2014-15 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report

Maintaining a Safe and Secure Campus Environment
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The University of Southern Mississippi
Police Department

The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department (UPD) is the police force of original jurisdiction for The University of Southern Mississippi. UPD is divided into a Hattiesburg Division and a Gulf Coast Division. The Hattiesburg Division is staffed by 26 duly sworn, state-certified police officers with full arrest powers. The Gulf Coast Division is staffed by four duly sworn state-certified police officers with full arrest powers and five security officers who patrol the Gulf Park campus, Gulf Coast Research Lab, and Cedar Point.

Patrol and dispatch services are provided 24 hours a day with access to local emergency services. Each officer has successfully completed the state’s basic law enforcement academy and regularly attends other advanced and in-service training programs. The Hattiesburg Division employs a full-time staff of 14 residence hall security guards, six radio dispatchers and other support personnel.

UPD also works very closely with other law enforcement agencies, including the Hattiesburg Police Department, Long Beach Police Department, Ocean Springs Police Department, Forrest County Sheriff’s Department, Harrison County Sheriff’s Department, Jackson County Sheriff’s Department, Mississippi Highway Patrol, Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics, Mississippi Alcohol Beverage Control and the local FBI offices.

The University of Southern Mississippi strives to provide a safe living, learning and working environment for its students, faculty and staff.

Emergency operations and communications plans ensure timely and appropriate assessment, response and information dissemination in the event an emergency incident occurs.

Policy for Reporting the Annual Disclosure of Crime Statistics

The University Police Department prepares the combined Annual Security and Fire Safety Report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act and the Higher Education Opportunity Act. The full text of this report can be located on our website at www.usm.edu/police.

This report is prepared in cooperation with the local law enforcement agencies surrounding our main campus and alternate sites, the Department of Residence Life, Dean of Students office, the Office of Human Resources, the Admissions office, Student Health Services, Student Counseling Services, the Department of Fire Safety and numerous other university departments. Each entity provides updated information on their educational efforts and programs to comply with the Act. Campus crime, arrest and referral statistics include those reported to the University Police, designated campus security authorities and local law enforcement agencies. These statistics may also include crimes that have occurred adjacent to university-owned properties. All students, staff and faculty are notified annually via email, the university Internet and, in certain circumstances, via USM Mailout of the availability of the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report on the university website. All prospective employees and students are also advised of the availability and location of this report via the Office of Human Resources or the Admissions office through the application processes. Copies of the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report may also be obtained at the University Police Department located in Bond Hall West or the Dean of Students office located in the Union, second floor.

Students and employees on the Gulf Park campus can obtain a copy at the Gulf Coast Division Police Department located at 212 Bear Pointe Drive. Students and employees at the Gulf Coast Research Lab can obtain a copy located at the Field Studies Building, room 107.
WHOM TO CALL IN AN EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency, you should dial 911 from any of The University of Southern Mississippi’s campuses or facilities. Callers should remain on the line to ensure dispatchers have the correct location.

Calls from a land line will be directed either to University Police (Hattiesburg) or base security (Keesler Air Force Base and John C. Stennis Space Center). Calls from a cell phone will be directed to the appropriate local jurisdiction. The 911 dispatchers in the Hattiesburg area will redirect calls to the University Police Department as soon as they determine the emergency is on campus.

Hattiesburg
University Police Department
• 911 (emergency)
• 601.266.4986 (non-emergency)
• Bond Hall, First Floor West

Keesler Air Force Base
• 911 (emergency, directed to Harrison County Emergency Dispatch Center)
• 228.377.3040 (base security)

John C. Stennis Space Center
• 911 (emergency, directed to Hancock County Emergency Dispatch Center)
• 228.688.3636 (security department)

Gulf Park Campus at Long Beach
University Police - Gulf Coast Division
• 911 (emergency, directed to Long Beach Police Department)
• 228.214.3430 (administrative office)
• 228.214.3501 (security office)
• 228.234.2068 (24-hour duty cell phone)

Gulf Coast Research Lab at Ocean Springs
University Police - Gulf Coast Division
• 911 (emergency, directed to Ocean Springs Police Department)
• 228.806.7702 (administrative office)
• 228.872.4232 (GCRL security office, weekdays – 6 p.m.-6 a.m., weekends – 24 hours)

Code Blue Telephones
The UPD has strategically placed 31 code blue phones throughout the campus. If you have an emergency, simply press the red button and begin speaking. Upon being activated, these phones will directly dial into the UPD dispatch office where a patrol unit will be dispatched for assistance.

WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

Faculty, staff, students and others in the community should contact the University Police Department or the Office of the Dean of Students with any information regarding behaviors of a person on campus that might be viewed as cause for concern.

If you are notified of or involved in an emergency or crisis, stay calm, assess the situation and be prepared to take safety precautions based on your personal situation.

Here are some tips to follow:
• Stay away from the area of the emergency or crisis.
• Find a safe place and stay there until you are notified that the emergency is over.
• If you are directly affected by the emergency, call 911 or UPD as soon as it is safe to do so. Provide as much information as you can and stay on the phone until you are told to hang up.
• Alert others if you can without endangering yourself.
• Evacuate the area by a safe route if possible.
• If the emergency is an active threat and you are unable to evacuate the area, attempt to seek an area of safe refuge.
• If you must seek refuge, secure doors and windows as quickly as possible and barricade as many items between you and the threat.
• Do not attempt to make contact with the individual(s) responsible for the threat unless no other option is available.
• Once in a secure location, do not open the door for anyone but the police.
EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Emergency Management

The University of Southern Mississippi Emergency Incident Response Plan addresses the university’s response to emergencies by taking an all-hazard approach to both natural and human-caused hazards. The university maintains an Emergency Response Team (ERT), which may be activated by senior university officials for response to emergencies on the Southern Miss campuses. Team members and University Police have received training in Incident Command System (ICS), which is utilized when responding to these incidents. The Southern Miss community should familiarize themselves with the university publicly available website www.usm.edu/safety, which has information on emergency situations, evacuation, safety tips, alert methods, shelter in place and frequently asked questions. University departments are responsible for developing contingency plans and continuity of operations plans for their staff and areas of responsibility.

