

Prairie View A&M University

A Member of the Texas A&M University System

Campus Security Policy & Campus Crime Statistics

Report



2005-2007

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Prairie View A&M University

Department of Public Safety

Prairie View A&M University is the second oldest institution of higher education in the state of Texas. It had its beginnings in 1876, the first year of the Texas Constitution, of the common free school system and at the dawn of public higher education in Texas.

Approximately 150 plus acres and approximately 61 buildings provide the setting for the main campus of Prairie View A&M University. In addition, the University provides courses at satellite campuses, which include the Northwest Compaq Campus, and the Houston Nursing Center located in Houston Texas. The University is established for the general purpose of preparing students to become life-long learners and to compete successfully in a rapidly changing society. The Police Department has the primary responsibility for security on campus. The mission of the Prairie View A&M University Police Department is to promote and maintain personal safety, physical and environmental security." The department's commitment to support the academic mission includes preventive measures through education and enforcement, which promote awareness and individual responsibility in an effort to prevent criminal and safety mishaps. The Department's security policies and procedures are in compliance with law enforcement regulations established by the State of Texas, Department of Criminal Justice Services. The policies and procedures also comply with federal requirements set forth in the Student Right-To-Know Act, and the Campus Security Act, that was signed into law in November 1990 (20 U.S.C. Section 1092). Title II of this Act is known as the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act. Prairie View A&M University Police Department prepares, publishes and distributes an annual Campus Security Report in compliance with the **Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act**.

Institutions that participate in student financial aid programs under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 must comply with the conditions of this Act. The report includes information about campus security policies and procedures and crime statistics for the previous three years. These statistics focus on reported crimes that occurred on and off campus, as well as certain off campus buildings owned or controlled by Prairie View A&M University. Public property immediately adjacent to, and accessible from Prairie View A&M University is also included. The annual Campus Security Report also outlines Prairie View A&M University policies concerning campus security and crime prevention programs. These policies relate to the following: the possession, use, and sale of alcoholic beverages (including the enforcement of state under age drinking laws), drug and alcohol-abuse education programs, the reporting of crimes, sexual assault/sexual harassment education and prevention programs, and procedures for reporting sex offenses. The report is available on October 1 of each year, and contains important tips to help every member of the community remain safe and avoid becoming a victim of crime. We make this report available to all students, faculty, and staff as well as the general public. Each member of the community is notified of the report and its exact website. Anyone, including prospective students and employees, may request a paper copy of this report by contacting the Prairie View A&M University Police Department at **(936) 261-1375**.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY AND INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

Prairie View A&M University police officers derive law enforcement authority from the State of Texas training requirements for law enforcement officers as established by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. Prairie View A&M University police officers are sworn officers with full powers of arrest. They are empowered and mandated to enforce all federal, state and local laws. Officers and supervisors are armed, and must undergo annual firearms qualifications. In addition to firearms. In all cases, each officer of the department should use the minimum amount of force that is consistent with the accomplishment of his/her mission and should exhaust reasonable means of apprehension or defense before considering the use of a firearm. After an incident is reported, a police officer is dispatched to the site of the complainant/victim and has the authority to make an arrest if necessary. Police officers prepare and submit incident/offense reports when warranted and the investigator will complete all necessary follow -up investigations.

The Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety maintains a good working relationship with all local law enforcement agencies including, Prairie View Police Department, Texas State Patrol, Waller Police Department, Houston Police Department, and Texas Department of Public Safety in addition to other law enforcement agencies. This cooperation includes the reporting of crimes to the appropriate agencies, participation in police radio communications and computer network training programs, special events coordination, and investigations of serious crimes. Information on crimes that may impact or relate to the surrounding community and state is shared directly with appropriate law enforcement agencies. Additionally, Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety investigators meet periodically with Prairie View Police Department detectives and intelligence units to discuss campus crime trends and police intelligence matters. Police officers from local agencies also work special events hosted by the university.

CAMPUS SECURITY

The Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety reports to the Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration. The Department performs a variety of law enforcement tasks including, investigation of criminal activity, apprehension of criminals, traffic enforcement, emergency response, and special security assignments. Additionally, the Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety coordinates criminal investigations with the outside law enforcement agencies and provides seminars on a variety of topics including Operation Identification, survey and statistical information, posters, brochures and safety fliers as part of the community policing/crime prevention programs.

Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety

The Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety employs **27** sworn police officers. This number includes the chief of police, an investigator, lieutenants, and sergeants. The number of officers in each category is as follows:

Chief of Police	1
Lieutenants	2
Investigator	1
Community Policing/Crime Prevention Coordinator/ Crime Victims Assistance Coordinator	1
Police Corporals	3
Shift Sergeants	3
Shift Patrol Officers	16
Total	<u>27</u>

These officers handle vehicle access to the campus, special assignments and routine foot patrol of the campus buildings and grounds. In addition to the sworn police officers, Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety also provides staff in the following positions:

Security Attendants	5
Dispatchers	3
Dispatch Supervisor	1
Supervisor/Security Officer	1

The department's support staff also includes one administrative assistant and one crime records analyst, and one business manager.

ACCESS POLICY (TO CAMPUS FACILITIES)

During regular business hours, with the exception of the University Village Apartment Complexes, most of the University's campus facilities operate under an open concept, allowing freedom of movement for members of the Prairie View A&M University community. The University campus and University Village Complexes are patrolled throughout the day on a 24 hours per day basis, seven days a week. In addition, police and security officers check buildings regularly. During non-business hours, access to university facilities is by key, if issued or by admittance via the university police or security staff. Over extended breaks, the doors of all buildings will be secured around the clock. Some facilities may have individual hours which may vary at different times of the year. Examples are the John B. Coleman Library and the Billy Nicks Athletic complex which will be secured according to schedules developed by the department responsible for the facility. Emergencies may necessitate changes or alterations to any posted schedules.

UNIVERSITY VILLAGE APARTMENT COMPLEX Staff

- Each UNIVERSITY VILLAGE PHASE I, II, and III is staffed with a Coordinator and/or a Graduate Assistant.
- The residence hall staff has the responsibility of administering and enforcing University policies and regulations, while acting as a listener, mediator, and resource person.
- Each resident is encouraged to get to know the staff and resident assistants.

Residence Staff includes the following (*taken from the Prairie View A&M University Handbook for On Campus Residential Communities*):

Resident Assistants

- A selected group of undergraduate students have been assigned to provide leadership and assistance on hall floors. They are selected on the basis of outstanding interpersonal relationship skills, leadership ability, academic success and willingness to serve other.

Graduate Assistants

- Generally, two graduate assistants are assigned to assist the Director in hall management and programming. They direct and advise the RA's in areas of program design and implementation for student development, community living and standard of conduct.

Residence Hall Director

- The Residence Hall Director, a live-in professional, is responsible for the general supervision and management of the assigned residence hall, the advisement of students, and the implementation of varied enrichment programming. The Director supervises the activities of the Graduate Assistants, and RA's. The Director receives comprehensive training in areas of leadership, interpersonal skills, conflict resolution, human relations and campus services referrals. The director certifies that they can provide assistance and information regarding most university concerns or will refer students to the person who can.

Director of Housing and Residential Services:

- The Director of Housing and Residential Services, who has the final administrative responsibility for the department, directs, plans, monitors, and organizes the functions of residential life administration. The Director develops and administers the departmental budget, establishes goals and objectives, and interacts in policy making decisions with other administrators in supporting student education, development, policies and facilities requirements.

At the beginning of each semester, building meetings are held with the residents to discuss safety issues. The Residence Hall Handbook is given to each resident along with the police department conducting safety and educational sessions. Such topics discussed during the sessions include: familiarizing new residents with campus law, personal safety on and off campus, Resident Survival Skills Workshops and Class Action -College Students and Texas Law. As an added safety and security awareness measure, the Prairie View A&M University Community Police officers are the "eyes and ears" in the residence hall areas. During the peak hours, the Community Police Officers are detailed to the residential halls to enforce housing regulations, state and local laws, and report safety hazard conditions. All hazardous conditions are reported to the dispatcher and entered into the physical plant's computerized work management and repair system.

Residential living at Prairie View A&M University is categorized:

University College
www.universitycollege-pv.com
(936) 261-5994

University Villages I, II, III
(936) 261-5963

Department of Residence Life

Telephone: 936-261-2654

Email: Residence_life@pvamu.edu

VISITATION/GUESTS

(taken from the Prairie View A&M University Handbook for On Campus Residential Communities):

Residents are responsible for their guests in on campus housing. Guests are expected to abide by all rules and regulations of the university. Residents of the same sex may visit overnight when it can be arranged with Residential Community Director for a period not to exceed two consecutive nights. A guest registration form must be completed and approved by the Residential Community Director prior to the visit. A minimal charge will be assessed for each night and must be paid in advance or upon arrival. Caution should be exercised to avoid infringements on roommates right to privacy.

