtml>.

If you have additional questions, special needs, or wish to request a hard copy of this information, please contact the Office of Student Conduct at Savannah State University at (912) 358-3122.

This publication, as well as university regulations and policies and procedures governing student conduct, is available at <http://www.savannahstate.edu/>.

Parental Notification Policy

Savannah State University reserves the right to notify the parents/guardians of dependent students regarding any conduct situation, particularly alcohol and other drug violations. The University may also notify parents/guardians of nondependent students who are under the age of 21 of alcohol and/or other drug violations. Parental notification may also be utilized discretionarily by administrators when permitted by FERPA or consent of the student.

THE UNIVERSITY'S RESPONSE TO SEXUAL AND GENDER VIOLENCE

Savannah State University is committed to providing a safe learning and working environment, and in compliance with federal law has adopted policies and procedures to prevent and respond to incidents of sexual violence including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. These guidelines apply to all students, faculty, staff, contractors and visitors.

Reporting an Incident

If a student, employee or visitor has been the victim of an incident of sexual violence, they should immediately report it to the Savannah State University Police Department at (912) 358-3004 or (912) 358-3010. In the case of an emergency or ongoing threat if possible get to a safe location and please report the incident by calling 911. The Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police (local police) may be contacted at (912) 351-3400 or in person at 7804 Abercorn Street #118, Savannah, GA.

Students may also report to the Office of Student Affairs at (912) 358- 3118 or in person at the King- Frazier Complex, Suite 247 on Savannah State University's campus. Employees may also report to the Office of Human Resources at (912) 358-4194 or in person at 3129 College Street Colston Administrative Building #120 on Savannah State University's campus. Savannah State University officials will assist any victim in notifying law enforcement, including local police, if they elect to do so. Victims are also entitled not to report to law enforcement. Any student or employee, who reports an incident of sexual violence, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, shall receive a written explanation of their rights and options.

A sexual assault is any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent, as well as incest or statutory rape.

Domestic violence includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim.

Dating violence means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the victim.

Stalking is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress.

Procedures Victims Should Follow

If an incident of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence or stalking occurs, it is important to preserve evidence to aid in the possibility of a successful criminal prosecution. The victim of a sexual assault should not wash, douche, use the toilet, or change clothing prior to a medical exam. Any clothing removed should be placed in a paper bag. Evidence of violence, such as bruising or other visible injuries, following an incident of domestic or dating violence should be documented including through the preservation of photographic evidence. Evidence of stalking including any communication, such as written notes, voice mail or other electronic communications should be saved and not altered in any way.

On & Off Campus Resources

Both Savannah State University and the local Savannah community also offer other important resources to the victims of sexual violence including medical treatment, counseling and advocacy they may wish to utilize. Outside of the campus, The Rape Crisis Center of the Coastal Empire (Telephone Number: 912.233.7273 or 888-241-7273) is available 24 hours a day to assist any student or employee free of charge and will help them consider their options and navigate through any resources or recourse they elect to pursue. A victim need not make a formal report to law enforcement or Savannah State University to access the resources that include the following:

Savannah State University Counseling Center SSU Campus-King-Frazier Complex Rm 233	(912) 358-3129
Savannah State University Health Center SSU Campus-3219 College Street	(912) 358- 4122
Savannah State University Office of Title IX SSU Campus-Colston Admin Building Rm #118	(912) 358-4150
Rape Crisis Center of the Coastal Empire	(912) 233-7273 (888) 241-7273
24-hour National Sexual Assault Hotline	(800) 656-4673
Memorial University Medical Center- Nurse One	(912) 350-4673
St. Joseph/Candler Care Call Center	(912) 819-4100

Accommodations

Whether or not a student or employee reports to law enforcement and or pursues any formal action, if they report an incident of sexual violence Savannah State University is committed to providing them as safe a learning or working environment as possible. Upon request, Savannah State University will make any reasonably available change to a victim's academic, living, transportation, and or working situation. Students and employees may contact Savannah State University Office of Title IX, SSU Campus-Colston Admin Building Rm #118 at (912) 358-4150 for assistance.

If a victim reports to law enforcement, they may assist them in obtaining a temporary protection order from a criminal court. Savannah State University is committed to ensuring that any such order is fully upheld on all institutionally owned and controlled property. Savannah State University is also committed to protecting victims from any further harm, and further no-contact orders may be issued pending the outcome of any conduct proceeding.

Victim Confidentiality

Savannah State University recognizes the sensitive nature of sexual violence and is committed to protecting the privacy of any individual who reports an incident of sexual violence. Different officials on campus are, however, able to offer varying levels of privacy protection to victims. Reports made to law enforcement, including if criminal prosecution is pursued, may be made public and shared with the accused.

Reports made to Savannah State University officials will be kept confidential, and identifying information about the victim shall not be made public. Information about reports will only be shared with institutional personnel as needed to investigate and effectively respond to the report. Every effort will be made to limit the scope of information shared to keep it to a minimum of detail, and only when absolutely necessary. Reports made to medical professionals, licensed mental health counselors, and will not be shared with any third parties except in cases of imminent danger to the victim or a third party.

Education Programs

Savannah State University is committed to increasing the awareness of and preventing sexual violence. All incoming students and new employees are provided with programming and strategies intended to prevent rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking before it occurs through the changing of social norms and other approaches; that includes a clear statement that Savannah State University prohibits such acts, their definitions, the definition of consent, options for bystander intervention, information about risk reduction, and our

policies and procedures for responding to these incidents. Ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns are also offered throughout the year. These programs include but are not limited to:

- New Student Orientation
- Department Collaboration Training
- SSU Police Campus Training
- Title IX Training
- Tabletop Exercises in Residence Life
- Self Defense (RAD) Program
- SSU Counseling Center Programming/Mental Health

Conduct Proceedings

Savannah State University strictly prohibits all acts of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. In addition to facing criminal action, students, employees and other affiliates may also face disciplinary action by Savannah State University. Individuals found responsible for having committed such a violation face permanent expulsion, termination of employment, suspension, probation, possible criminal charges. Incidents involving accused students will be handled by the Office of Student Conduct and the Office of the Title IX Coordinator and incidents involving accused employees/affiliates will be handled by the Office of Human Resources.