Immediate (Emergency) Notification

It is the policy of the university to immediately notify the campus community upon the confirmation of any significant emergency or dangerous situation occurring on the campus involving an immediate threat to the health and safety of students and employees. Campus police or first-responders can identify certain threats, whether man-made or natural, that allow for the immediate activation of the notification system to communicate the threat to the campus community or to the appropriate segment of the campus community, if the threat is limited to a particular building or segment of the population. However, other threats that would allow for the activation may need to be assessed, and consultation with other experts may be required. The immediate notification of an emergency event will be issued without delay and take into account the safety of the campus community. The only exception is if doing so would compromise efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency. When an emergency situation arises, the chief of police or his/her designee will determine the nature and severity of the situation, and if appropriate, will declare an immediate campus threat and authorize activation of the Emergency Notification System (Eagle Alert) by the Office of University Communications. Once immediate notification has been made, more detailed follow-up information will be released on the university website, www.usm.edu, or via email.

Timely Warning

In the event that a situation arises, either on or off campus that in the judgment of the chief of police or his designee constitutes an ongoing or continuing criminal threat to persons or property, a campus-wide “timely warning” will be issued as soon as the pertinent information is available. The only exception is if doing so would compromise efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency. The intent of a timely warning is to enable people to protect themselves and aid in the prevention of similar crimes. The warning will be distributed through the Eagle Alert System to all students, faculty and staff. Anyone with information warranting a timely warning should report the circumstances to the University Police, by calling 911; phone 601.266.4986 or in person at the University Police Department, located on the first floor of Bond Hall. Once the timely warning has been made, more detailed follow-up information will be released on the university website, www.usm.edu, or via email.

Emergency Notification System-Eagle Alert

Eagle Alert is a mass notification system comprising email, voice and text-messaging that is designed to send emergency messages to the university’s employees and students in a matter of minutes. Eagle Alert will be used in conjunction with existing university avenues of emergency communication, including outdoor warning sirens, public address systems, news alerts and the university’s website. Southern Miss Students are automatically enrolled in the System. Employees and staff have the option to participate by providing a primary mobile phone number for text-messaging and up to three other phone numbers for voice messages. Employees and staff with a valid university ID and SOAR password may sign up online at www.usm.edu/safety/eagle-alert.

Emergency and Evacuation Testing Procedures

The university conducts tests of its emergency plans and capabilities on an annual basis. The tests include, but are not limited to, drills, tabletop, functional exercises and full-scale simulations. These tests are designed to assess and evaluate the emergency plans and capabilities of the institution. All exercises are documented, and appropriate after-action reports are completed.

Evacuation drills are also coordinated by Residence Life, the safety director and the local fire department each semester for all residence halls to ensure that emergency response and evacuation procedures are tested at least twice a year. Students living in residence housing are provided the locations of emergency exits in the buildings and are provided guidance about the direction they should travel when exiting each facility for a short-term building evacuation. Residents are not told in advance of the building being evacuated, the availability of the various designated emergency gathering locations on campus, and other factors such as the location and nature of the threat. In these cases, Residence Life staff and/or first-responders on scene will communicate information to students regarding the developing situation or any evacuation status changes.

The purpose of evacuation drills is to prepare building occupants for an organized evacuation in case of fire or other emergency. Evacuation drills are used as a way to educate and train occupants on fire safety issues specific to a building. Prior to conducting drills, students who reside in the residence halls are provided information about emergency evacuation.

Additionally, evacuation routes are posted on the doors of residence hall rooms. During drills, occupants practice procedures and familiarize themselves with the location of exits and the sound of the fire alarms. In addition to educating occupants about the evacuation procedures during the drills, the process also provides the university an opportunity to test the operation of fire alarm system components.

Evacuation drills are evaluated by Residence Life staff, the fire safety officer and the local fire department to review egress and behavioral patterns. Reports are prepared by participating departments that identify deficient equipment so that repairs can be made immediately. Recommendations for improvements are also submitted to the appropriate departments/offices for consideration.

Students who reside in residence halls receive information about evacuation and shelter-in-place procedures during their first floor meetings. Residence Life staff members are trained in these procedures as well and act as an ongoing resource for the students living in the residence halls.
REPORTING A CRIME
The university encourages prompt and accurate reporting of all crimes, suspected crimes and other emergencies to campus police or your local police agency.

All reports are responded to quickly by the appropriate emergency personnel. When reporting a crime or other emergency, the following information should be provided:

- Nature of the crime or emergency
- Name, address and phone number of caller
- Location of the incident
- Description of the scene and suspects
- Description of any vehicles involved, especially license plate numbers

Southern Miss Crime Stoppers
The Crime Stoppers program allows members of the university to anonymously report criminal activity occurring on campus and to receive a monetary reward of $25 to $1,000 for information that leads to an arrest.

The Crime Stoppers hotline is open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, by calling 601.266.6504 or 601.266.5787.

To report criminal activity 24 hours a day, call 601.266.4986 or 911.

Criminal Activity Off Campus
When a Southern Miss student is involved in an off-campus offense, Southern Miss police officers may assist with the investigation in cooperation with local, state or federal law enforcement. Local law enforcement agencies work and communicate with our officers on any incidents occurring on campus or in the immediate neighborhood and business areas surrounding campus or university-owned or controlled property.

Student Affairs maintains contact with recognized fraternity and sorority organizations through the efforts of the Greek Life office. There are no officially recognized or approved off-campus fraternity or sorority houses affiliated with The University of Southern Mississippi. The university does not own or operate any off-campus housing or off-campus student organization facilities. However, many students live in the neighborhoods surrounding the main campus. While the local law enforcement has primary jurisdiction in all areas off campus, Southern Miss officers can and do respond to student-related incidents that occur in close proximity to campus. Southern Miss police officers have direct communication with the local police, fire department and ambulance services to facilitate rapid response in any emergency.

CAMPUS SAFETY TIPS
Safety is a shared responsibility. As members of the campus community, everyone should help to make the campus a safer place. Using some simple safety precautions will greatly reduce your chance of becoming a victim of crime.

Personal Safety
- Walk or jog with a friend, not alone.
- Avoid isolated areas.
- Use campus escort services.
- Know your limits on dates and communicate them to your partner.
- Know your limits with alcohol and do not accept drinks from others.
- Tell a friend where you are going and when you will return.
- Carry a whistle or noise maker. Do not be afraid to scream if you need help.
- Use a help phone or raise the hood and stay in your car if it breaks down. If people stop to assist, ask them to call the police.
- Be aware of your surroundings.

