Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi

2007 Annual Security Report

Summary

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is dedicated to providing a safe and secure campus environment for all students, faculty, staff, and guests. This information has been prepared to ensure that Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is in compliance with the federal guidelines under the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1999. This report includes crime statistics for the previous three years that occurred on campus, at certain off-campus buildings/property, and on public property adjacent to and accessible from the campus. Crime statistics are collected from the University Police Department, Office of Student Affairs, and Campus Security Authorities. The University Police Department obtains information from the Corpus Christi Police Department on crimes that occur at off-campus buildings/property.

Information on obtaining a copy of the annual security report is made available to all students, prospective students, employees, and prospective employees. The report is distributed throughout campus, available upon request at the University Police Department, and available on the UPD website.

TAMU-CC Police Department (Jurisdiction, Enforcement, Arrest Powers)

It is the mission of the University Police Department to provide law enforcement in a manner which should ensure the environment which is best suited for an institution of higher education.

The University Police Department is the sole law enforcement agency on the campus of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. The University Police Department reports to the Executive Vice-President for Finance and Administration. The University Police Department is located on the west side of campus on Oso Lane and is ready to assist twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year.

The University Police Department employs commissioned peace officers who are licensed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education. University police officers are empowered by the Code of Criminal Procedures to enforce all state and local laws. The University police officers also enforce the rules and regulations of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. The University Police Department investigates all criminal activity on campus. The police officers of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi have full arrest powers and are authorized to carry firearms. The University Police conduct preventive patrol throughout the campus and residential areas by foot, vehicle, and bicycle.

Interagency Relationships

The University Police Department maintains a close working relationship with the Corpus Christi Police Department, Nueces County Sheriff’s Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, and other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies.

Crime Prevention and Awareness Programs

The University Police Department’s Specialized Services division is available to conduct many different presentations. These presentations are held during orientation, special events, and upon requests of classes and student organizations. Some of these programs include:

- Personal Safety
- Sexual Assault Prevention
- Alcohol/Drug Awareness
- Hazing
- Protecting Personal Property against Theft and Burglary
- Operation I.D.
- Annual Campus Safety Walk
- Workplace Safety

The University Police Department provides crime prevention tips through brochures, flyers, table tents, and on campus monitors.

As part of the crime prevention program, the University Police Department offers security surveys for work spaces and residences.

Crime Reporting Procedures

The campus community (faculty, staff, and students) is encouraged to report all crimes to the University Police Department.
Police Department (UPD) in a timely manner. Crimes should be reported to the UPD to ensure inclusion in
the annual crime statistics. Police officers are available twenty four hours a
day, year round. Crimes can be reported to the University Police Department by any of the following means:

• Call the University Police Department at ext. 4444 or go to the
University Police Department in person.

• Use one of the emergency/assistance phones located throughout campus. The phones are designated by a
blue light on a white pole marked “Emergency/Assistance”.

• Students who prefer to do so may contact any of the following “Campus Security Authorities” which are
designated by the Crime Awareness Act:

  Office of Student Affairs..........................................................825-2612
  Director of University Housing..............................................825-2612
  Director of Residence Life and Resident Assistants......................825-5000
  Director of Student Activities and Advisors..............................825-5207
  Director of Athletics and Coaches..........................................825-5541
  Director of Career Services..................................................825-6052
  University Counseling Services............................................825-2703
  University Health Services..................................................825-6047

• 911 should be utilized to report any life threatening emergency.

Confidential Reporting

Members of the campus community may confidentially
report incidents in which they are victims or witnesses to any
campus security authority for inclusion in the annual crime
statistics. It may not be possible for campus police to investigate
crimes that are reported anonymously or confidentially.

When to Call the Police

• All Emergencies including medical, fire, and accidents.
• A firearm or weapon is seen in a room or on a person.
• Someone is displaying any type of unusual behavior.
• Someone states he/she wishes to hurt themselves or others.
• Suspicious persons in suspicious places.
• You or someone else is threatened with violence.
• You or someone you know is a victim of violence.
• Someone is harassing/stalking you or someone you know.
• A stranger entering your neighbors dorm or apartment when you know they are gone.
• A person screaming (it may indicate they need help).
• Anyone looking into car window or trying door handles.
• The sound of breaking glass or other loud noises they may indicate an accident or other crime.
• Persons loitering around dorms or buildings.
• Someone forcing entry into a building, car, residence, or vending machine.
• Anytime you feel unsafe or notice something that does not appear right.