All conduct proceedings, whether the conduct is reported to have occurred on or off campus, shall provide a prompt, fair and impartial investigation and resolution by officials who have received annual training on the nature of the types of cases they are handling, on how to conduct an investigation, and conduct a hearing in a manner that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability. Determination of responsibility shall be made by Office of the Title IX Coordinator or the Office of Human Resources using the preponderance of the evidence standard (which means that it is more likely than not that the alleged misconduct occurred).

In all proceedings, including any related meetings, both the accused and accuser are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present including the right to be accompanied by an advisor of their choice. Both the accused and accuser shall simultaneously be informed in writing of the outcome made by the Title IX Coordinator or the Office of Human Resources-Title IX Coordinator, of procedures for appealing the results of the outcome, of any change to the results that occurs prior to the time that they become final, and when such results become final. Disclosure

of the outcome shall be made to both parties unconditionally, and each shall be free to share or not share the details with any third parties.

For additional information about student conduct proceedings please consult the Student Handbook, Planner, and Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct available at the Office of Student Conduct or online at <http://www.savannahstate.edu/student-affairs/documents/20152016studenthandbookwebversion.pdf> . For additional information about employee conduct proceedings please consult the Office of Human Resources available online at <http://www.savannahstate.edu/faculty-staff/human-resources/> .

Personal Safety

Theft, disorderly conduct, and alcohol related offenses are very common on university campuses. However, they do not stand-alone. Despite law enforcement’s efforts, serious crimes do occur on campuses. It is important to report any suspicious incidents to police and always remain alert and vigilant.

One of the more serious crimes that too often is unreported is Sexual Assault. It is important to know what these crimes are, because in many cases, victims do not realize that have been victimized. Additionally, crimes of this nature are very difficult for victims to report for a number of very complex reasons. We provide the following information to assist those help who may have been victims of sexual assault or who have a friend who has been sexually assaulted.

There are many guidelines to help you be more alert and aware of the situation to prevent such serious crimes. Such as:

- Know your surroundings
- Be alert
- Call for help
- Report any suspicious people and/or activity, immediately

Defining Rape and Sexual Assault

In Georgia, Rape is defined under O.C.G.A. § 16-6-1 as a “male having carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Carnal knowledge in rape occurs when there is any penetration of the female sex organs by the male sex organs.” The Code recognizes that rape can occur even between spouses so the defendant cannot use the fact that he is married to the person accusing him of rape as a defense. Rape is punishable by death, life imprisonment with or without parole, or a minimum of 25 years imprisonment, followed by probation for life.

In Georgia, Sexual Assault is defined under OCGA § 16-6-5.1 as “sexual contact” is that is perpetrated by “a person who has supervisory or disciplinary authority over another individual.”

While these definitions are clear, victims often have difficulty reporting a sexual assault for numerous reasons such as knowing the perpetrator, fear of retaliation, fear of parents knowing about the incident, fear of getting in trouble with law enforcement. Despite these concerns, it is vital to report such incidents in order to get help.

The following information provides steps to follow should a sexual assault occur:

- Get to a safe place as soon as possible!
- Try to preserve all physical evidence – The victim should not bathe, shower, brush teeth, douche, use the toilet, or change clothing until she/he has a medical exam. Contact a close friend or relative, if available, who can provide support and accompany the victim to the medical exam and/or police department. Advocates from the SSU Counseling Center can be available to the victim to provide support.
- Get medical attention as soon as possible – An exam may reveal the presence of physical injury of which the victim is unaware. Following a sexual assault, antibiotics are typically given at the time of the exam to help prevent the victim from acquiring certain sexually transmitted diseases. Emergency contraceptive pills are offered to all victims at the time of the exam (if the victim presents within 120 hours) to help prevent pregnancy from occurring as a result of the rape. If the victim reports memory loss, loss of consciousness or other circumstances suspicious for a drug-facilitated assault, a urine test may be done if the victim presents within 96 hours. Some of the commonly used “date rape” drugs, however, are only detectable in the urine for 6-8 hours after ingestion.
- Contact the police – Sexual assault is a crime, it is vital to report it. It is important to remember report a crime is not the same as prosecuting the crime. The decision to prosecute may be made at another time. Final decision to prosecute is determined by the District Attorney.
- Consider talking to a counselor – Seeing a counselor may be important in helping the victim understand his/her feelings and begin the process of recovery.

Our Commitment to Addressing Sexual Assault/Rape

The University does not tolerate sexual misconduct or abuse, such as sexual assault, rape or any other forms of nonconsensual sexual activity. Sexual misconduct in any form violates the Student Code of Conduct, University policies and may violate Federal and State Laws. Violations of this policy are subject to disciplinary sanctions through the Office of Student Conduct and/or those outlined in applicable University policies. Please visit <http://www.savannahstate.edu/studentaffairs/documents/20152016studenthandbookwebversion.pdf> to review procedures, policies and protocols for reporting and addressing allegations of student sexual misconduct. The University provides the following rights to all sexual assault victims:

- Savannah State University will pay for all basic sexual assault related care for students who receive care at either University Health Center or Medical Center.
- A Victim Resource Officer is available to all victims of crimes. The VRO will provide support and guidance to victims and enable them to receive advocacy, information, and assistance both judicially and academically.
- University Police are active participants in the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). This is to ensure victims are provided the appropriate care in a timely fashion and with only well trained professionals.
- On campus, counseling services are available to students through the Campus Counseling Center.

University Procedures for Responding to Reports of Sexual Assault

If you or someone you know is the victim of a sexual assault, the victim has several rights, including:

- The right to report the incident to the University Police or local authorities. The University will assist victims in notifying either the University or local police. Filing a police report does not mean the victim must pursue criminal charges. The victim maintains his or her rights throughout the process.
- In addition to the campus services listed below, there are also several community service organizations that can provide counseling, mental health, and other related services to sexual assault victims. The Office of Counseling Services can assist with connecting victims to these services. Please note that not all services are available at all campus location.