Protection from Date Rape Drugs
- Never leave your drink unattended. Because they are colorless and odorless, date rape drugs can be slipped into any type of beverage.
- Do not accept drinks from anyone but a bartender or server.
- Try to attend bars or parties with a group of friends, arranging beforehand to watch each other’s drinks.
- If you think your drink has been tampered with, seek medical attention immediately and request the hospital conduct toxicology testing.

Residential Safety
- Lock your dorm room or apartment whenever you leave and when you are sleeping.
- Do not prop card-reader doors.
- Call 911 if you see someone in the building who does not belong.
- Do not allow strangers to follow you into the building.

Workplace Safety
- Keep personal items (purses, book bags) locked up.
- Secure the work area when no one is in it.
- Report suspicious people to the police.
- Watch our “Active Shooter” video at www.usm.edu/police.

Protecting Your Property
- Record the serial numbers of your valuables.
- Engrave valuables with your license number.
- Register your bike with Parking Management.
- Keep your vehicle locked when it is parked and when you drive.
- Make sure all valuables inside the vehicle are either in the trunk or well-hidden.
- Do not leave textbooks, purses or book bags unattended.
- Do not leave laptop computers unattended.

Crime Prevention, Health and Safety Education for the Community
The University Police Department, Department of Health Services, Department of Residence Life, Dean of Students office, Department of Fire Safety and Student Counseling Services encourage all students, faculty and staff to become involved in crime prevention. These departments sponsor and participate in 60 educational programs, activities and crime prevention events on alcohol and drug awareness, personal and property safety, sexual assault prevention, fire safety and other requested topics throughout the main campus and residence halls throughout the academic year. They address our students and staff to explain the university’s security, public safety, and fire safety measures and procedures.

S.A.F.E. (Self-defense, Awareness and Familiarization Exchange)
You are your best defense. This educational awareness, crime-victim prevention program encompasses strategies, techniques, options and prevention. It will provide teenage and adult women with information that may reduce their risk of exposure to violence and introduces them to the physical aspects of self-defense.
Operation Identification
Theft of unsecured property is one of the biggest crimes seen on college campuses. Operation ID is a theft prevention program offered free of charge by the UPD. This program involves keeping records of your personal properties’ serial numbers and a detailed description of the item, as well as engraving your item with a unique, definable characteristic. Taking action in this way can help aid the recovery and return of lost or stolen items.

Personal Safety
This program is to discuss the various aspects of personal safety and awareness both on and off campus. Participants will be provided with educational materials on personal safety principles.

Operation ID
In this program, officers will assist participants in labeling and recording personal property and valuables that have been brought to campus. The officers use hand engravers for this program. Record your itemized possessions on a file card. Retain file cards in a safe location in the event the information is needed.

Drugs, Alcohol and the Law
This program is to discuss various state laws that apply to the campus community. Officers will also discuss the dangers of certain types of drugs. Visual aids will be used during this program to educate students on what certain drugs look like.

Crime Prevention and the Workplace
This program emphasizes key components that are vital to workplace safety. Officers will conduct security surveys of the departments and suggest implementation that might be used to deter crime.

Escort Service
The UPD provides a 24-hour escort service, seven days a week. Escorts are provided upon request to those who have legitimate concerns for their personal safety when moving about campus. Red escort phones are conveniently located throughout the campus. If you need an escort, call 601.266.5919.

Lock It Up
This program is designed to increase security awareness by reducing vulnerability. Officers use 3-by-5-inch cards and/or door hangers that alert would-be victims to their potential security and/or theft risk. Unlocked doors, wallets or purses, book bags, bikes or anything left exposed to a potential thief would receive a “Lock It Up” card.

Daily Crime Log
The University Police Department maintains a daily crime log for review 24 hours a day on its website at www.usm.edu/police. The crime report is also available to the public in an ongoing log located at Bond Hall, first floor west.

Each entry includes the nature of the crime, the date and time the crime occurred and was reported, the general location and the disposition of the complaint. All entries are open to public inspection within two business days of the initial report, except when disclosure of such information is prohibited by law or such disclosure would jeopardize the investigation. The UPD provides weekly synopses of police activities and crime reports to The Student Printz, the campus newspaper; the Office of University Communications; the vice president for Student Affairs; and other university officials.

Student Counseling Services
The university provides assistance to all students, faculty and staff through Student Counseling Services and the University Clinic for Family Therapy. These centers provide individual counseling, group counseling, assessment and referral services. Hours are 8 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Students can be seen on a walk-in basis. For more information, call 601.266.4829.

Student Counseling Services focuses on primary and secondary alcohol and drug abuse prevention. These efforts are to prevent the initial development of problems or to serve as early intervention to the development of dependency. Social and psychological assessments are available by the staff of the counseling center. Students may seek services on an individual basis or by referral from the Dean of Students office.

Anyone who prefers to seek assistance off campus is urged to contact Pine Belt Mental Healthcare programs for chemical dependency at 601.264.2111 or the Pine Grove Behavior System of Forrest General Hospital at 601.288.4800. Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and Adult Children of Alcoholics groups meet in the Hattiesburg community. For further information about any of these services, contact Student Counseling Services, Kennard-Washington Hall, room 200 at 601.266.4829.

HATE CRIMES
The University of Southern Mississippi strives to foster a safe and healthy learning environment that embodies diversity and inclusion of all members of the Southern Miss community. The hate crime statistics are separated by category of prejudice. A hate crime is a criminal offense committed against a person or property which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender’s bias. Bias is a preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin or gender identity. The numbers for most of the specific crime categories are part of the overall statistics reported for each year. The only exceptions to this are the addition of simple assault, intimidation, and any other crime that involves bodily injury that is not already included in the required reporting categories. Hate Crimes are those crimes that manifest evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator’s bias. If a hate crime occurs where there is an incident involving intimidation, vandalism, larceny, simple assault or other bodily injury, the law requires that the statistic be reported as a hate crime even though there is no requirement to report the crime classification in any other area of the compliance document. No hate crimes were reported to The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department during 2011, 2012 or 2013.

Gulf Park Campus
There were no reported hate crimes for the years 2011, 2012 or 2013.