SAFETY REGULATIONS:

It is the responsibility of each resident to be familiar with the policies and procedures formulated to ensure safety in the residence halls. Fire alarm and fire extinguishers are located throughout the halls. Any person(s) found tampering with an alarm, smoke detector or fire extinguisher will be disciplined severely. Fire drills are held regularly to acquaint students with emergency evacuation procedures. It is **MANDATORY** that all residents vacate the residence halls/apartments at the time of the drill. Those who do not, will be subject to disciplinary action.

SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS IN MAINTENANCE OF CAMPUS FACILITIES

The Prairie View A&M University Physical Plant Department maintains the University's buildings and grounds with a concern for safety and security. Inspections are made by the police department's security officers, police officers and physical plant repair and maintenance staff to spot any changes in interior and exterior lighting conditions.

The Community Policing/Crime Prevention Unit conducts lighting surveys and surveys of shrubbery on an "as required" basis and forwards reports to the Director of Physical Plant. These surveys address existing conditions and may include recommendations for repairs and improvements. Additionally, Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety officers spot and report hazardous conditions during the course of their normal patrols.

REPORTING CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety's policy is to protect the rights, the safety and the welfare of the students, faculty, staff, and members of the community. The Prairie View A&M University community must note that it is extremely important that each person has the right to be free from acts and threats of violence. Everyone is expected and required to comply with all state, local and federal laws.

Students, faculty, staff and visitors are encouraged to report all suspicious persons, activities, or crimes that are witnessed on campus and in the surrounding communities to the University Police Department immediately by calling **936-261-1375**.

Any person living, studying, working and/or visiting the University campus who is victimized by, or has knowledge of a criminal action/offense or other emergency should immediately report such action, offense or emergency to the Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety or to any University official.

REPORTING CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND OTHER EMERGENCIES (contd.)

A Crime Statistics Report Form is issued to all university Vice Presidents, Deans, Department Heads, Human Resources, and Residential Administrators. If those administrators are aware of any crimes that occur on campus that are not reported to campus police, it is important that he/she forward their completed crime statistics form to the police investigation unit **promptly**.

According to the Federal law, set forth by the "Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act," it is Prairie View A&M University's policy to report "statistics concerning the occurrence of certain criminal offenses reported to the local police agency or official of the institution.

The police department encourages all students, faculty, staff and visitors to immediately report criminal incidents and other emergencies. Incidents may be reported in person or by dialing the non-emergency **(936) 261-1375**.

In emergency situations, dial the emergency number **4-911(on campus) or (936) 261-1375**, The Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety Headquarters is located across from the Physical Plant Building at the corner of Ann Preston and Reda Bland Evans Streets . Police officers are on duty 24 hours, 365 days a year for your convenience and safety. The police officers are in constant communication with the university's communications center. A campus police dispatcher is always available to receive calls. Shortly after a call is received an officer is dispatched to the location for assistance.

Prairie View A&M University ensures that any victim of crime will be treated with respect and dignity and will be administered all rights through university policy and the criminal justice system of the State of Texas. Students have a responsibility to the University and to themselves to understand and realize the potential consequences of breaking the law. All students are required to know the law. ***The Student Handbooks are made available at Freshmen Orientation programs conducted by University College.***

Counselors with Confidential Reporting Procedures

As a result of the negotiated rule-making process which followed the signing into law, the 1998 amendments to 20 USC Section 1092 (f), clarification was given to those considered to be campus security authorities. Campus "Pastoral Counselors" and Campus "Professional Counselors", when acting as such, are not considered to be a campus security authority and are not required to report crimes for inclusion into the annual disclosure of crime statistics. As a matter of policy, they are encouraged, if and when they deem it appropriate, to inform persons being counseled of the procedures to report crimes on a voluntary basis for inclusion into the annual crime statistics.

The rule-making committee defines counselors as:

Pastoral Counselor: An employee of an institution who is associated with a religious order or denomination, recognized by that religious order or denomination as someone who provides confidential counseling and who is functioning within the scope of that recognition as a pastoral counselor.

Professional Counselor: An employee of an institution whose official responsibilities include providing psychological counseling to members of the institution's community and who is functioning within the scope of his or her license or certification.