Savannah State University Counseling Center (912) 358-3129
SSU Campus-King-Frazier Complex Rm 233

Savannah State University Health Center (912) 358- 4122
SSU Campus-3219 College Street

Savannah State University Office of Title IX (912) 358-4150
SSU Campus-Colston Admin Building Rm #118

Rape Crisis Center of the Coastal Empire (912) 233-7273
(888) 241-7273

24-hour National Sexual Assault Hotline (800) 656-4673

Memorial University Medical Center- Nurse One (912) 350-4673

St. Joseph/Candler Care Call Center (912) 819-4100

- If a victim of a sexual assault or relationship violence incident requests a change in her or his living arrangements or academic schedule, the Office of Student Conduct, and other offices at the University, will assist the individual with making these changes, as long as they are reasonably available.

University Disciplinary Procedures in Sexual Assault Incidents

If you have been sexually assaulted, you have options for addressing such conduct. You may wish first to discuss the problem privately with a counselor or an adviser in the Savannah State University Center for Counseling Services or another confidential counselor. The University Police are always available to assist a victim with getting the support she/he requests.

The University's student conduct process is designed to afford a complainant (the person who is bringing a charge) and a respondent (the person who is answering a charge) a fair, prompt, and appropriate resolution process. The process is designed to help persons who need support as they address these incidents.

The Office of Student Conduct manages the resolution proceeding in which a student is the alleged perpetrator. The full text of the protocol for how the University responds to sexual assault complaints through the campus conduct process can be found at <http://www.savannahstate.edu/student-affairs/documents/20152016studenthandbookwebversion.pdf> . The Office of Human Resources is responsible for managing proceedings for those cases in which an employee is the respondent.

In determining whether the alleged conduct constitutes sexual harassment or assault, the full context in which the alleged incident occurred must be considered. In any case, both the accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during any disciplinary proceeding. Both the accuser and the accused will be informed of the outcome of any proceeding.

During any sexual assault complaint proceeding, the University has a range of sanctions available. Those sanctions may range from probation to expulsion from the University, depending upon the nature and circumstances of the specific incident.

Sexual Assault Prevention Education Programs

The Center for Counseling Services is primarily responsible for sexual assault education and awareness in collaboration with many offices at the University. Together, these offices offer a variety of programming focusing on sexual and gender violence. Below is a list of some of the programs available at the University.

- Rape Aggression Defense System (RAD) – in collaboration with University Police.
- Welcome Week/New to Campus Initiative – events with invited speakers to address issues of sexual and gender violence.
- Sexual Assault/Freshman Experience

Sex Offender Registration – Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act (CSCPA) of 2000 is a federal law that provides for the tracking of convicted sex offenders enrolled at, or employed by, institutions of higher education. The CSCPA is an amendment to the Jacob Wetterling Crimes against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Act. The federal law requires state law enforcement agencies, (Georgia Bureau of Investigation) to provide Savannah State University with a list of registered sex offenders who have indicated that they are enrolled, employed or carrying on a vocation at Savannah State University. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation provides Savannah State University with a Sex Offender Registry. The Registry is maintained at two locations: the Savannah State University Police Department web page and a web link that provides this information that can be found at <http://gbi.georgia.gov/georgia-sex-offender-registry>.

The CSCPA further amends the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) to clarify that nothing in the Act can prohibit an educational institution from disclosing information provided to the institution concerning registered sex offenders.

Missing Student Notification Policy

The Clery Act requires institutions that maintain on campus housing facilities to establish a missing student notification policy and related procedures (20 USC 1092 (j) Section 488 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008).

When it is determined that a residential student is missing from the University, staff at Savannah State University, in collaboration with local law enforcement, will be guided by this Missing Student Notification Policy and related procedures.

Upon receiving a report that an individual cannot be located, the responding officer will gather an initial physical description of the individual, any leads as to the possible location (destination, mode of travel, routes, etc.), the identity and location where the person was last seen, names and phone numbers of relatives and friends, and any other information which may assist in locating the person. The responding officer will initiate an immediate investigation in an attempt to locate the missing person. This investigation will include at a minimum, all of the following actions to be taken immediately:

- Speak to the caller and complete the appropriate Investigative Report.
- Advise the caller to contact the police department in their jurisdiction.
- Call the police department where the Missing Person resides and advise of the situation.
- Check the surrounding area where the person was last seen
- Contact the CID
- Initial Investigation

Provisions

In accordance with general institutional emergency notification procedures, when a University student is thought to be missing from the campus, staff in the University administration should be immediately notified. Specifically, staff in the Office of Residence Life, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, Police, and the senior Student Affairs professional at a campus, should be contacted so that they can coordinate efforts to locate the student. The designated Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs at Savannah State University is to be notified immediately of all students thought to be missing. He/she has the authority and the responsibility for coordinating the efforts made by the University to assist the student and the student's family.

The appropriate Student Affairs representative, or other individual learning that a student is missing, will file a formal missing student report with the University police or campus security department, or, in the absence of an institutional police or campus security department, to the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction in the geographical areas around the specific campus location.

It will be made clear to all students annually, that each residential student of the University has the option to designate an individual to be contacted by Savannah State University administration no later than 24 hours after the time that Savannah State University determines the student is missing. The University provides each student with the means and opportunity to register their confidential Missing Student contact information by logging into Blackboard and filling out the Address and Contact Information form. This information is only accessible to University employees who are authorized campus officials and this information will not be disclosed to others with the exception to law enforcement personnel in the furtherance of a missing student investigation;

In accordance with the Savannah State University's Missing Student Policy, it should be noted that Savannah State University notifies each student who is under 18 years of age (and not an emancipated individual), that the University is required to contact the student's parents or guardian in addition to the person identified as the missing student contact person. This contact will be made no later than 24 hours after the time that the student is determined to be missing;

In accordance with the University procedures, it should be noted that Savannah State University will inform each residential student that the University will notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency or campus police department, when a student has gone missing, unless the local law enforcement agency was the entity that made the determination that the student was

missing. This notification will be made no later than 24 hours after the time that the student is determined missing, and;

If the campus law enforcement personnel or campus security department has been notified that a student has gone missing, and makes a determination that a student who is the subject of a missing person report has been missing for more than 24 hours, Savannah State University staff will initiate emergency contact procedures as outlined in the University's policy and protocol.