If you SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.
Criminal Offenses Reported by Hattiesburg Police - Department for the City of Hattiesburg

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actual Crimes Reported For:</th>
<th>City of Hattiesburg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Offense Type</strong></td>
<td><strong>2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(includes attempts)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Homicide</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murder/Homicide</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manslaughter</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Offenses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forcible</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Forcible</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of Arrests</strong></td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquor Law Violations</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug Violations</td>
<td>605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illegal Weapons Possessions</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*There were no disciplinary actions/referrals made for the above violations occurring in the City of Hattiesburg.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Drug and Alcohol Policy

The University of Southern Mississippi prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcoholic beverages by students and employees on its campus.

Further, any possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages of any kind, in plain view, shall be considered in violation of campus policy. Privacy rights of students in their residential space will be respected, but any public nuisance coming from private space related to the consumption of alcohol shall bring the full force of this policy and applicable state law into play.

The concealment of illegal alcohol consumption from plain view does not preclude the enforcement of state laws or this policy for other just cause.

Students who violate this policy may be criminally prosecuted and be subjected to disciplinary actions ranging from probation with educational sanctions to suspension to expulsion. Students accused of violating these policies are afforded full due process under the University Code of Student Conduct. The university reserves the right to assign special circumstances to each individual case.

The Office of the Dean of Students reserves the right to notify the parents of students under the age of 21 who violate alcohol and other drug provisions of the University Code of Student Conduct, or who, in our professional judgment, are considered to be a danger to themselves or others.

Upon receipt of an alcohol or other drug violation by a student under the age of 21, the dean of students will staff the case and make a decision regarding parental notification based on the particular circumstances of the offense and the student’s history. Parents will be notified by letter or phone depending on the circumstances of the case.

Sanctions against university employees range from a letter of reprimand to termination of employment. The university may also refer cases for criminal prosecution. For more information on the drug and alcohol policy, go to www.usm.edu/police/drug-and-alcohol-policy.

Sexual Misconduct Policy

The University of Southern Mississippi prohibits sexual misconduct in any form, including sexual assault, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and other forms of nonconsensual sexual conduct. The university’s Sexual Misconduct Policy sets forth the resources available to students and employees and describes prohibited conduct. Sexual misconduct is inconsistent with the standards and ideas of our community and will not be tolerated. The university is committed to fostering an academic, work and living environment that is free from all forms of harassment, including sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual assault. Additionally, federal law views sexual misconduct and sexual assault as forms of sexual harassment prohibited under Title VII and Title IX. This policy and those procedures assist the university in complying with federal and state legal mandates and university policies in relation to such misconduct; this applies to all members of the university community. The full Sexual Misconduct Policy (Policy No. PRES-AA-001) and the full procedures for the Resolution of Allegations of Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment (Policy No. PRES-AA-002) can be accessed at www.usm.edu/sexual-misconduct.

In accordance with Title IX regulations, the university has designated Rebecca N. Malley, Ph.D., director of the Office of Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity, as the university’s Title IX coordinator. The Title IX coordinator is knowledgeable about sexual misconduct and will provide information on all options for complaint resolutions. Questions regarding the sexual misconduct policy, as well as concerns or complaints of non-compliance, may be directed to the Title IX coordinator as follows:

**TITLE IX COORDINATOR**
Rebecca N. Malley, Ph.D.
310 Mclemore Hall (MCL)
118 College Drive #5168, Hattiesburg, MS 34901-0001
Telephone: 601.266.6618, Fax: 601.266.6344
Email: Rebecca.Malley@usm.edu
Website: www.usm.edu/sexual-misconduct

In accordance with the changes to the Clery Act made by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA) new crime categories were added for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Hattiesburg Campus</th>
<th>Non-Campus</th>
<th>Public Property</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Residential Facilities</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dating Violence</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalking</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Gulf Park Campus</th>
<th>Non-Campus</th>
<th>Public Property</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Residential Facilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Violence</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dating Violence</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalking</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The HEA defines the new crime categories for domestic violence, dating violence and stalking in accordance with section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 as follows:

**Dating Violence**: The term “dating violence” means violence committed by a person (A) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or
intimate nature with the victim; and
(B) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined
based on a consideration of the following factors:
(i) The length of the relationship
(ii) The type of the relationship
(iii) The frequency of interaction between the person involved
in the relationship

Domestic Violence: The term "domestic violence" includes felony
or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or
former spouse 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, by a person similarly
situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family
violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, 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.

Stalking: The term “stalking” means engaging in a course
of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable
person to
(A) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others or
(B) suffer substantial emotional distress.

The university provides educational programs on a year-round basis
to promote awareness of rape, acquaintance rape and other sex
offenses. These programs are conducted by the University Police
Department, Department of Residence Life, the Office of Greek
Life, the University Counseling Center and University Health
Services in residence halls and with student and employee
organizations.

Southern Miss strongly encourages prompt reporting of sex offenses
to the proper authorities. Victims should seek medical attention
immediately and notify either the UPD or other law enforcement
agencies. The UPD is available 24 hours a day to assist victims in
obtaining medical attention and in reporting offenses.

The UPD, University Legal Services and the University Counseling
Center are also available to assist victims and answer questions about
the criminal justice process. Students and employees of the univer-
sity who engage in sexual misconduct may be disciplined or
charged, notwithstanding the judicial remedies offered by crim-
inal authorities.

The accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities
to have others present during university disciplinary proceedings,
and both will be notified of the outcome of such proceedings.

When the university determines that the presence of a student or
employee would reasonably constitute a clear and present danger to
the university community, the university may take immediate action
to suspend the student or employee on an interim basis pending the
final outcome of disciplinary or legal proceedings.

When requested by a victim, the university will assist in changing
academic and living arrangements whenever possible.

Sex Offender Registry
The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act provides requirements
relating to registration and community notification for sex offenders
who are enrolled in or work at institutions of higher education.

Effective October 2003, the law required institutions of higher edu-
cation to issue a statement advising the campus community where
law enforcement agency information, provided by a state, concerning
registered sex offenders could be obtained. This information can be
obtained by accessing the Mississippi Sex Offender Registry at

Missing Persons Procedure
If a member of the University community has reason to believe that
a student who resides in on-campus housing is missing, he or she
should immediately notify the University of Southern Mississippi
Police Department at 601.266.4986. Gulf Coast Research Lab and
Gulf Park Campus personnel should notify the USM Police Gulf
Park campus at 228.234.2068. USM Police will generate a missing
person report and initiate an investigation.

