MISSING PERSONS POLICY

Policy Statement

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. USM Police will generate a missing person report and initiate an investigation.

Reason for Policy/Purpose

This policy is required for the effective communication of university policy regarding missing persons.

Who Needs to Know This Policy

All members of The University of Southern Mississippi community.

Website Address for this Policy

www.usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-stua-upd-005

Definitions

Policy/Procedures

After investigation 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

Policy Number: STUA-UPD-005
Status: Effective
Police will notify the student’s parents 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 missing student determined to be missing.

In addition, to registering an emergency contact, students residing in on-campus housing have the option to identify, confidentially, an individual to be contacted by Southern Miss in the event the student is determined to be missing. Students who wish to identify a confidential contact can do so through the Residence Life web site. This confidential contact information will be accessible only to authorize campus officials and law enforcement and it will not be disclosed outside of a missing person investigation.

**Review**

The Chief of Operations for University Police 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**

11/01/11: Formatted for Institutional Policies website.
03/04/13: Formatted for template. Minor editing throughout.
**Amendments:** Month, Day, Year – summary of changes
Authorization

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STUA-UPD-005

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

[Signature]

Responsible Officer

[Date]

3-6-13