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**RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE OPERATION  
OF VEHICLES ON THE CAMPUS AND STREETS OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST**

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Pursuant to provisions of Chapter 105, Section 37-101-1 Mississippi Code of 1972

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**RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE OPERATIONS OF VEHICLES  
ON THE CAMPUS AND STREETS OF THE UNIVESITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSPPPI  
GULF COAST CAMPUS  
LONG BEACH, MS**

**September 6, 2007**

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 105, Section 37-101-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning hereby enacts the rules and regulations of vehicles, motorcycles, and bicycles on the campus and grounds of The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Campus.

**I. STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- 1.1 The purpose of these rules and regulations is to regulate traffic and parking on the campus and grounds of The University of Southern Mississippi.
- 1.2 The Gulf Coast Security is responsible for implementing and enforcing these regulations.
- 1.3 Rules and Regulations are published and posted in accordance with the policies and procedures of The University of Southern Mississippi and the laws of the State of Mississippi.
- 1.4 The University of Southern Mississippi assumes no liability for damage or loss to any vehicle, or vehicle contents, while parked or operated on University property.
- 1.5 The University reserves the right to regulate the use of all vehicles on the campus and to forbid the use of a vehicle by a student, faculty/staff member, employee or visitor whose conduct in any manner indicated he/she is not complying with the University's regulations.
- 1.6 The University does not guarantee a parking space. Registration of a vehicle and display of a parking permit does not guarantee a parking space.
- 1.7 The University reserves the right to: (1) designate the exact area that any vehicle may be parked on campus and (2) restrict the number of parking permits issued for any one zone or area.
- 1.8 In addition to all regulations contained herein, all traffic laws of the State of Mississippi are in full force and in effect at all times on University property.
- 1.9 It is a violation of State laws to willfully refuse to obey any lawful order given by officers of the Gulf Coast Security or any law enforcement officer.
- 1.10 Gulf Coast Security may reserve parking spaces for the exclusive use of any person who has a severe physical handicap. Any person seeking permanent handicapped parking authorization must obtain a USM handicap parking decal. To obtain a USM handicap decal proof of handicap vehicle registration in the requestors name must be provided. The USM handicap decal must be displayed along with the license plate of his/her vehicle a federal/state sanctioned handicapped decal.
- 1.11 Gulf Coast Security may, upon special occasion, temporarily appropriate for visitors exclusively, any parking, which are normally designated for use by other categories of people.
- 1.12 Gulf Coast Security officers are empowered by the State of Mississippi to make arrests and issue traffic citations for violations of state laws and University regulations.

## II. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of these regulations, words and terms are defined as follows:

- 2.1 **DECAL** – any decalcomania transfer, windshield sticker, bumper sticker, metal tag, or other markings normally used to identify the owners of vehicles and/or the vehicle itself.
- 2.2 **HANG TAG** – an identification issued by the Gulf Coast Security that allows a vehicle to park on campus when properly displayed.
- 2.3 **PARKING PERMIT** – any decal, hang tag, temporary permit, or visitor’s permit issued by the University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Security.
- 2.4 **FACULTY MEMBER** – anyone who is employed full-time by The University of Southern Mississippi, under contract, for the purpose of teaching or instructing students.
- 2.5 **STAFF MEMBER** – anyone who is employed full-time by The University of Southern Mississippi, whether under contract or not, to perform services to campus other than instructing students.
- 2.6 **STUDENT** – anyone who is enrolled in The University of Southern Mississippi for the purpose of receiving instruction, other than faculty/staff members.
- 2.7 **MOTOR VEHICLE** – any automobile, truck, motorcycle, motorbike, or any other motor-powered vehicles operated on land.
- 2.8 **VEHICLE** – all motorized vehicles, non-motorized vehicles, and other contraptions used for transporting people, equipment, or materials on University property. This includes bicycles, boats, campers, golf carts, wheel chairs, etc.
- 2.9 **VISITOR** – any person other than a student, faculty/staff member, or employee who parks a non-registered vehicle on the campus on infrequent occasions. Visitors who frequently park on campus must purchase a parking permit and will be subject to all regulations herein set forth.
- 2.10 **BOOT** – a mechanical device that can be affixed to any wheel on a motor vehicle for the purpose of temporarily immobilizing said vehicle. Also referred to as an automobile immobilizer.