Savannah State University's missing student investigative procedures include following:

- Include communication procedures for official notification of appropriate individuals at Savannah State University that a student has been missing for more than 24 hours.
- Require an official Missing Person Report relating to a University residential student to be referred immediately to the University police department.
- If through investigation of an official report, the University police department determines a student has been missing for more than 24 hours, they will:
 - Notify the local police to share information.
 - Contact those individuals provided by the student, as their missing student contact person.
 - If a student is under 18 years of age, and not an emancipated individual, immediately contact the custodial parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the student, in addition to the student's missing student contact person.

Daily Crime and Fire Log

University Police maintains a combined Daily Crime and Fire Log of all crime and fire incidents reported to the Department. The University Police publishes the Daily Crime and Fire Log, Monday – Friday, when the University is opened. The log is available 24 hours per day to members of public. This log identifies the type, location, and time of each criminal incident reported to University Police.

The most current 60 days of information is available in the lobby of the Savannah State University Police Department located on campus at the Hubert Tech Science-Building C-Rooms 309/305. Upon request a copy of any maintained Daily Crime and Fire Log will be made available for viewing, within 48 hours of notice during normal business hours.

Campus Carry- House Bill 280

Gov. Nathan Deal signed HB 280, which permits weapons carry license holders to carry firearms in specific and limited areas on college campuses.

This legislation addressed major concerns voiced by the governor last year regarding HB 859, which permitted a weapons carry license holder to carry a concealed weapon into certain areas of a college campus that had previously been prohibited. HB 859 failed, however, to address Deal's concerns regarding the prohibition of firearms in "sensitive places," including campus preschools, disciplinary hearings, or faculty and administrative offices. As a result, the legislation was vetoed.

The General Assembly overwhelmingly passed HB 280, which maintains the same restrictions present in HB 859. It also addresses the areas of campus over which Deal previously raised concerns, along with additional areas of college campuses where weapons would not be permitted.

This law took effect July 1, 2017, for all University System of Georgia (USG) institutions, including Savannah State University.

For additional information about [House Bill 280](#), please visit the USG website.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Can license-holders carry concealed handguns in laboratories on campus?

Yes. HB 280 sets out specific excepted areas in which license-holders may not carry handguns, and laboratories are not one of those exceptions. Handguns would only be prohibited in a laboratory if the particular space were to fall within one of the specific exceptions.

Can license-holders carry concealed handguns at summer camps on campus?

Yes. Summer camps are not set out as an exception to the ability to carry concealed handguns on campus in HB 280. Handguns are prohibited, however, in childcare spaces, which include programs for children under 18 years of age that are located within an enclosed space behind a controlled access point (meaning access via personnel stationed at the door or an electronic mechanism) limited to authorized people.

Can license-holders carry concealed handguns in health centers and exam room on campus?

Yes. Health centers and their examination rooms are not specifically excepted from the general rule that license-holders may carry concealed handguns on campus. Handguns are only prohibited in those areas of health centers that fall within a specific exception in HB 280, such as faculty, staff and administrative offices.

Are handguns prohibited from athletic sporting event facilities at all times or only during the events?

Handguns are prohibited in buildings or property that are used for intercollegiate games at all times, not just those specific areas of the facility in which games are played. The same is true of student housing facilities; handguns are prohibited throughout the facilities, not only in the specific areas where students reside.

Does HB 280 apply to off-campus field trips or work trips?

No. HB 280 only applies “in any building or on real property owned by or leased to any public... college, or university....or other public institution of postsecondary education.” When students, faculty or staff leave campus for school- related activities, they will be governed by the weapons laws that apply to their off- campus location.

Does HB 280 apply to property owned by USG institutions outside of Georgia?

No. HB only applies within the State of Georgia. People at locations that are owned or leased by USG colleges and universities but lie outside of Georgia will be governed by the applicable local laws of the city, county, state, and/or country in which the facilities lie.

Are handguns prohibited from athletic sporting event facilities at all times or only during the events?

No. HB 280 only prohibits handguns in rooms and spaces that are being used for classes in which high school students are enrolled. It does not prohibit license- holders from carrying concealed handguns in other area where those high school students may go while on campus.

Can faculty members and students other than license-holders ask the registrar whether high school students are enrolled in their classes?

Yes.

Can faculty members ask students to identify themselves if they are carrying handguns or ask students who carry handguns to take different classes?

No. State law grants license-holders the ability to carry handguns to public college and university classes (except those in which high school students are enrolled), and faculty members may not ask license-holders to reveal that they are carrying concealed handguns or in any way discourage them doing what they are legally allowed to do.

Are faculty members responsible for announcing to their classes that guns are (or are not) prohibited because high school students are (or are not) enrolled?

No. It is the responsibility of those who choose to carry handguns on campus to make themselves aware of where and when they can do so. They can learn which of their classes include high school students by asking the registrar, as can faculty members and their classmates. In fact, the USG does not recommend that faculty members make announcements in class because it may lead to confusion among students resulting from inconsistencies between different professors different classes.

May faculty members provide information about HB 280 in their course syllabi?

Yes. Faculty members can provide information by linking to the USG guidance at the [usg.edu website](https://usg.edu).

If USG institutions will not be providing storage lockers, where can license-holders store their handguns while they go to places on campus where handguns are prohibited?

It is the responsibility of those who choose to carry handguns on campus to make arrangements for the proper and safe storage of those guns. Current law already allows for the securing of guns in parked cars. License-holders can also make arrangements for storage off-campus.

If a student or employee violates the provisions of HB 280, may the institution treat that conduct as a violation of its student code of conduct or personnel rules?

Yes. The immediate situation should be handled by law enforcement, but afterwards the conduct may be treated as a violation of the student code of conduct or personnel rules. That process should then be handled in the same manner as any other student or employee misconduct case would be handled.

