**CUSTODIAL CARE POLICY**

**Policy Statement**

Residence Life may have to call authorities to transport a student to a medical center, treatment center, correctional facility or abode, as a result of potential harm to self or others.

**Reason for Policy/Purpose**

This policy is required for the effective communication of university policy regarding custodial care.

**Who Needs to Know This Policy**

All students of The University of Southern Mississippi community living on campus.

**Website Address for this Policy**

www.usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-stua-res-009

**Definitions**

**Policy/Procedures**

(A) In the event that a student requires transportation to a medical center, treatment center, correctional facility or abode, as a result of potential harm to self or others, Residence Life staff will contact University Police or AAA Ambulance for the purpose of transporting the student. *Residence Life is not financially responsible for transportation and treatment received.*
(B) In the event that a student is transported, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, to a medical center, treatment center, or correctional center because the student is a potential harm to others, the following will be required for the student to be readmitted to his/her residence hall:

1. Provide a release form signed by the attending authority, indicating the student is released from care and no longer a threat to others.
2. Provide a copy of the release given to attending authority indicating he/she has permission to release information regarding the student’s status to Residence Life or Southern Miss Counseling Center professional staff. Prior to the potential re-admittance to the hall of any student, Residence Life must receive a verbal approval from the Southern Miss counselor on call.
3. Residence Life reserves the right to deny residence hall readmission to a student based on issues such as timing of the request, possible negative impact of re-admittance upon the living and learning environment, information provided through the attending authority’s release, and the continued potential for harm to others.

(C) Occasionally, a student transported to a hospital, medical center, treatment center, or correctional facility may not be allowed to return to the residence hall until a hearing can be conducted. The student will be responsible for his or her own arrangements for off-campus accommodations and transportation, financial and otherwise. Staff cannot assume responsibility for a student who declines medical treatment.

(D) If a student is admitted to a hospital, medical center, treatment center or correctional facility as a result of potential harm to others, an attempt will be made to contact a parent or legal guardian to make him or her aware of the situation, the re-admittance policy, and to release the student to that person’s care.

**Review**

The Director of Student Housing Administration is responsible for the review of this policy every four years (or whenever circumstances require immediate review).

**Forms/Instructions**

N/A

**Appendices**

N/A

**Related Information**

N/A
History

03/15/13: Formatted for template. Minor editing throughout.

Amendments: Month, Day, Year – summary of changes
Authorization

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STUA-RES-009

As the Responsible Officer, I have reviewed this policy and believe it represents the current policy.

[Signature]
Responsible Officer

March 27, 2013
Date