

# 2018-19 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report



Maintaining a Safe and Secure Campus Environment



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI.

University Police Department | [usm.edu/police](http://usm.edu/police)





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## UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

- 911 (emergency)
- 601.266.4986 (non-emergency)
- Bond Hall, First Floor West





# ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT for The University of Southern Mississippi

## The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department

The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department (UPD) is the police force of original jurisdiction on the Hattiesburg and Gulf Park campuses and the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory's Cedar Point and Halstead sites. They are duly sworn, state-certified police officers with full arrest powers. The Gulf Coast Division also has security officers that patrol the Gulf Park campus in Long Beach, the Marine Research Center in Gulfport, and both Gulf Coast Research Laboratory's Cedar Point and Halstead sites in Ocean Springs.

The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA®) and accredited by the Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MSLEAC). The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department was the first higher education law enforcement agency in the state to earn this status, and currently one of only two in Mississippi to be nationally accredited.

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 residence hall security officers, radio dispatchers and other support personnel.

The 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 office.

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.

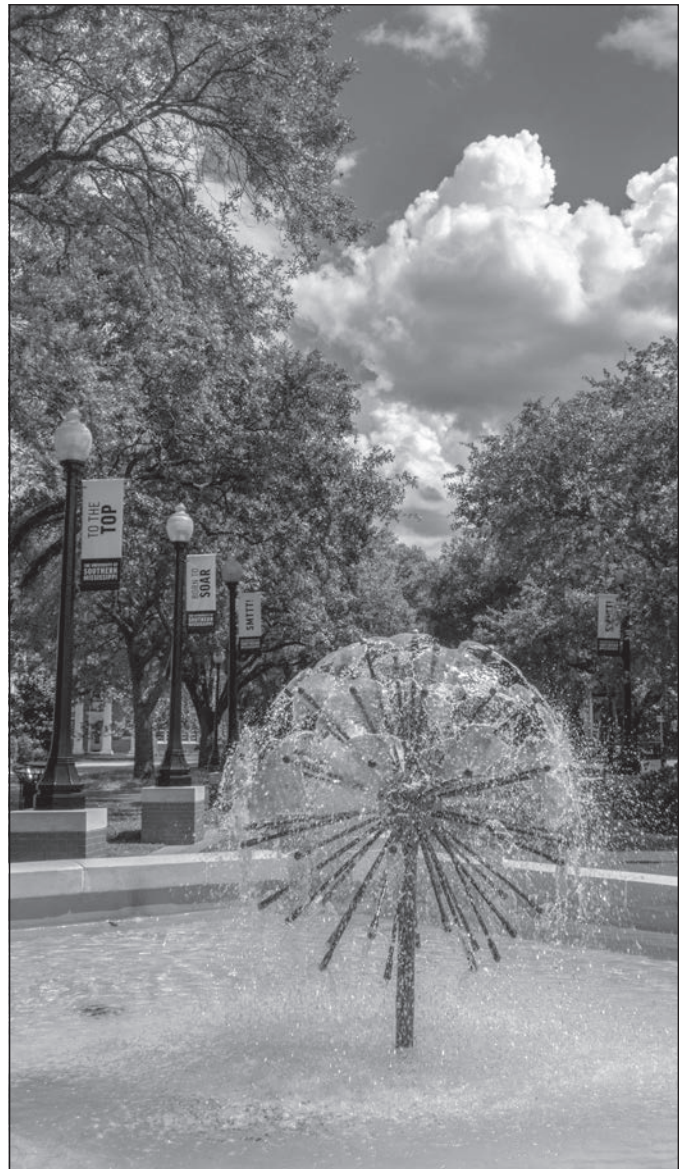
### Policy for Reporting the Annual Disclosure of Crime Statistics

The University Police 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 found on our website at [usm.edu/police](http://usm.edu/police).

This report is prepared in cooperation with the local law enforcement agencies surrounding the university's campuses, teaching and research sites, the Department of Housing and Residence Life, Dean of Students Office, University 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 UPD, 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 Intranet, and in certain circumstances via U.S. mail 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 University 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 on the second floor.

Students and employees on the Gulf Park campus can obtain a copy at the Gulf Coast Division of the University Police Department located at 138 Beach Park Place. Students and employees at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory can obtain a copy in the Field Studies Building, room 107.







## WHO 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 (John C. Stennis Space Center). Calls from a cell phone will be directed to the appropriate local jurisdiction. The 911 dispatchers in the Hattiesburg, Long Beach and Ocean Springs areas will redirect calls to the University Police Department as soon as they determine the emergency is on campus.

### Hattiesburg Campus

#### University Police Department

- 911 (emergency)
- 601.266.4986 (non-emergency)
- Bond Hall, First Floor West

#### John C. Stennis Space Center

- 911 (emergency, directed to Hancock County Emergency Dispatch Center)
- 228.688.3636 (Security Department)

### Gulf Park Campus (Long Beach)

- 911 (emergency, directed to Long Beach Police Department)
- 601.266.4986 (non-emergency)
- 138 Beach Park Place

### Marine Research Center (Port of Gulfport)

- 911 (emergency, directed to Gulfport Police Department)
- 601.266.4986 (non-emergency)

### Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (Ocean Springs)

- 911 (emergency, directed to Ocean Springs Police Department)
- 601.266.4986 (non-emergency)

## Code Blue Telephones

The UPD has strategically placed 70 code blue phones throughout the Hattiesburg campus and seven on the Gulf Park campus in Long Beach. There are three at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory’s Cedar Point location and one at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory’s Halstead location in Ocean Springs. Take a few minutes to locate and identify code blue phones where you park, work, walk or play at [usm.edu/emergency-phones](http://usm.edu/emergency-phones) (Hattiesburg campus) or [usm.edu/gulfcoast/about/campus-map](http://usm.edu/gulfcoast/about/campus-map) (Gulf Park campus) and [gcr1.usm.edu/about\\_us/location.php](http://gcr1.usm.edu/about_us/location.php) (Gulf Coast Research Laboratory Halstead site). If you have an emergency, simply press the red button. Upon being activated, these phones will directly dial into the UPD dispatch office, where a patrol unit will be dispatched for assistance.