UNIVERSITY'S ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY

Federal law requires Savannah State University to notify annually all faculty, staff, and students of the following:

Savannah State University prohibits the unlawful possession, manufacture, distribution, dispensation, and use of illicit drugs and alcohol on the institutional premises in accordance with the Drug-Free Communities and School Act Amendments of 1989 (Public Law 101226) and the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Act of 1990. In addition, the smoking of any material is prohibited in all facilities of Savannah State University at all locations under the policy of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Savannah State University's Alcohol and Drug Policy can be found online at <http://www.savannahstate.edu/student-affairs/documents/SavannahStateUniversity20152016StudentCodeofRightsandResponsibilities.pdf>.

In addition, every student is given a copy of the policy in the Student Handbook upon the start of each school year. Staff and faculty are given a copy of the policy upon entrance to employment at the university.

Applicable Legal Sanctions for Unlawful Use of Illicit Drugs or Alcohol

The Georgia Penal Code defines "Controlled Substances" in Drug Schedules I-V, Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.), Sections 16-13-35 to 16-13-3. This includes a list of chemical compounds, opiates, hallucinogens, derivatives, isomers, and other materials. The State Board of Pharmacy may add new material to the list as required. An even broader listing of dangerous drugs is defined in O.C.G.A. Section 16-13-71. This citation describes hundreds of chemicals and other compounds. The Georgia General Assembly may add drugs to the list as required.

In addition to the legal sanctions cited above, students; staff and faculty at Savannah State University are subject to sanctions based on the code of conduct at the University. These sanctions can include suspension, expulsion, loss of employment, mandatory counseling, and community service.

Alcohol Policy

Savannah State University Police enforce state and local ordinances pertaining to the illegal possession, use and sale of alcoholic beverages and underage drinking laws. Savannah State University also condemns the inappropriate behavior resulting from alcohol beverage abuse. Alcohol abuse is characterized by uncontrollable behavior which infringes upon the rights of others, potential danger to self or others, or use of alcohol outside the parameters of state and/or University policy.

- It is illegal for persons under 21 years of age to possess, consume or purchase alcoholic beverages.

- It is illegal for any person to furnish alcoholic beverages to persons less than 21 years of age.
- It is illegal to furnish, sell, or provide alcoholic beverages to a person who is in a state of noticeable intoxication.
- It is illegal to charge admission to events where alcohol is provided, unless a license for sale of alcoholic beverages has been obtained.
- It is illegal for persons under the age of 21 to misrepresent (fake I.D.) themselves for the purpose of obtaining an alcoholic beverage illegally.
- It is illegal in the local jurisdictions of SSU campus to carry an open container of an alcoholic beverage.

Alcohol Paraphernalia

Funnels, alcohol processing equipment, shot glasses, and empty alcohol containers for non-decorative purposes are considered alcohol paraphernalia. Alcohol paraphernalia is not allowed within the residence halls and will be confiscated.

Underage Drinking

It is illegal for anyone under 21 years of age to attempt to purchase, consume, possess, or knowingly and intentionally transport any liquor, malt or brewed beverage.

In compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, Savannah State University offers drug and alcohol-abuse education as needed or requested to the college community. SSU Office of Counseling Provides: Personal Counseling, referral to community AA, Al-Non, referral to community, local and state treatment centers or referral to family physician

Student Affairs Provides: Student Conduct Board

Local, State & Federal Legal Sanctions Legal Sanctions – Laws Governing Alcohol

Penalties for Alcohol – Georgia

Alcohol possession and selling violations

1. Under 21 years of age
 - a. Up to 6 months
 - b. \$300 fine
 - c. Probation and/or Community Service
2. Providing to Under 21
 - a. Up to 12 months

- b. Up to \$1000 fine
- c. Probation and/or Community Service

Savannah State University has a zero tolerance policy associated with students consuming beverage alcohol under the age of twenty-one. Not only is this against the State law, it also violates the student code of conduct.

Driving Under the Influence (DUI)

In Georgia the illegal level for DUI is .08% Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) and .02% BAC for minors.

Also, drivers with any amount of a Schedule I, II, or III controlled substance not medically prescribed (or their metabolites) may not drive, operate, or be in actual physical control of a vehicle.

Penalties for Driving Under the Influence – Georgia

Driving under the influence

- 1. One day to one year's imprisonment
- 2. \$300 to \$1000 fine
- 3. Suspension of license for a minimum of six months and up to one year
- 4. Perform 20 to 40 hours of community service

It is illegal for anyone under 21 years of age to drive a vehicle with a blood alcohol content of .02 or higher.

Refusing a Chemical Test

Any person who drives a motor vehicle automatically gives consent to one or more chemical test (e.g. breath, blood, or urine). This implied consent means that a person doesn't have the right to an attorney before testing. If a person refuses to submit to a chemical test: 1) the test will not be done; 2) the person's license will be suspended for one year; 3) the person will most likely be charged with DUI.

Open Container Law

In Georgia, there is a state law prohibiting open containers of alcohol in public. Although certain defined areas of Savannah allow containers of alcohol to be carried and consumed, the area in which Savannah State University is located is not one of these designated areas. Therefore

Savannah State University Police may utilize the local city ordinance for open containers. There is a \$250 - \$500 fine for open container.

Areas Open to the Public

Savannah State University prohibits the possession and use of alcoholic beverages in areas open to the public including areas of buildings open to the public.

Private or Closed Areas

The possession and use of alcoholic beverages are prohibited in all areas of campus including residence halls as Savannah State University is considered a “dry” campus. Therefore even individuals who are 21 and older and can legally possess alcohol are forbidden to do so on campus property as per Savannah State University’s policy on alcohol.

Off Campus

While local authorities have primary jurisdiction in areas off campus, Savannah State University Police officers can and do respond to student-related incidents that occur on campus and in close proximity to the campus.

Education and Research Areas

Savannah State University specifically prohibits the use, possession and dispensing of alcoholic beverages in classrooms, lecture halls, laboratories, libraries, research areas, or within buildings, arenas or areas where athletic events, lectures, or concerts are held, during such events or activities. Permission will not be granted to use or possess alcoholic beverages in a facility that is being used for one of the above functions.