After investigating the missing person report, USM Police will
notify the student’s emergency contact, or confidentially identified
individual, immediately after the student is determined to be missing.
If the missing student is under the age of 18 and is not an
emancipated individual, USM Police will notify the student’s par-
ents or legal guardian immediately after USM Police has determined
the student is missing. USM Police Department will inform local
and surrounding law enforcement agencies immediately of any stu-
dent determined to be missing.

In addition, to registering an emergency contact, students residing in
on-campus housing have the option to identify, confidentially, and
individual to be contacted by Southern Miss in the event the student
is determined to be missing. The confidential contact should be
someone who will be likely to know your location and you wish con-
tacted if you are missing. Students who wish to identify a confidential
contact can do so by completing the Missing Person Contact
Information on the Resident Student Data Card. This confidential
contact information will be accessible only to authorize campus offici-
als and law enforcement officers and it will not be disclosed outside
of a missing person investigation.

Firearms Policy
Southern Miss is committed to maintaining a safe and secure envi-
ronment that supports the academic mission of the university.
According to the Southern Miss Firearms Policy, members of the
Southern Miss community, including students, faculty, staff as well
as visitors to any Southern Miss campus location, are prohibited
from possessing firearms, explosives, weapons, or any item that may
be construed as such on the premises of the university or in any
building under university control. This prohibition applies regardless
of whether a federal or state license to possess the same has been
issued to the possessor. Failure to comply with state law or IHL and
university policies will result in disciplinary action or criminal pros-
ecution or both. See University Code of Student Conduct, T, and
related A, B and C. See also Mississippi Institute of Higher
Learning (IHL) Policy 1106. See also Section 97-37-17 of the
Mississippi Code, which could make it a felony for any student to
possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any firearm on
university property. For more information, contact the University
Police Department at 601.266.4986 or the Dean of Students Office
at 601.266.6028.

The university encourages prompt and accurate reporting
of all crimes, suspected crimes
and other emergencies.
DEFINITIONS OF CRIMINAL OFFENSES

As per the Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook

**Aggravated Assault** – Aggravated assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe 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. It is not necessary that injury result from an aggravated assault when a gun, knife or other weapon is used, which could or probably would result in a serious potential injury if the crime were successfully completed.

**Arson** – Arson is 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, etc.

**Burglary** – Burglary is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. For reporting purposes, this definition includes the following: unlawful entry with intent to commit larceny or a felony; breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny, housebreaking, safecracking; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

**Motor Vehicle Theft** – Motor vehicle theft includes the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. (Classify as motor vehicle theft in all cases where automobiles are taken by persons not having lawful access even though the vehicles are later abandoned, including joy riding.)

**Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter** – This includes the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

**Manslaughter by Negligence** – This involves the killing of another person through gross negligence.

**Robbery** – Robbery is the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force, violence and/or causing the victim fear.

**Larceny** – Larceny is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

**Vandalism** – Vandalism is to willfully or maliciously destroy, injure, disfigure or deface any public or private property, real or personal, without the consent of the owner or person having custody or control by cutting, tearing, breaking, marking, painting, drawing, covering with filth, or any other such means as may be specified by local law.

**Weapons Law Violations** – This includes the violation of laws or ordinances dealing with weapon offenses, regulatory in nature, such as manufacture, sale or possession of deadly weapons; carrying deadly weapons, concealed or openly; furnishing deadly weapons to minors; aliens possessing deadly weapons; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

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

**Liquor Law Violations** – This includes the violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the following: the manufacture, sale, transporting, furnishing and possessing of intoxicating liquor; maintaining unlaw-
ful 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. (Drunkenness and driving under the influence are not included in this definition.)

Offense Definitions Relating to Hate/Bias-Related Crime Statistics as per the UCR Hate Crime Reporting Guidelines

Simple Assault – Simple assault is 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 – Intimidation is 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.

Geography Definitions from the Clery Act

On-Campus – On-campus is defined as (1) any building or property owned or controlled by an institution within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area and used by the institution in direct support of or in a manner related to the institution’s educational purposes, including residence halls; and (2) any building or property that is reasonably contiguous to the area identified as paragraph 1, that is owned by the institution but controlled by another person, is frequently used by students, and supports institutional purposes (such as a food or retail vendor).

Non-Campus Building or Property – A non-campus building or property is defined as (1) any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution; or (2) any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of or in relation to the institution’s educational purposes, is frequently used by students, and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution.

Public Property – Public property is defined as all public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks and parking facilities, that is within the campus or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.

Sex Offenses as per the National Incident-Based Reporting System Edition of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program

Sexual Assault – an offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest or statutory rape as used in the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting system. A sex offense is any act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

Rape-completed – Penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.

Rape-attempts to Commit Rape – Assaults or attempts to rape

Fondling – defined as the touching of the private part of another person for the purposes of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

Incest – defined as nonforcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees where in marriage is prohibited by law.

Statutory Rape – defined as nonforcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.
# CRIME SUMMARY for The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department

## Crimes Reported by University Police Department

This chart includes offenses that were reported to the University Police Department in accordance with the Uniform Crime Reporting procedures and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actual Crimes Reported For:</th>
<th>Southern Miss Campus</th>
<th>Non-Campus Building or Property</th>
<th>Public Property</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Homicide</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Murder/Homicide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manslaughter</td>
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<td>Forcible</td>
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<td>Non-Forcible</td>
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<td>Robbery</td>
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<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
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<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
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<td>Arson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Reported Crimes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larceny (grand and petit)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auto Burglary</td>
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<tr>
<td>DUI</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Student housing includes residence halls, fraternity and sorority houses and family housing.