TIMELY WARNINGS

In the event that a situation arises, whether on or off campus, that, in the judgement of the Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety Chief of Police, constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat, a campus-wide "Timely Warning" will be issued. The alert will offer tips on how to avoid becoming a victim of a similar incident or crime and will be printed on a bright colored paper in the form of "Flyers" to attract attention.

Additional Distribution of Timely Warning Notices

The warning may also be issued through the **University Panther-net email system** to students, faculty and staff members. Additionally,, the warning may be broadcast on the university radio station **KPVU 91.3 FM**. Depending on the a particular circumstances of the crime, especially in all situations that could pose an immediate threat to the community, the Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety may also post a notice on the university web site at www.pvamu.edu providing the university community with more immediate notification. In such instances, a copy of the notice is posted in each residential apartment building. The university web site is immediately accessible via computer by all faculty, staff and students. Anyone with information warranting a **Timely Warning** should report the circumstances to the Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety office by phone (**936-261-1375**) or in person at the Dispatch office within the Public Safety, Central Receiving Building on the corner of Reda Bland Evans and Ann Preston Streets.

Criminal Activity Off Campus

Student Activities maintains contact with recognized fraternity and sorority organizations. University police members do not provide law enforcement service to off-campus residences of recognized fraternity and sorority organizations not are activities off-campus recognized by university authority. Criminal activity at recognized fraternity and sororities' residences is monitored and recorded by the respective city police department(s) in which they are housed (i.e., City of Prairie View, Waller, or Hempstead, Texas). The Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety enjoys a close working relation ship with the city of Prairie View Police Department , Waller Police Department, Hempstead Police Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Rangers and local FBI when violations of federal, state, or local laws surface. This cooperative team approach deals with situations as they arise as well as future concerns.

University Daily Bulletin/Daily Crime Logs are records of all crimes that have occurred within the patrol jurisdiction of the campus police department. It includes **the date the crime was reported, the nature, date, time, and general location of each crime and the disposition of the complaint.** The University Daily Bulletin (Daily Crime Log) is also made available in the Department of Public Safety Dispatch office as well as the Department of Public Safety web site. This ensures that the public has an opportunity to view the notices in a timely manner.

CRIME PREVENTION EDUCATION AND PROGRAMS

Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety is "Community Policing Oriented" and uses a variety of crime prevention methods that also serve as early intervention programs. The department's belief is that the key to preventing crime is **"Awareness and Educational Programs."** The police department provides safety seminars and educational programs by police officers throughout the year in collaboration with Student Activities, Residential Life, New Student Orientation and the University's Counseling Center. The programs and seminars presented include Drugs/Alcohol, Driving Under the Influence (DUI), Rape Prevention, and Campus Safety and Security. A special session are held during freshman orientation to familiarize new students with campus law and personal safety on and off campus. The Department continues to pro-actively approach crime prevention through community policing efforts designed to enhance personal safety and help campus community members develop self-esteem, which contributes to a healthy community. All officers will continue to focus on crime prevention and early intervention programs on campus and throughout the surrounding communities.

The police department is available to assist campus departments and community organizations in planning, presenting and coordinating activities and programs. Below are some of the programs presented by the Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety:

- **Operation P. V. Identification-** A program designed to reduce theft on the Prairie View A&M University Campus. It involves engraving property with a unique identifier so that property can be easily returned if lost or stolen.
- **Community Policing Officer Program-** A program in which police officers are assigned to resident halls to enforce housing regulations, and state and local laws, as well as to report safety hazard conditions. The officers are "eyes and ears" in the residence halls. The Officers are involved in the safety and security surveys of the campus buildings and grounds, crime prevention seminars, problem solving, customer service, distribution of campus safety and security literature.
- **Escort Service -** Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to request an escort to their vehicles when working late night hours. The services rendered by the Department of Public Safety Patrol service has played an important part in the increased visibility in buildings and on the grounds during the most demanding hours for services on the campus. Providing this vital service is a proactive measure of preventing crime against persons on the grounds and in our campus buildings.

Programs (contd.)