Illegal Substances (Drugs)

The possession or use (without valid medical or dental prescription), manufacture, distribution, or sale of any drug controlled by federal or Georgia law is prohibited. Possession and/or use of drug paraphernalia, including but not limited to any form of bong or smoking device, such as a hookah, even if not used or used for tobacco products, is prohibited.

Possession of Marijuana

A person is unlawful when she/he unknowingly, knowingly or intentionally possesses marijuana (Hashish), a Schedule I substance, and is not authorized by law to possess such substance. Persons engaged in such activity will most likely face criminal charges and be charged with a violation of the student code of conduct.

Penalties for Possession of Marijuana

- A. Possession of Marijuana – one ounce or less (misdemeanor)
 - 1. Imprisonment not to exceed 12 months
 - 2. Or fine not to exceed \$1000
 - 3. Or both
- B. Possession of Marijuana – more than one ounce (felony)
 - Imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than 10 years

Synthetic Marijuana

Effective March 1, 2011 the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency classified synthetic marijuana as an illegal substance. This drug may also be known as Spice, K2, Demon, Wicked, Black Magic, Voodoo Spice, and Ninja Aroma. Individuals found responsible for manufacturing, possessing, importing/exporting or distributing these substances will face criminal and civil penalties. College Students engaging in these activities will also be held responsible under the College's Student Code of Conduct.

Policies Specific to Students

In addition to possible fines and imprisonment for violation of local, state, and federal drug and alcohol laws, students are subject to sanctions under the Savannah State University Student Code of Conduct for violation of policies governing alcohol and other drugs. These sanctions may include but are not limited to fines, community service, mandatory courses on drug and alcohol abuse, parental notification, probation, and suspension or expulsion from the College. The following policies of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia also apply to Savannah State University students who violate drug and alcohol policy:

406.01 The Board of Regents has determined that the use of marijuana, controlled substances or other illegal or dangerous drugs constitutes a serious threat to the public health, welfare, and academic achievement of students enrolled in the University System of Georgia. Therefore, all student organizations, including but not limited to societies, fraternities, sororities, clubs, and similar groups of students which are affiliated with, recognized by, or which use the facilities under the jurisdiction of institutions of the University System, are hereby charged with the responsibility of enforcing compliance with local, state and federal laws by all persons attending or participating in their respective functions and affairs, social or otherwise.

As provided by the Student Organization Responsibility for Drug Abuse Act, any such student organization which, through its officers, agents or responsible members, knowingly permits, authorizes or condones the manufacture, sale, distribution, possession, serving, consumption or use of marijuana, controlled substances, or other illegal or dangerous drugs at any affair, function, or activity of such student organization, social or otherwise, is hereby declared to be in violation of the laws of this state and shall have its recognition as a student organization withdrawn and,

after complying with the constitutional requirements of due process, shall be expelled from the campus for a minimum of one calendar year from the date of determination of guilt. Such organization shall also be prohibited from using any property or facilities of the institution for a period of at least one year. Any lease, rental agreement or other document between the Board of Regents or the institution and the student organization which relates to the use of the property leased, rented or occupied shall be terminated for knowingly having permitted or authorized the unlawful actions described above. All sanctions imposed by this policy shall be subject to review procedures authorized by the Board of Regents (Article VIII of the Bylaws).

An appeal to the Board of Regents shall not defer the effective date of the adverse action against the student organization pending the Board's review unless the Board so directs. Any such stay or suspension by the Board shall expire as of the date of the Board's final decision on the matter (BR Minutes, 1989-90, p. 384) This Policy amendment is intended to implement The Student Organization Responsibility for Drug Abuse Act of 1990 (Ga. Laws, 1990, p. 2033).

406.04 (Paragraph 3) Disciplinary sanctions for students convicted of a felony offense involving the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession or use of marijuana, controlled substances or other illegal or dangerous drugs, shall include the forfeiture of academic credit and the temporary or permanent suspension or expulsion from the institution. All sanctions imposed by the institution shall be subject to review procedures authorized by the Board of Regents (Article VIII of the Bylaws).

Policies Specific to Faculty and Staff

Savannah State University prohibits employees from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of illegal drugs in the workplace. Savannah State University prohibits its employees from engaging in such illegal activity at all times and at all places. Such activity, even during non-working hours, clearly affects an employee's ability to perform his/her public duties. Any employee who feels he/she may have a substance abuse problem is encouraged to seek counseling and treatment. If an employee is arrested for or convicted (including a plea of nolo contendere) for a violation of any criminal drug statute of any jurisdiction, regardless of whether the alleged violation occurred at the workplace or elsewhere, the employee must notify the Director of Human Resources at Savannah State University in writing of the arrest or conviction. Such unlawful activity will be considered sufficient grounds for serious adverse personnel action, including possible dismissal from employment.

Drugs Risks and Consequences

- Alcohol and other drug use during pregnancy increases risk of physical harms to fetus.
- Additional risks of harm may occur from toxic impurities present in street drugs.
- Additional risks of harm may occur from the use of prescription drugs in ways other than prescribed.

- Drugs taken by injection can increase the risk of infection (e.g. HIV, hepatitis, etc.) through needle contamination.

For more information visit: <http://www.drugabuse.gov> and www.samhas.gov

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Education Programs

The Savannah State University Counseling Center provides individual counseling to SSU students for substance abuse and other personal concerns. There is no charge for this service. Clients are informed of the nature and purpose of any assessment, treatment, educational or training procedure and are given freedom of choice with regard to participation. When the Counseling Center is not able to provide the necessary services, clients are informed of alternative resources and appropriate referrals are made.

To the extent permitted by law and ethical standards, all information received in counseling is considered confidential and is not disclosed to any other person or campus unit without the written permission of the clients.

In matters of student discipline, the Counseling Center staff may provide assessment and consultative services to clients, colleagues, or units of the College in ways which improve the campus environment, maintain the anonymity of clients, and preserve the confidential nature of all counseling relationships.

ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS

Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f)) requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. The Savannah State University Police maintains a close relationship with all police departments where Savannah State University owns or control property ensure that crimes reported directly to these police departments that involve the University are brought to the attention of the Savannah State University Police.

