PRIVACY OF RESIDENTS POLICY

Policy Statement

Unless circumstances necessitate it, authorized staff will respect the privacy of residents and not enter rooms.

Reason for Policy/Purpose

This policy is required for the effective communication of university policy regarding privacy of residents.

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-017

Definitions

Policy/Procedures

All due respect is given to the privacy that residents enjoy in their own rooms. Occasionally, circumstances present themselves that necessitate authorized university personnel to enter a student’s room. Authorized staff have the right of entry into a student’s room for custodial purposes and general maintenance, assessment of damages, inventory of university property, determination of violations of public health and sanitary regulations, compliance with university
rules, regulations and policies, and emergencies where imminent danger of life, safety, health or property is reasonably suspected.

When possible, advance notice of need for entry will be given to the student occupants. Only duly authorized law enforcement authorities following appropriate legal procedure are entitled to enter and search residence hall room and residents’ belongings. As a general rule, prior notice is given to appropriate university personnel in order for a representative of the university to be present to safeguard the rights of students and the university’s interests.

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

[Signature]

Responsible Officer

[Date]

March 22, 2013