- **Forum on “The Prevention Of Alcohol Abuse”-** A program focused on binge drinking on and off campus, alcohol poisoning, alcohol related sexual assault, substance abuse and consequences of alcohol related offenses. The students participate in an alcohol-sensor demonstration and the fatal vision goggle demonstration. A software presentation of “Alcohol 101” is presented. The program was created to reduce the harm associated with misuse of alcohol. The program provides the physiological, psychological and legal information to college students to help make responsible decisions about drinking, as well as non-drinking. This activity serves as an alcohol awareness campaign utilizing the student newspaper (***The Panther***), alcohol posters, pamphlets, brochures, handouts, bookmarks, and banners. Throughout the year, the Community Police Officers serve as program facilitators on crime prevention/safety upon request by campus organizations, clubs and professional organizations on and off campus.

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG POLICY

Prairie View A&M University requires all students, faculty, and staff to adhere to the established federal, state and local laws and regulations regarding alcohol and drugs. **The Substance Abuse Policy** clearly states: ***“The use, manufacture, distribution (including selling), or possession of alcohol and other drugs on the University campus is prohibited.”***

Prairie View A&M University is committed to a drug free workplace and educational environment. University administrators, supervisors, and University police are charged with the enforcement of this policy. Both student and employees are subject to prosecution under applicable state or federal laws. Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety does and will continue to cooperate with federal, state, local and other law enforcement agencies to enforce statutes governing illegal involvement with drugs and violations of state liquor laws including underage drinking.

These are criminal offenses and will be treated accordingly. Prairie View A&M University reserves the right to permanently dismiss any student or terminate any employee whose continued presence on campus and in the community constitutes a risk to the health, safety, or general well being of the University community or themselves. As a deterrent to alcohol and other drug use and abuse, the University supports, promotes and sponsors programs to enhance student, faculty, and staff awareness of the devastating effects and consequences of indulging in the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs. Literature on alcohol and other drug use is distributed to students, faculty, and staff.

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG POLICY

In accordance with federal, state and local law, the following items are considered priorities regarding alcohol and other drug use:

- To inform students, faculty and staff that alcohol use is prohibited on campus.
- To provide educational programming to allow people to make informed choices regarding alcohol and other drug use when off campus; including choosing not to drink if you are underage.
- To provide students with appropriate and confidential counseling for alcohol and drug related issues.
- To vigorously support students who choose to adhere to Prairie View A&M University's **alcohol and drug policy** as well as federal and state laws regarding alcohol and other drug use.

The Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety encourages all students, faculty and staff to read the University's alcohol, and drug policy located in: Student Handbook

The **Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety** assists the counseling center with seminars and workshops in the residence halls and orientation classes. The seminars and workshops are designed to prevent alcohol and other drug use and abuse. In keeping with the spirit of the Attorney General's Task Force Report on Drinking by College Students, the Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety has developed a coalition with the Prairie View Police Department and the local Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.

The Prairie View A&M University Community Policing Unit:

- Provides pertinent information related to events and affairs involving alcohol on and off campus.
- Exchanges information and intelligence on all matters concerning alcohol use and abuse (legitimate or illegitimate activities).
- Assists the Prairie View A&M University Hearing Officer and the Counseling Center with information concerning alcohol misconduct off campus by Prairie View A&M University students.

The Department's ultimate goal is to prevent the use of alcohol on campus.

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY

Prairie View A&M University stresses the responsibility of each community member to abide by the terms of the State of Texas and Prairie View A&M University's substance abuse policy. Prairie View A&M University encourages students, faculty and staff with concerns about their difficulty in dealing with alcohol and/or drug abuse to inquire about confidential/and medical support on and off campus.

Prairie View A&M University Counseling Center
Owens Franklin Health Center
Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.
Evening Sessions After 5:00p.m. - Arranged by appointment
Appointments in person (936) 261-1400

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND EDUCATION POLICY

Prairie View A&M University is committed to maintaining a learning and work environment that is free of the threat of unwelcome and unwanted sexual actions. **Sexual Assaults** are serious violations of the federal and state law, as well as the University's Student Judicial Code, faculty Standards, and University employee policies. The University prohibits sexual offenses in any form. It is unacceptable behavior and sexual offenders will not be tolerated. It is the University's responsibility to make every effort to see that the victim of a reported sexual assault is offered medical and psychological care and counseling. The use of threats, force or intimidation to engage in sexual intercourse or other sexual contact against the victim's will is illegal in the State of Texas. They are crimes under state laws that are punishable by fines and/or imprisonment. In addition, these actions are subject to civil suit for damages.

Violation of the policy prohibiting sexual assault may lead to disciplinary actions, including reprimands, suspension, termination of employment or academic status as well as possible criminal prosecution.