The Savannah State University Police collects the crime statistics disclosed in the charts through a number of methods. Police dispatchers and officers enter all reports of crime incidents made directly to the department through an integrated computer aided-dispatch systems/records management system. After an officer enters the report in the system, a department administrator reviews the report to ensure it is appropriately classified in the correct crime category. The Department periodically examines the data to ensure that all reported crimes are recorded in accordance with the crime definitions outlined in the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook and the FBI National Incident-Based Reporting System Handbook (sex offenses only). In addition to the crime data that the Savannah State University Police maintains, the statistics below also include crimes that are reported to various campus security authorizes, as defined in this report. The statistics reported here generally reflect the number of criminal incidents reported to the various authorities. The statistics reported for the sub categories on liquor laws, drug laws and weapons offenses represented the number of people arrested or referred to campus judicial authorities for respective violations, not the number of offenses documented.

Definitions of Reportable Crimes

Primary Crimes

Criminal Homicide:

- Murder/Manslaughter – defined as the willful killing of one human being by another.
- Negligent Manslaughter – is defined as the killing of another person through gross negligence.

Forcible sex offenses:

- Forcible rape – the carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will, where the victim is incapable of giving consent because his or her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of his or her youth.)
- Forcible sodomy – oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly against the person's will, where the victim is

incapable of giving consent because of his or her youth or because of his or her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

- Sexual assault with an object – the use of an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly or against the person’s will, where the victim is incapable of giving his or her consent because of his or her youth or because of his or her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- Forcible fondling – the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person’s will; or, not forcibly or against the person’s will, where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his or her youth or because of his or her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Non-forcible sex offenses:

- Incest – non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by laws.
- Statutory rape – non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age on consent.

Robbery – is defined as taking or attempting to take anything of value from the car, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

Aggravated Assault – is defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Burglary – is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.

Motor Vehicle Theft – is the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

Arson – any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

Hate Crimes

Hate Crimes – includes all of the crimes listed above that manifest evidence that the victim was chosen based on one of the categories of bias listed below, plus the following crimes.

Larceny/Theft—includes, pocket picking, purse snatching, shoplifting, theft from building, theft from motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle parts or accessories, and all other larceny.

Simple Assault—an unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.

Intimidation—to unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

Destruction/Damage/Vandalism or Property (except Arson)—to willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

Categories of Prejudice:

Race – A preformed negative attitude toward a group of persons who possess common physical characteristics genetically transmitted by descent and heredity which distinguish them as a distinct division of humankind.

Gender – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons because those persons are male or female.

Gender Identity- A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender identity, e.g., bias against transgender or gender nonconforming individuals.

Religion – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons who share the same religious beliefs regarding the origin and purpose of the universe and the existence or nonexistence of a supreme being.

Sexual Orientation – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their sexual attraction toward, and responsiveness to, members of their own sex or members of the opposite sex.

National Origin- A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based individuals who were born in the same country or base don where their ancestors come from.

Ethnicity- A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons of the same race or who share common or similar traits, languages, customs or traditions.

Disability – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their physical or mental impairments/ challenges, whether such disability is temporary or permanent, congenital or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age or illness.

Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking

Dating Violence – Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim.

Where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:

- The length of the relationship;
- The type of relationship;
- The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Domestic Violence – A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed:

- By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
- By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
- By a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
- By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred, or,
- By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

Stalking – Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to—

- (i) Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or
- (ii) Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Other offenses

Liquor law violations – the violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting: the manufacture, sale, transporting, furnishing, possessing of intoxicating liquor; maintaining unlawful drinking places; bootlegging; operating a still; furnishing liquor to a minor or intemperate person; using a vehicle for illegal transportation of liquor; drinking on a train or public conveyance; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned activities. (Drunkenness and driving under the influence are not included in this definition.)

Drug abuse violations – violations of state and local laws relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs. The relevant substances include: opium or cocaine and their derivatives (morphine, heroin, codeine); marijuana, synthetic narcotics (Demerol, methadone); and dangerous non-narcotic drugs (barbiturates, Benzedrine).

Weapon law violations – the violation of laws or ordinances dealing with weapon offenses, regulatory in nature, such as: the manufacture, sale, or possession of deadly weapons; the carrying

of deadly weapons, concealed or openly; the furnishing of deadly weapons to minors; aliens possessing deadly weapons; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned acts.

Referrals- a violation of the university code of conduct that was then adjudicated through the student judicial affairs process.

Crime Statistics

The Savannah State Police Department maintains a close relationship with all local authorities to ensure that it is notified of any crime report that is made directly to them that could impact the campus community. The University Police will disclose any crime report made directly to any local law enforcement agency by a member of the campus community.

(Note: The Residential Facility statistic is a sub-set of the "On Campus" statistic)