Information Needed By Police

• What happened?
• When?
• Where?
• Is anyone injured?
• Vehicle license number
• Direction of flight
• Description of persons (including clothing)
• When describing suspects, notice age, race, sex, height, and weight. Compare your weight and height with
the suspect’s. Pick out some unique characteristics that will help you identify the suspect in the future.

Police Response

The University Police Department responds to all emergencies and
investigates all reports of criminal activity that occur on campus. The
University Police Department responses include but are not limited to the
following:

• Investigation of reports following UPD procedures.
• Arrest, file charges with the appropriate courts when such action is necessary.
• Reports involving students will be forwarded to the Judicial Affairs office for review and potential judicial
action.

When a Serious Crime Occurs (Timely Warnings)

When a serious crime occurs on campus that represents an immediate
threat to the University, the University Police Department will publicize a
warning. Timely Warnings will be distributed via e-mail, voice-mail, campus
monitors, and flyers posted throughout the campus.
Crime Log

The University Police Department maintains a daily activity log of all calls for police assistance. This log also includes crimes that have occurred on campus. The activity log can be viewed on the UPD website.

Securing of Campus Facilities/Residence Halls

The facilities of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi are well maintained. Students, faculty, and staff at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi have access to all academic, recreation, and administrative facilities. Access to private offices and certain other areas are restricted through the issuance of keys. Visitors to the campus have access to those areas officially opened for study, work, or related functions. The general public can attend cultural and recreational events on campus. The University Police patrols campus and closely monitors the security of all buildings to assure that no unauthorized persons have access after closing hours.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has residential apartments and residential halls. Access is limited to the residents and their invited guests. Room keys are provided to the residents only. Residents are instructed not to lend or duplicate their keys. If a resident loses his/her key the lock(s) to the residence will be changed.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has information kiosks at both entrances to the campus. The kiosks are staffed by employees of the University Police Department. After hours all guests of on campus residents must register with the East kiosk. It is the responsibility of the resident to make sure their guests are aware of the University and housing policies. Residents are encouraged to report individuals who can not be identified as a resident or a guest of a resident.

Security Considerations Used in Maintenance

The University Police Department works closely with other departments on campus to maintain a safe campus. Maintenance personnel repair locks, doors, and windows that are not working properly. The UPD checks the campus lighting on a regular basis and informs the Physical Plant of all non-working lights. Grounds personnel maintain trees, shrubbery, and other vegetation to ensure that it does not impede lighting, interfere with walk-ways, or create safety concerns. The campus community is encourage to report all safety concerns to the University Police Department or the Environmental Health and Safety Office.

Weapons/Alcohol/Drugs

Weapons

The use, possession, or carrying of any kind of firearm on the property of an institution of Higher Education is a violation of state laws and University regulations. Violations may result in an Arrests, and/or suspension from the University. The only exceptions are for authorized law enforcement officers.

Alcohol

The use, possession, and distribution of alcoholic beverages on University property must comply with Texas state law, local ordinances, and University policies and regulations. Misconduct may result in arrests, and/or University disciplinary action and penalties. Among the violations that could result in penalties are:

- The purchase, consumption, possession, or transportation of alcoholic beverages by anyone under the age of twenty-one.
- The furnishing of alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of twenty-one.
- Driving under the influence of alcohol.
- Public Intoxication as defined by Texas Penal Code 49.02

Consumption of alcoholic beverages shall be limited to student rooms or apartments of individual students who are of legal age, and shall be subject to all requirements of state law, local laws, and University regulations. Any use of alcoholic beverages should be in moderation, to ensure residents' rights to privacy, sleep, and study within their rooms or apartments. Loud or disruptive behavior, interference with cleanliness of housing facilities, or drinking habits that are harmful to the health or education of an individual or those around him/her are reasons for appropriate disciplinary action by the University.

Drugs

The use, possession, consumption, sale, manufacture, or furnishing of illicit drugs and narcotics, including marijuana and drug paraphernalia, is prohibited by state law and University regulations. Violations may result in arrest and or suspension from the University for a definite period of time.

Substance Abuse Programs

There are many types of substance abuse education programs on campus.
These programs are made available through the University Police Department, Office of Student Affairs, University Counseling Services, and the University Women’s Center. The following programs are offered through out the year:

What’s Your Weed IQ?
What’s Your Alcohol IQ?
Fatal Vision
E-Chug Initiative
Wild N Wacky Wednesday
Party House

Sexual Assault

Sexual Assault (Rape) is a non-consensual sexual act involving force, manipulation, or coercion. It is an act of aggression, violence, and power and is a felony crime under Texas Penal Code 22.011. The perpetrator can be either a stranger, acquaintance, relative, or date.