Sex Offenses--Forcible

Any sexual act directed against another person, forcible and /or against that person's will; or not forcible or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

Forcible Rape ----The carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of his/her youth).

Forcible Sodomy--Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Sexual Assault With An Object—The use of an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcible and/or against that person's will; or not forcible or against the persons will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND EDUCATION POLICY (*contd.*)

Forcible Fondling—The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcible and/or against that person's will; or, not forcible or against the person will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Sex Offenses-Non-forcible

Unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse.

Incest—Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Statutory Rape—Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Texas Code



The above acts constitute sexual assault when they are committed against a person's will as evidenced by refusal of consent or through the use of force, threat, or intimidation; or against a person who, by virtue of mental incapacity or physical helplessness, is unable to understand the nature or consequences of the sexual act or unable to communicate an unwillingness to engage in the sexual act. This includes, but is not limited to, incapacity or helplessness caused by alcohol or other drugs.

Intoxication of the assailant shall not diminish the assailant's responsibility for sexual assaults.

Acquaintance Rape is sex against a person's will by someone the person knows:

- At least one-third of all reported rape victims know their attacker—as a date, steady relationship, or a casual friend.
- Teenage girls and young women more likely to be victims than any other age group. Acquaintance rapists use psychological pressure, as well as physical force.

Being forced into having sex - even if it is by someone you know - is rape, and it is a crime. Nothing gives a person the right to assault anyone - sexually or otherwise.

How To Protect Yourself

- Before dating someone you do not know well, check the person out with friends.
- Plan to meet someplace where there are other people--a restaurant, a movie, a mall, or go with a group of friends.
- Be prepared to find your own transportation home. Carry change for a phone call to your parents or a friend and enough cash for a taxi.
- Don't get drunk or stoned. Remember drugs and alcohol decrease your ability to take care of your self and make sensible decisions.
- Clearly and firmly let your date know your limits before you get into a situation you cannot control.
- Do not leave a party, a concert, or a ball game with someone you just met.
- Trust your instincts. If you think something is not quite right or you feel uneasy, get to where there are other people or tell your date to leave - NOW. Be assertive.

What To Do If You Or Someone Else Becomes a Victim of A Sexual Assault

Procedures For Reporting A Sex Offense

If you are raped or sexually assaulted:

Get to a safe place as soon as you can.

Contact Someone You Trust To Be With You And Support You.

Try to preserve all physical evidence.

If you do change clothes, put all clothing you were wearing at the time of the attack in a paper (not plastic) bag.

Get medical attention as soon as possible to make sure you are physically well and to collect important evidence in the event you may later wish to take legal action.

Changing Living And Academic Situations

Prairie View A&M University will make every effort to assist a student that has been sexually assaulted if he or she requests a change in his/her living arrangement and/or academic situations. The Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Residential Life and the Office of Academic Affairs will make the necessary living and academic changes when such changes are reasonably available.

Sexual assault and sexual harassment education seminars and programs are offered to students, faculty, staff and the community. The education seminars and programs are conducted on a regular basis for freshman orientation, middle school safety programs, the residence halls, campus student organizations, campus professional organizations. The seminars/programs include Sexual Offenses, Acquaintance Rape/Date Rape, Personal Safety, Sexual Harassment, and Self Defense. In addition, the University Counseling Center (Owens-Franklin Health Center) provides Sexual Assault Awareness programs for the university and community.

Contacts:

Prairie View A&M University Department of Public Safety:

(936) 261-1375 (emergency/police dispatch office) or Emergency 4-911

Prairie View A&M University Counseling Center (OFHC) (936) 261-1400

Response Sexual Assault

- The Emergency Blue Phones are located strategically throughout the campus connect directly to the University Police Department.
- Talk with a counselor at Prairie View A&M University Counseling Center who will maintain confidentiality, help explain your options, give you information and provide emotional support.

If the student/victim of a sexual assault wishes to notify local police of an off-campus occurrence, the University will assist the student/victim with the notification. The University police will also assist with the compiling of information that is necessary to prosecute the suspect through both the criminal and University Judicial Systems. Prairie View A&M University is committed to maintaining a learning and work environment free from sexual harassment. The University prohibits the practice of sexual harassment and requires that its students and employees refrain from conduct which gives rise to allegations of sexual harassment.