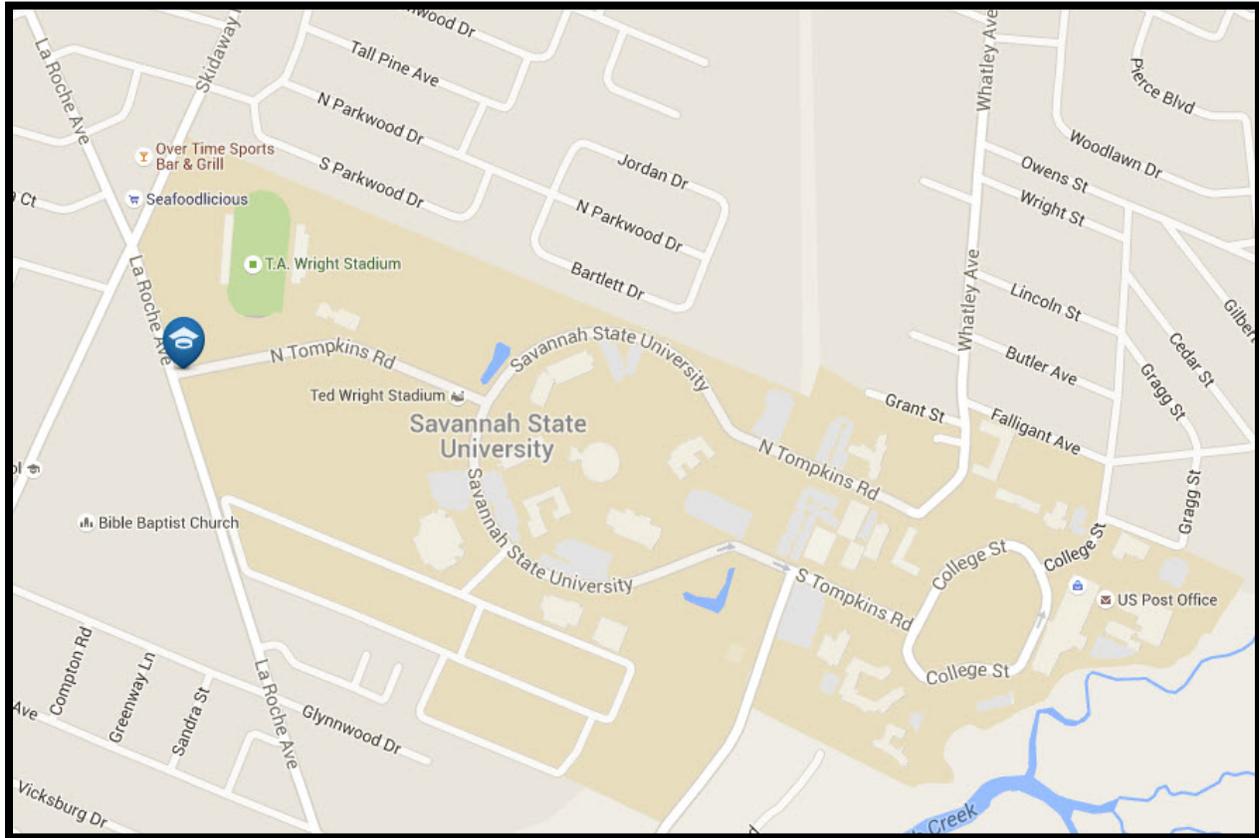
Offense	Year	On Campus	Residential Facility	Non Campus Building or Property	Public Property
Criminal Homicide					
Murder and Non Negligent	2014	0	0	0	0
	2015	1	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	2014	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses					
Forcible	2014	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0
Non-Forcible	2014	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0
Rape	2014	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0
Fondling	2014	3	3	0	0
	2015	6	6	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2014	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0
Incest	2014	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2014	4	4	0	0
	2015	6	5	0	0
	2016	4	4	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2014	1	1	0	0
	2015	6	4	0	0
	2016	8	7	0	0
Burglary	2014	17	15	0	0
	2015	29	23	0	0
	2016	20	18	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2014	1	0	0	0
	2015	2	0	0	0
	2016	2	0	0	0
Arson	2014	0	0	0	0
	2015	1	1	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0

	Arrest				
Other Offenses	Year	On Campus	Residential Facility	Non Campus Building or Property	Public Property
Liquor Law Violations	2016	1	1		
	2015	1	1		
	2014	1	0		
Drug Abuse Violations	2016	6	14		
	2015	19	30		
	2014	32	25		
Illegal Weapons Possession	2016	9	5		
	2015	5	5		
	2014	6	6		
	Judicial Referral				
Liquor Law Violations	2016	22	20		
	2015	7	7		
	2014	13	13		
Drug Abuse Violations	2016	143	130		
	2015	2	2		
	2014	9	9		
Illegal Weapons Possession	2016	4	4		
	2015	7	7		
	2014	9	9		
VAWA Amendment Offenses					
Dating Violence	2016	0	0		
	2015	6	6		
	2014	0	0		
Domestic Violence	2016	0	0		
	2015	3	3		
	2014	0	0		
Stalking	2016	0	0		
	2015	2	2		
	2014	1	1		

There were no reported Hate Crimes in the years 2014, 2015, & 2016 for Savannah State University “On Campus”, in “Residential Facilities”, on “Non- campus Buildings or Property” and on “Public Property”.

CAMPUS MAP

An interactive version of the Savannah State University Campus Map can be located online at <http://www.savannahstate.edu/map/>.



CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

While Savannah State University campus is a reasonably safe environment, crimes do occur. In addition to the Clery Act crimes statistics below, other common crimes that occur on campus are outlined below:

Theft

Theft is a common occurrence on college campuses. Oftentimes this is due to the fact theft is a crime of opportunity. Confined living arrangements, recreation facilities, and many open classrooms and laboratories provide thieves with effortless opportunities. Occupants of the residence halls often feel a sense of security and home atmosphere and become too trusting of their peers, while others leave classrooms and laboratories unlocked when not occupied for short periods of time.

It is important to be very vigilant when it comes to suspicious persons. Never leave items and valuables lying around unsecured. Doors should be locked at all times. The following is a list of suggestions to help you not fall victim of theft:

- Keep doors to residence halls, labs, classrooms locked when not occupied
- Don't provide access to unauthorized persons in the buildings or classrooms
- Do not keep large amounts of money with you.
- Lock all valuables, money, jewelry, checkbooks in a lock box or locked drawer
- Keep a list of all valuable possessions including the makes, models, and serial numbers
- Take advantage of the Engraving Programs to have all valuables engraved with specific identifying marks
- Don't leave laptop computers or textbooks unattended in labs or libraries, even if it is for a short period of time
- Don't lend credit cards or identification cards to anyone
- Report loitering persons or suspicious persons to police immediately; don't take any chances

Identity Theft

Identity theft is a crime in which someone wrongfully obtains and uses another person's personal information in some ways that involve fraud or deception, typically for economic gain. This personal data could be a Social Security number, bank account or credit card information.

Persons involved in identity theft often use computers or other forms of media to assist them.

There are measures you can take to prevent this from happening to you:

- Do not give anyone your personal information unless there is a reason to trust them and the release is for good reason.
- Never give your credit card information, date of birth, or other information over the telephone, unless you can confirm the person receiving that information.
- Complete a credit check frequently to assure there is no suspicious activity.
- Examine financial information often to assure all transactions are authorized and accounted for.
- Use of computer security software on computers and installation of firewalls are good.