## Crimes Reported by University Officials or by Other Law Enforcement Agencies

This chart includes offenses that were reported to law enforcement agencies, other than the University Police Department, and to any official of Southern Miss who had significant responsibilities for student and campus activities. These offenses are compiled in accordance with the provisions of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

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<th>Actual Crimes Reported For:</th>
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<th>Public Property</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Homicide</td>
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<td>Murder/Homicide</td>
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<td>Manslaughter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sex Offenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forcible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Forcible</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
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<td>Burglary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
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<td>Arson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Reported Crimes</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny (grand and petit)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Assault</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Burglary</td>
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Number of Arrests/Referrals for Selected Offenses

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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liquor Law Violations</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Crimes reported at Gulf Park, including John C. Stennis Space Center, Garden Park, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, Keesler Air Force Base, Point Cadet and Cedar Point

This chart includes offenses that were reported to Gulf Park Security in accordance with the Uniform Crime Reporting procedures and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Campus Statistics Act.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense Type</th>
<th>Gulf Park Campus</th>
<th>Non-Campus Building or Property</th>
<th>Public Property</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual Crimes Reported For:</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Criminal Homicide</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Murder/Homicide</td>
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<td>0 0 0 0</td>
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<td>Manslaughter</td>
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<td>Sex Offenses</td>
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<td>0 0 0 0</td>
<td>0 0 0 0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Forcible</td>
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<td>0 0 0 0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
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<td>0 0 0 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Reported Crimes</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny (grand and petit)</td>
<td>0 4 0 6 0</td>
<td>5 4 0 0</td>
<td>9 10 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simple Assault</td>
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<td>Auto Burglary</td>
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<td>DUI</td>
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Number of Arrests/Referrals for Selected Offenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense Type</th>
<th>Gulf Park Campus</th>
<th>Non-Campus Building or Property</th>
<th>Public Property</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liquor Law Violations</td>
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<td>Referral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drug Law Violations</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Weapons Law Violations</td>
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<td>Referral</td>
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</table>

Crimes Reported by University Officials at Southern Miss Gulf Coast or by Other Law Enforcement Agencies

This chart includes offenses that were reported to law enforcement agencies, other than the University Police Department, and to any official of Southern Miss who had significant responsibilities for student and campus activities. These offenses are compiled in accordance with the provisions of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense Type</th>
<th>Gulf Park Campus</th>
<th>Non-Campus Building or Property</th>
<th>Public Property</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(includes attempts)</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Homicide</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murder/Homicide</td>
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<td>0 0 0 0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manslaughter</td>
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<tr>
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Number of Arrests/Referrals for Selected Offenses

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<th>Gulf Park Campus</th>
<th>Non-Campus Building or Property</th>
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<td>Liquor Law Violations</td>
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ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT 2013
for The University of Southern Mississippi
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<th>Residential Facilities</th>
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<th>Cause of Fire</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Injuries</th>
<th>Property Damage</th>
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### FIRE LOG

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<th>Building</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Nature of Fire</th>
<th>Damage Estimate</th>
<th>Injuries</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-23-09</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>Vann</td>
<td>Bathroom</td>
<td>Exhaust Fan</td>
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<td>1905</td>
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<td>Bathroom</td>
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<td>9-18-09</td>
<td>9-18-09</td>
<td>Scott</td>
<td>Outside wall</td>
<td>Water in power line</td>
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<td>10-02-09</td>
<td>1900</td>
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<td>H Kitchen</td>
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<td>PKP</td>
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<td>2248</td>
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<td>Smoke from blower motor on HVAC</td>
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### FIRE SAFETY SYSTEMS

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<th>Smoke and Heat</th>
<th>Fire Sprinkler System</th>
<th>Fire Extinguishers</th>
<th>Fire Pump</th>
<th>Stand-Alone Smoke Detectors</th>
<th>Number of Fire Drills Per Year</th>
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<tr>
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All residence halls have a fire alarm system that includes heat and smoke detectors. The system is monitored 24/7 at the University Police Department. The systems consist of horns, bells and strobes. The sprinkler systems are monitored with tamper and flow devices.
STUDENT HOUSING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

3.4 Smoking Policy
In compliance with the university smoking policy, all residence halls are smoke-free. Students wishing to smoke are required to do so outside the buildings (at least 20 feet from the building).

3.6 Fire and Safety Equipment
The State Fire Code prohibits anyone from tampering with fire and safety equipment in the residence halls or in any campus building. Tampering includes pulling false fire alarms, discharging fire extinguishers, removing exit signs and interfering with smoke detectors. Interference with smoke detectors mandates immediate attention. Students responsible will be assessed for the damages and for the hourly rate of the repair person’s labor. All violators are subject to disciplinary action and possible criminal prosecution. The civil penalty for malicious use of fire and safety equipment is a $500 fine and/or 90 days in jail.

Air Conditioners/Space Heaters - Individual air conditioners and/or heaters are not permitted in the residence halls at any time. Due to fire hazards, items of this type will be confiscated if they are found in the halls. Although all the halls are air-conditioned, residents may wish to bring small fans for use in their rooms.

Combustible Materials - Due to the threat of fire, combustible decorative materials, such as dry vegetation, natural Christmas trees, excessive trash and similar materials are not permitted in the residence halls.

Cooking and Appliances - Due to the nature of residence hall living, the physical facilities of the halls, and the concerns for fire and safety standards, only microwave cooking is permitted in student rooms. MicroFridges are provided in the residence halls. Small refrigerators and MicroFridges (combination microwave, refrigerator and freezer) are allowed. Cooking appliances (such as percolators, toasters and hot plates) are not allowed in student rooms. George Foreman grills or similar products also are not permitted.

Electrical Requirements - Only heavy-duty, single-receptacle extension cords should be used in residence hall rooms. Due to the threat of fire, extension cords should never be placed under carpets. Outlet-multiplier cubes and household extension cords are prohibited. A power strip with a built-in circuit breaker should be used if more receptacles are needed. All appliances must be UL-approved.

Halogen Lamps - Due to high operating temperatures that could result in threat of a fire, halogen lamps are prohibited in the residence halls.

Incense/Candles - Incense, candles and heated potpourri pots are not permitted in the residence halls. Burning substances in any form creates a fire hazard.

3.7 Fire Alarm Procedures
1. Leave your room immediately, as required by state law.
2. Leave the wall or overhead light on.
3. Close the room door and lock it (only if time permits).
4. Walk quietly and quickly outside via the stairwells.
5. Do not use the elevators.
6. Remain outside until the signal is given to return to your room.
7. For your own protection, obey all fire regulations. Failure to evacuate a hall when an alarm sounds, and failure to comply with staff directors, constitutes grounds for disciplinary action, which may include eviction from the residence halls. Residence Life staff and University Police reserve the right to enter student rooms to locate the source of the problem and to ensure that everyone has evacuated the building.
8. Smoking should not occur on front steps or entrances to buildings, including under the entry awnings.