Sexual Harassment, in any form, is unacceptable behavior and will not be condoned at **Prairie View A&M University**. ***Violation of the policy prohibiting sexual harassment may lead to disciplinary actions, including reprimands, suspension, or termination of employment or academic status.***

Sexual Harassment is defined as any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, any type of sexual discrimination, verbal, nonverbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- **Such** conduct has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or working environment or substantially interferes with student's academic performance, their emotional well-being and the attainment of career goals; **or**
- **Such** conduct interferes with an employee's work performance, causing the employee distress and inability to function effectively in the performance of his/her academic or job requirement; **or**
- **Such** conduct is used as the basis for decision about academic evaluation, employment, promotion, transfer, selection for training or performance evaluation. Students and employees who believe that they may have been sexually harassed, but are uncertain as to whether a complaint is justified or whether they wish to initiate a formal complaint, may discuss their concerns confidentially and informally with:

***Ms. Renee R. Williams, Equal Opportunity Officer
Office of Institutional Relations and Public Service
(936) 261-2123***

Students may also consult:

- University Counseling
- Vice President for Student Affairs

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY AND ACCESS TO RELATED INFORMATION

Incarceration may remove a sex offender from the streets but it does nothing to prevent the offender from committing another crime when released. The federal **Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act**, enacted on October 28, 2000, went into effect October 28, 2002. The law requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by a State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained. It also requires sex offenders to register in a State to provide notice, as required under State law, of each institution of higher education in that State at which the person is employed, carries on a vocation, volunteers services or is a student.

Non-resident offenders entering the State for employment, to carry on a vocation, volunteer services or as a student attending school who are required to register in their state of residence or who would be required to register under this section if a resident of the State shall, within ten days of accepting employment or enrolling in school in the State be, required to register and re-register pursuant to this section.

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY AND ACCESS TO RELATED INFORMATION (contd.)

For purposes of this section "student" means a person who is enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis, in any public or private educational institution, including any secondary school, trade or professional institution, or institution of higher education.

Information concerning offenders registered with the *Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry* may be disclosed to any person requesting information on a specific individual in accordance with the law. Information regarding a specific person requested pursuant to the law shall be disseminated upon receipt of an official request form that may be submitted directly to the State's Department of Public Safety or to the State Police through a local law-enforcement agency. The Texas Department of Public Safety shall make Registry information available upon request, to criminal justice agencies including local law -enforcement agencies through the Texas Criminal Information Network (TCIC). Registry information provided under this section shall be used for the purposes of the administration of criminal justice, for the public in general and children in particular. *Use of the information for purpose not authorized by this section is prohibited and a willful violation of this section with the intent to harass or intimidate another shall be punished as a Class 1 Misdemeanor.*

The Texas Department of Public Safety maintains a system for making certain Registry information on violent sex offenders publicly available by means of the Internet. The information made available includes the offender's name; all aliases which he has used or under which he may have been known; the date and locality of the conviction and a brief description of the offense; his date of birth, current address and photograph; and such other information as the State Police may from time to time determine is necessary to preserve public safety. The system is secure and is not capable of being altered except by or through the State Police. The system is updated each business day with newly received registrations and re-registrations. Pertinent web site addresses for securing related information:

www.txdps.state.tx.us

(Click on "Crime Records" then "Sex Offender Registry)

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES

Upon notification of an alleged violation, the accused shall not initiate any contact, directly or indirectly, with the accuser. Retaliation against the accuser or against any witness involved in the case by the accused or others acting on behalf of the accused shall be considered violation of the Code of Student Conduct.

JUDICIAL PROCEDURES (contd.)

Sexual Offenses/Disciplinary Proceeding

Both the accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have other persons present during the campus disciplinary proceedings. In addition, both the accuser and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of any campus disciplinary proceeding brought as a result of the allegation of a sex offense.

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Any of the following sanctions may be imposed individually or cumulatively upon students who violate the University's Code of Conduct. Sanctions imposed by a hearing body may not be increased under any circumstances.

- **Restitution**
- **Disciplinary Probation**
- **Disciplinary Suspension**
- **Expulsion**
- **Summary Expulsion**
- **Minimum Sanctions for Alcohol Violations**
- **Minimum Sanctions for Illegal Drug Violations**
(Person found to be involved in the sale of illegal drugs will be subject to expulsion from the University)
- **Community Service**
- **Warning**

PROHIBITION OF HAZING ACTIVITIES

State Law on Hazing

Hazing unlawful: civil and criminal liability, duty of school, etc., officials Fraternity/Sorority and Student Organizations are prohibited from engaging in hazing.