Reporting Procedures

If a sexual offense occurs on campus, the victim has the option and will be encouraged to notify the University Police Department. Assistance with notifying the police will be provided by campus authorities if desired by the victim. It is important for the victim to receive prompt medical attention and for evidence to be preserved. The victim will be notified of existing counseling services on campus as well as off-campus services such as the Women’s Shelter. If a sexual offense occurs off campus, the victim will need to report the offense to the local police department, however, the victim can still receive assistance from on campus resources including the UPD Crime Victim Liaison, Student Affairs, Women’s Center, and University Counseling.

What to do if you are a victim of Sexual Assault

• Do not destroy evidence by bathing, douching, washing hands, brushing teeth, changing clothes or linens, eating or drinking. It is important to preserve evidence to assist in the investigation.
• Notify a friend or family member to help you collect your thoughts. If the rape occurred on campus notify the University Police Department (4444). If the rape occurred off campus notify the Corpus Christi Police Department (911).
• Seek medical attention in the ER of a local hospital. You need to have a rape exam even if you decide not to press charges. The exam is used to collect evidence as well as to assure that you did not sustain injuries, which may not be visible.
• Seek counseling. The University Counseling Center has counselors that can be available to students twenty-four hours a day. You can also contact the local Women’s Shelter.

What happens when the Police respond

• Police officers will respond immediately.
• The police will gather information from the victim and collect all evidence.
• The police will encourage the victim to seek medical attention and will arrange transportation.
• An investigator will interview the victim.
• The UPD’s crime victim’s liaison will be available to assist the victim.
• In ALL cases the victim will be treated with compassion, consideration, understanding, and patience during the interview.
• The UPD will make every attempt to maintain the confidentiality of the victim.
• Even if no criminal charges are filed, information gathered and evidence obtained by the police can be used in University disciplinary action if the assailant is a student.

The University will provide students assistance in changing academic and on-campus living situations after an alleged sexual offense if so requested by the victim and if accommodations are reasonable and available.

Disciplinary Actions for Alleged Sexual Offenses

The Office of Student Affairs conducts campus disciplinary proceedings in cases of alleged sexual offenses. Possible sanctions to be imposed following the determination of an on-campus disciplinary procedure regarding rape, acquaintance rape, or other sex offenses, forcible or non-forcible, include the appropriate action such as loss of privileges, block of enrollment, probation, suspension, dismissal or expulsion. Accusers and the accused are both entitled to have others present during the disciplinary proceedings, and the accuser and accused will be informed of the outcome of the disciplinary proceeding.

Sexual Assault Programs:

The University offers special programs through out the year to raise awareness about Sexual Assault. These programs are sponsored by the University Women’s Center, Student Affairs, University Counseling Center, and the University Police Department. Some of the programs offered during the year are:

University VS Adam (mock date rape trial)
No More 1:4 RV Tour  
Don’t Skirt The Issue

**Sex Offender Registration:**

Information regarding sex offenders can be found on the University Police Department’s website through links connected to the Texas Dept. of Public Safety and the Corpus Christi Police Department.

**Victims Assistance**

The University Police Department has a crime victim’s liaison available for victims of crime. The liaison provides guidance to victims with medical, emotional, or financial needs, and makes referrals to the appropriate counseling agencies. The liaison assists and provides information to the victim during criminal investigations. For more information or to contact the victims liaison call 825-4444 or 825-3791.

**Important Phone Numbers**

University Police Department…………………………….825-4444 or 911  
University Health Services……………………………….825-2601  
University Counseling Center…………………………….825-2703  
Office of Student Affairs………………………………….825-2612  
University Women’s Center…………………………….825-2792  
Corpus Christi Police Dept…………………………………886-2600 or 911  
Women’s Shelter………………………………………….881-8888

**Personal Safety Tips**

Have a personal safety plan, know what you are going to do in the event of an emergency.

Keep all contact information current.

When going out, go with a friend, arrive together and leave together.


Avoid dark and isolated areas. Use well-traveled routes.

Change your daily routine, use different routes to and from class/work.

Utilize the University Police Department’s Escorts.

Lock all doors and windows when leaving your vehicle, even for just a few minutes.

Have your keys ready when you approach your vehicle or home. Check the area before entering. Do not enter if you notice anything suspicious or out of place.

Don’t keep large sums of money on your person, in your room or apartment.

Lock all doors and windows to your residence even if you are only leaving for a short while.

Do not advertise that you are not home by leaving notes on your front door or answering machine stating you are not home.

Let someone know where you are going to be, especially if you are going to be out late at night.

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**Campus Safety Summary**

For a break down of each year click on that year

#2005 .... #2006 .... #2007

**Crime Stats 2007**

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