If You Hear a Fire Alarm
1. Immediately evacuate the building via the shortest and safest route.
2. Do not use elevators.
3. If you notice smoke, use the alternative escape route.
4. As you leave the building, knock on doors and yell fire.
5. Do not hesitate or stray from your path as you leave.
6. Do not stop or go back for belongings.
7. Test doors with the back of your hand before opening them. If the door is warm or if you notice smoke, use an alternative escape route. Check paths for safety before proceeding and close doors behind you.
8. Crawl low if you have to go through smoke.
9. Go to a safe area or to a pre-assigned exterior area for your building if you suspect that someone is missing or trapped, contact the emergency personnel outside the building.
10. If you are trapped during a fire emergency, close all doors between you and the fire. Stuff cracks around the doors to keep out smoke. Wait at a safe window and signal/call for help. If there is a phone in the room, call the fire department or 9-1-1 and tell them exactly where you are.
11. Stop, drop and roll if your clothing catches fire.

If You Discover a Fire
1. Leave the fire area and close the door to the area.
2. Sound the fire alarm.
3. Immediately evacuate the building via the shortest and safest route.
4. Proper use of fire extinguishers within extinguisher limits and by trained individuals is optional but should not be attempted until building alarm is actuated and people are evacuated.
5. Do not use elevators. A fire can disrupt the operation of elevators and trap occupants inside.
6. If you notice smoke, use the alternate escape route.
7. Test doors with the back of your hand before opening them. If the door is warm or if you notice smoke, use an alternative escape route. Check paths for safety before proceeding and close doors behind you.
8. Crawl low if you have to go through smoke.
9. Go to a safe area or to a pre-assigned exterior area for your building.
10. From the nearest phone in a safe area, call 9-1-1.
11. Await emergency response personnel at a safe location and direct them to the scene.
12. If you suspect that someone is missing or trapped, contact the emergency personnel outside the building.
13. If you are trapped during a fire emergency, close all doors between you and the fire and stuff cracks around the doors to keep out smoke. Wait at a safe window and signal/call for help. If there is a phone in the room, call 9-1-1 and tell them exactly where you are.
14. Stop, drop and roll if your clothing catches fire.

Once You Have Evacuated
1. From the nearest phone in the safe area, call 9-1-1.
2. If you suspect that someone is missing or trapped, contact fire-
7. Stay calm.
6. Never re-enter the building to save your personal belongings.
5. Report to the person who is taking roll.
4. Follow directions of fire and police personnel.
3. Await emergency response personnel at a safe location and direct
   • If it has an automatic door closer, then it should be closed. In
   • Hallways, stairways and exits must be kept clear at all times.
   • Bicycles should never be stored in hallways or stairways (use
   bike racks).
2. Exits can never be blocked or locked.
1. Never store flammable liquids inside the house.
   • Examples include gasoline, kerosene, propane bottles, flammable
   paints, paint thinner, mineral spirits, charcoal lighter fluid, or any other liquid that has flammable on the label.
   • Tiki lamps are prohibited.
   • All paper towels or cleaning cloths that have been used with
   oils or flammable liquids must be promptly disposed of outside
   the building.

LIFE SAFETY GUIDELINES AND POLICIES FOR RESIDENCE HALLS

1. Never prop or block open fire doors.
   • If it has an automatic door closer, then it should be closed. In
     the event of a fire, these doors will help control the spread of
     smoke and fire.
   • Hallways, stairways and exits must be kept clear at all times.
   • Bicycles should never be stored in hallways or stairways (use
     bike racks).
2. Exits can never be blocked or locked.
3. Never store flammable liquids inside the house.
   • Examples include gasoline, kerosene, propane bottles, flammable
   paints, paint thinner, mineral spirits, charcoal lighter fluid, or any other liquid that has flammable on the label.
   • Tiki lamps are prohibited.
   • All paper towels or cleaning cloths that have been used with
   oils or flammable liquids must be promptly disposed of outside
   the building.
4. Limit the amount of combustibles you keep in your room.
   • Examples include excess amounts of boxes, books, papers, or
     an excess of clothing. Limit the amount of posters on walls;
     this greatly increases the spread of fire.
   • Vegetation is a fire hazard and is prohibited from use in or
     around the residence halls.
     • This includes live Christmas trees.
5. Do not use electrical outlet multipliers or outlet cubes.
   • If you need more outlets than you have, use a power strip
     with a built-in circuit breaker.
6. All electrical extension cords must be heavy duty, single
   receptacle.
   • They should never extend through walls, ceilings or
     doorways.
   • They should never be run under rugs or carpet; this creates a
     fire hazard.
   • All extension cords used outside must be protected by a
     GFCI.
   • Never use frayed or broken extension cords.
   • Do not join or overload extension cords.
7. Exit signs and emergency lighting should never be covered or
   blocked from view.
8. Smoke machines are prohibited; they decrease visibility causing
   a hazard and may cause a false fire alarm.
9. Halogen lamps are prohibited from use on campus.
10. Never have a fire ignition source in the house.
    • Examples include candles, incense, fireworks, space heaters,
      etc.

Your safety is our number one concern.

LIFE SAFETY GUIDELINES AND POLICIES FOR FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES

1. Never prop or block open fire doors.
   • If it has an automatic door closer, then it should be closed. In
     the event of a fire, these doors will help control the spread of
     smoke and fire.
   • Hallways, stairways and exits must be kept clear at all times.
   • Bicycles should never be stored in hallways or stairways (use
     bike racks).
2. Exits can never be blocked or locked.
3. Never store flammable liquids inside the house.
   • Examples include gasoline, kerosene, propane bottles, flammable
   paints, paint thinner, mineral spirits, charcoal lighter fluid, or any other liquid that has flammable on the label.
   • Tiki lamps are prohibited.
   • All paper towels or cleaning cloths that have been used with
   oils or flammable liquids must be promptly disposed of outside
   the building.
4. Limit the amount of combustibles you keep in your room.
   • Examples include excess amounts of boxes, books, papers, or
     an excess of clothing. Limit the amount of posters on walls;
     this greatly increases the spread of fire.
   • Vegetation is a fire hazard and is prohibited from use in or
     around the houses. This includes live Christmas trees.
5. Do not use electrical outlet multipliers or outlet cubes.
   • If you need more outlets than you have, use a power strip
     with a built-in circuit breaker.
6. All electrical extension cords must be heavy duty, single
   receptacle.
   • They should never extend through walls, ceilings or
     doorways.
• They should never be run under rugs or carpet; this creates a fire hazard.
• All extension cords used outside must be protected by a GFCI.
• Never use frayed or broken extension cords.
• Do not join or overload extension cords.