HAZING - includes actions by fraternity/sorority individuals or organizations that mistreat individual(s) in such a way as to cause or could cause bodily harm. Hazing activities that jeopardize the health of students are subject to criminal prosecution in Texas and University disciplinary action, even though the action is not severe enough to warrant criminal prosecution.

Additional Definition of Hazing: Any act that causes or is likely to cause serious physical or mental harm, or which tends to or actually injures, frightens, demeans, or disgraces any person; to annoy any student by playing abusive or ridiculous tricks upon them, endangering his/her life, frightening, scolding, beating, or harassing them, or subjecting them to personal indignity.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

It is the policy and practice of Prairie View A&M University to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and state and local requirements regarding students with disabilities. Under these laws, no qualified individual with a disability shall be denied access to or participation in services or programs at Prairie View A&M University. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Prairie View A&M University Counseling Center has developed "Supporting Students through Disability Services" (SDS). Supporting Students through Disability Services at Prairie View A&M University is a resource provided by the University through the Counseling Center. Its purpose is to promote barrier-free environments and to provide reasonable accommodations (academic adjustments, auxiliary aids and services, training, consultation, and technical assistance) when needed.

The following definitions are used to report crimes listed in accordance with the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime reporting guidelines and training guide for hate crime data collection. The definitions for murder and non-negligent manslaughter, negligent manslaughter, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, illegal weapons possession violations, drug abuse violations, and liquor law violations are excerpted from the Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook. The definitions of sex offenses are excerpted from the National Incident-Based Reporting System Edition of the Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook or the UC Reporting Handbook: NIBS EDITION.

Reportable Crimes

Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter - The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

Negligent Manslaughter- The killing of another person through negligence.

Robbery -The taking, or attempting to take, anything of value under confrontational circumstances from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm.

Aggravated Assault - An unlawful attack by one person upon another wherein the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or 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.

Motor vehicle Theft-The theft of a motor vehicle.

Reportable Crimes (contd.)

Arson -To unlawfully and intentionally damage, or attempt to damage, any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device.

Burglary/Breaking and Entering -The unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a felony or a theft.

Sexual Offenses, Forcible -Any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

Forcible Rape -The carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of his/her youth).

Forcible Sodomy-Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against the person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Sexual Assault With An Object - To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Forcible Fondling-The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

Sex Offenses, Non-forcible- Unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse.

Incest-Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Statutory Rape -Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Reportable Crimes (contd.)

Larceny/Theft Offenses-The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession, or constructive possession, of another person.

Liquor Law Violations-The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of alcoholic beverages.

Weapon Law Violations-The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or other deadly weapons.

Hate Crime

A hate crime is one in which the victim is selected intentionally because of his or her actual or perceived race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, or disability. Prairie View A&M University must report by category of prejudice, and crime it reports in the grouping above, (except arrests for and persons referred for campus disciplinary action for liquor-law, drug-law, or weapons-law violations) and other crimes involving bodily injury reported to local police agency or campus security authority.

CRIME STATISTICS

The University's crime statistics include offenses that were reported to the University police, law enforcement agencies and other University officials of Prairie View A&M University who have significant responsibilities for students and campus activities. All criminal incidents are categorized in accordance with the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Reporting/Incident Based Reporting System (UC/NIBS) as guidelines and in accordance with the provisions of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

GEOGRAPHICAL CATEGORIES

Crime Statistics must be reported by location:

- On Campus-owned, contiguous, educational or student used
- In Dormitories or other student residences within the "on campus" area
- Non campus buildings or property; frats, non-contiguous owned and student used.
- Public property, streets, sidewalks, lots adjacent to "campus"

GEOGRAPHICAL CATEGORIES (Contd.)

On Campus *(Contd.)*

- Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution of higher education within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution and used by the institution in direct support of or in manner related to, the institution's educational purposes, including residence halls.
- Any building or property within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution that is owned by the university.

Student Residences

- A subset of "on campus" crimes, that were reported to have occurred in dormitories or other residential facilities for students, on campus.

Non-Campus Buildings or Property

- Any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization officially recognized by the institution.
- Any building or property (other than a branch campus) owned or controlled by an institution of higher education 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

- All public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, that is within the campus or immediately adjacent or accessible from the campus.

Prairie View A&M University Main Campus