### III. VEHICLE REGISTRATION

- 3.1 All faculty/staff, employees, and students, full-time or part-time, who operate a vehicle on University Property, regularly or occasionally, are required to register their vehicles with Gulf Coast Security. All vehicles of faculty/staff members, students, and employees that are parked on campus must display a valid parking permit.
- 3.2 Except as otherwise provided in Section II, subparagraph 2.9, visitors are not required to purchase a parking permit, but are requested to obtain and display a visitor's permit.
- 3.3 Visitor permits will be issued for a one-day period. Temporary permits will be issued for a period of time not to exceed four weeks at a charge of \$5.00, with a maximum of two temporary permits issued per semester.
- 3.4 Any person using a non-registered vehicle while his/her registered vehicle is temporarily inoperable must register the vehicle and obtain a temporary permit.
- 3.5 Parking permits must be properly displayed in accordance with Section II, subparagraph 2.10.
- 3.6 On motorcycles, the decal must be affixed to the rear fender. On bicycles, the decal must be affixed on the frame under the handlebars. If neither is appropriate, the decal must be affixed in a conspicuous place that can be readily seen.
- 3.7 Parking permits displayed on vehicles for which they are not issued will be voided and no refund or transfer allowed.
- 3.8 Only one (1) University of Southern Mississippi parking permit will be displayed on any vehicle at any time.
- 3.9 Altered or obliterated parking permits will be voided and no refund or transfer will be allowed.
- 3.10 Only those parking permits issued by The University of Southern Mississippi will be honored on campus.
- 3.11 All faculty/staff, employees, and students, full-time or part-time, may register a maximum of three (3) motor vehicles. However, only one parking permit will be issued, which may only be displayed on one vehicle at a time.
- 3.12 Faculty/staff parking permits will be issued only to full-time faculty members and full-time permanent employees of the University. Faculty/staff members must be prepared to show a University employee ID card or a letter from their department head indicating they qualify as a faculty/staff-parking permit.
- 3.13 Graduate assistants, graduate research assistants, and graduate fellowship students are not classified as faculty/staff members or full-time employees for the purpose of qualifying for a faculty/staff-parking permit.
- 3.14 Student-dependents or spouses of faculty/staff members are not authorized faculty/staff-parking privileges.
- 3.15 Any person who loses his/her parking permit must re-register their vehicle and pay the full fee.
- 3.16 Any violation cited against a permit number will be charged to the person to whom it was issued.
- 3.17 Any person falsifying information on a registration card will be subject to disciplinary action and a violation assessment.
- 3.18 Students who have withdrawn from the University can be reimbursed one half (1/2) the cost of their decal only within thirty (30) days of the issue date.
- 3.19 Students that have purchased a decal and have not used their decal may be reimbursed the full amount only within thirty (30) days of the issue date.

3.20 Registration fees for parking permits

**AUTOMOBILES**

Fall/Spring semester -----\$25.00 per vehicle  
Summer Semester -----\$10.00 per vehicle

**MOTORCYCLES**

For duration of enrollment/employment -----\$10.00 per vehicle

**IV. PARKING REGULATIONS**

- 4.1 Parking space restrictions are in effect from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- 4.2 Parking permits must be properly displayed twenty-four (24) hours a day.
- 4.3 All “NO PARKING” areas are in full effect twenty-four (24) hours a day. This applies to all University personnel, students, and visitors, unless otherwise directed by a member of the Gulf Coast Security.
- 4.4 Vehicles will only be parked on the streets and parking lots on the campus and only in those areas designated and marked as parking areas, in such a manner, at such places, and for such time as indicated in the current traffic and parking regulations and on signs and markers posted in said areas.
- 4.5 No vehicles shall be parked in any area on the campus that is restricted to a specific time limit in excess of the posted time.
- 4.6 No vehicle shall be parked on or outside visible parking lanes.