7. Exit signs and emergency lighting should never be covered or blocked from view.
8. Smoke machines are prohibited; they decrease visibility causing a hazard and may cause a false fire alarm.
9. Halogen lamps are prohibited from use on campus.
10. Never have a fire ignition source in the house.
    • Examples include candles, incense, fireworks, space heaters, etc.
    • All personal appliances should be unplugged when not in use (irons, curling irons, hair dryers, etc.).
    • Coffee pots, hot plates, toaster ovens, etc. must be kept and used in the kitchen.

11. No bond fires, camp fires or any open fires allowed.
12. Smoking is not allowed inside the houses.
13. Always exit the building during a fire alarm. This is a State Law and University policy.
    • Always know the location of the nearest fire extinguisher and two ways out of the building.
    • All discharged fire extinguishers must be reported to the Safety Department.
14. Never tamper with or attach anything to any life safety equipment; smoke alarms, sprinklers systems, etc!
    • All sprinkler closets must be locked and not used for any storage.
15. All alterations inside or outside of the building, construction, excavation, etc. must be pre-approved by the Safety Department (haunted houses, platforms, stages, room changes, etc.).
16. No platforms or diving boards allowed around swimming pools.
17. A minimum of 36 inches of clear space shall be maintained in front of all electrical boxes.
18. Electrical and mechanical rooms should be locked and never used for any storage.
19. Spring Party pools:
    • Pools should be a minimum 20 feet away from house
    • Pools should be no more than 24 inches at the deepest point. Side walls of pool maximum height 30 inches. Materials used to form sides of pool, such as crossties or lumber must be secured, braced and sturdy. (No cement blocks)
20. Any raised platform or stage higher than 30 inches shall require a 42-inch high guardrail. Platforms shall not be more than 48 inches high.
    • All structures shall be secured and have no sharp edges.

HOLIDAY DECORATING
In order to minimize the potential fire hazards associated with some holiday seasons, the following decoration guidelines should be followed for the protection of those students living in the residence halls:
• Cut or live trees and wreaths are not allowed in residence halls. No cut or live vegetation is allowed in residence halls.
• Students are allowed to have artificial trees in their rooms but they must be marked UL-approved and fire-resistant.
• Only nonflammable or fire-retardant holiday decorations may be used.
• Electric miniature lights are permitted but are limited to three strands or less per connection as listed on the manufacturer’s instructions.
• All electrical decorations must bear the UL label and should only be used as rated for indoor applications.
• All cords and lighting strings should be checked for fraying, bare wires, loose connections and cracked plugs. Use only UL-approved heavy-duty extension cords with built-in overload protection (breakers).
• Doors shall not be gift-wrapped. Excessive decorations or decorations made of highly flammable materials (crepe paper, leaves, etc.) are not permitted.
• Decorations will not be attached to, blocking or suspended from sprinkler pipes, smoke detectors, electrical systems, ceilings, stairways, exits, etc.
• All lights and decorations should be kept away from all combustibles.
• All decorations must be turned off before leaving the room.
• All decoration must be removed before leaving for holiday break.

The most important tool to remember in case of fire is to STAY CALM and KNOW YOUR EXITS.
The University of Southern Mississippi
GENERAL INFORMATION ON FIRE AND SAFETY

1. Two (2) fire drills per semester
   • There is one scheduled fire drill each semester in every residence hall.
   • The local fire department is involved.
   • There is another fire drill during the semester. This drill is unannounced.

2. The state fire marshal does a room to room inspection in each residence hall during each fall semester.

3. All fire/safety policies and rules are listed in detail in the Resident Handbook.
   • We also have checklists, dorm safety guidelines, etc. posted on the Safety Web page.

4. We have mandatory training for all hall directors and RAs.
   • They are trained in all aspects of fire safety.
   • Fire safety classes, fire extinguisher classes and general safety classes are given at any time upon request.

Fire Drills
During the 2013 year, the Fire/Safety Department conducted two fire drills per Residence Hall for a total of 82 fire drills.

Training
In addition to monthly inspections, the Fire/Safety Department conducts classes upon request for Southern Miss departments and university organizations.

Most-requested classes
   • Proper use of fire extinguishers
   • What to do if fire alarm sounds
   • What to do if you discover a fire
   • Lab safety
   • Dorm safety
   • Fraternity safety

The Fire/Safety Department also conducts fire drills throughout the year in dorms and fraternity houses.

Once a year, we meet with all hall directors, their staff and fraternity officers. During this time, we fill a dorm or fraternity house with theatrical smoke and let them see what it would be like to be in a smoke-filled building.

Fire drills are also a part of the alarm systems test.

The university police officers and the fire/safety officers have the right to seize prohibited materials and/or shut down any party found to be in violation of safety rules.

Inspections
Academic and administration buildings – once a year
Science buildings – twice a year in common areas; twice a year in all rooms
Dorms and fraternity houses, common areas – once a month
Dorms and fraternity houses, each room – twice a year
Pinehaven Apartments – once a year

Persons to Be Notified in Case of Fire

University Police Department       Bob Hopkins, Chief
Physical Plant                    Rodger Jackson, Associate Director
Fire/Safety                       Clint Atkins, Safety Officer
Residence Life                   Scott Blackwell, Director
Fraternity Housing               Gary Kimble, Director
Housing Maintenance              Ernie Olivares, Assistant Director
Physical Plant                   Cris Crenshaw, Director
Chief Financial Officer          Douglas Vinzant
Dean of Students                 Eddie Holloway
Student Affairs                  Joe Paul, Vice President
Chief Communication Officer      Jim Coll

Future Improvements
All existing residence halls that do not have sprinkler systems will be retro-fitted as monies become available.
All new construction will have fire alarm systems and fire sprinklers.
We will be making new taps to the city's water system to increase water pressure on campus.
Recently, a new fire alarm monitoring system was installed in the university police dispatch.

The University of Southern Mississippi is firmly committed to promoting a safe campus environment for all students, faculty, staff and visitors. Southern Miss takes great pride in its long history of safe campus conditions. Public safety involves a cooperative effort between law enforcement, the community and individuals.