**V. DRIVING RULES AND REGULATIONS**

All traffic laws of the State of Mississippi are enforced at Southern Miss Gulf Coast Campus at all times.

- 5.1 STOP SIGNS – a vehicle must come to a complete halt at stop signs and remain stationary until it is safe to proceed.
- 5.2 RECKLESS DRIVING – vehicles shall not be operated in a manner so as to endanger life or property.
- 5.3 SPEEDING – the maximum speed limit on University property is 20 miles per hour.
- 5.4 YIELDING – vehicles shall yield to other vehicles having the right of way.
- 5.5 FAILURE TO OBEY DIRECTIONS – vehicle operators must obey the lawful directions of a Gulf Coast Security Officer.
- 5.6 ONE-WAY STREETS – vehicles shall not be driven in violation of posted traffic direction signs unless otherwise directed by a member of the Gulf Coast Security.
- 5.7 GRASS OR LAWN AREAS – vehicles shall not be driven or parked on any grass or lawn area unless otherwise directed by a member of the Gulf Coast Security.
- 5.8 BARRICADES – vehicles will not be driven around any barricades unless otherwise directed by a member of the Gulf Coast Security.
- 5.9 PEDESTRIAN CROSS-WALKS – vehicles will not be driven through a marked cross-walk without first slowing down and/or stopping for pedestrians. PEDESTRIANS HAVE THE RIGHT OF WAY OVER VEHICLES IN CROSS WALKS.
- 5.10 NOISE – no vehicle will be operated so as to cause to be made any loud, harsh, offensive, or disturbing noises or sounds.

- 5.11 U-TURNS – vehicles will not make a u-turn on any street unless otherwise directed by a member of the Gulf Coast Security.
- VI. APPEALS PROCEDURE
- 6.1 Any individual receiving a parking or traffic citation may request a hearing regarding the citation. Students shall have a hearing before a Traffic Appeals Committee. The following reasons are NOT acceptable grounds for dismissing a parking or traffic citation.
- a. Ignorance of regulations
  - b. Inability to find a legal parking space
  - c. No space available
  - d. Inclement weather
  - e. Late for class
  - f. Improperly displayed decal
  - g. Failure to purchase a decal
  - h. Permit used by another person
  - i. Not displaying a decal
- 6.2 Requests for appeals must be made with fifteen (15) days of receipt of the citation. The committee may make a decision based upon the written request with or without the presence of the alleged violator.
- 6.3 Persons requesting an appeal are entitled to be present at their hearing and to present evidence on their own behalf.
- 6.4 The decision of the Traffic Appeals Committee is final.
- VII. PENALTIES
- 7.1 Violation of any regulation in Sections III or IV carry an administrative penalty of twenty five dollars (\$25.00), except for handicap and fire lane violations which carry a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) each.
- 7.2 Violation on any regulation in Section V carries an administrative penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00).
- 7.3 After a third violation of any traffic or parking regulations within a school year, the penalty for each subsequent violation is (double) the original penalty.
- 7.4 Any person, who fails to pay excessive outstanding penalties while continuing to violate traffic or parking regulations, may have their vehicle Booted or Towed at their expense.
- 7.5 Students who fail to pay outstanding penalties will NOT be permitted to re-register for future classes, re-register their vehicle, or obtain their transcript, until all penalties are paid.
- 7.6 Faculty/Staff and other personnel who fail to pay outstanding penalties will have such penalties withheld from their pay.
- 7.7 Traffic and parking penalties are to be paid in the Security Administrative Office between 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or the Security Office, where officers are on duty 24/7. All payments must be made within 15 days of the violation, otherwise it will be charged to your student account.