## REPORTING A CRIME

The university encourages prompt and accurate reporting of all crimes, suspected crimes and other emergencies.

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

When you report a crime to the University Police, an officer will meet with you, listen to what happened, and, if appropriate, make an incident report. Next, detectives will review the report and conduct a follow-up investigation. Detectives will let you know the status of your case.

### Southern Miss Crime Stoppers

The Crime Stoppers program allows members of the university community to anonymously report criminal activity occurring on campus and to receive a monetary reward of \$25-\$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, you can call 601.266.4986 or 911.

### Reporting to Other Campus Security Authorities

While the university prefers that community members promptly report all crimes and other emergencies directly to the University Police at 601.266.4986 or 911, we also recognize that some may prefer to report to other individuals or university offices. The Clery Act recognizes certain university officials and offices as "Campus Security Authorities (CSA)." The act defines these individuals as follows:

"Officials of an institution who have significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, professional Student Affairs and housing staff members, faculty advisors to student groups, and/or the athletic director and head coaches, can receive a report. An official is defined as any person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution."

If you are the victim of a crime and wish for your identity to remain confidential and desire no formal investigation, you must inform the CSA to whom you are reporting the event. If confidentiality has been requested, the listed university official receiving a crime report will gather sufficient information to allow the university to implement proper crime alerts, if warranted, and so the information may be included in the statistical records maintained by the University Police Department.

### Pastoral and Professional Mental Health Counselors

According to the Clery Act, pastoral and professional mental health counselors, who are appropriately credentialed and hired by Southern Miss to serve in a counseling role, are not considered Campus Security Authorities when they are acting in the counseling role. As a matter of policy, the university encourages pastoral and professional mental health counselors to notify those whom they are counseling of the voluntary, confidential reporting options available to them.

### 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. The Hattiesburg and Long Beach police departments and the Sheriff's Offices in Forrest and Harrison counties routinely work and communicate with our officers on any serious 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 of Southern Mississippi 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.

### Daily Crime Log

The University Police Department maintains a daily crime log for review 24 hours a day on its website at [usm.edu/police](http://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.

## 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 the Incident Command System (ICS), which is utilized when responding to these incidents. The Southern Miss community should familiarize themselves with the university's publicly available website, [usm.edu/safety](http://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.

### Emergency Notification System - Eagle Alert

Eagle Alert is a secure notification system that alerts students and employees of imminently dangerous situations via email, text and voice messages to cell phones and land lines. Eagle Alert is used in conjunction with existing university avenues of emergency communication, including outdoor warning sirens, public address systems, news alerts and the university's website. Participation by university email is mandatory. While we encourage full participation in Eagle Alert, you can change your contact information or opt out of the phone and text message portion of

this service. Log in using your Campus ID and (SOAR) password at [usm.edu/safety/eagle-alert](http://usm.edu/safety/eagle-alert).

### 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/her 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 students, faculty and staff. Anyone with information warranting a timely warning should report the circumstances to the University Police, by calling 911; by calling 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, [usm.edu](http://usm.edu), or via email.

### Immediate (Emergency) Notification

It is the policy of the university to immediately notify the USM community upon the confirmation of any significant emergency or dangerous situation occurring at the university involving an immediate threat to the health and safety of students and employees.

University 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 USM community or to the appropriate segment of the 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 USM 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 threat and authorize activation of the Eagle Alert system. Once immediate notification has been made, more detailed follow-up information will be released on the university website, [usm.edu](http://usm.edu), or via email.

### 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 the Department of Housing and 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, Housing and 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 Housing and 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. Housing and 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.

### **StormReady Designation**

The University of Southern Mississippi is designated as StormReady by the National Weather Service.

To be recognized as StormReady, a location must

- establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center;
- have multiple ways to receive severe weather warnings and forecasts to alert the public; and
- have a formal hazardous weather plan.

### **Campus Facilities and Grounds**

The University of Southern Mississippi is a public institution and, with the exception of the residence halls, is open to the public during the day and evening hours when classes are in session. During the times that the university is officially closed,

its buildings are usually locked, and only faculty, staff, and certain students may be admitted. The University Police provide regular patrol of USM property, buildings and parking facilities.

The safety and security of our residents is a top priority of the Housing and Residence Life staff. All residence halls offer controlled card-access entry that records the date, time and person entering the building. Visitation is from 11 a.m.-midnight, Sunday-Thursday, and 11 a.m.-1 a.m., Friday-Saturday; however, residence hall staff members are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. University Police officers assist with desk operations on a nightly basis and patrol the exterior and interior of our halls. Students also have access to a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week police escort service. The Department of Housing and Residence Life at Southern Miss strives to provide a safe environment that allows for the development of student relationships; fun, living-learning communities; and friendships that last a lifetime!

Campus lighting is a high priority, and improving lighting conditions is a continual effort throughout the year. There are lighted routes to all academic buildings and residence halls.

Shrubbery control is an ongoing project for the Physical Plant and the University Police Department. Hedges, trees and shrubbery are trimmed regularly to enhance visibility and lighting on campus.

UPD officers conduct a security survey of our campuses at the beginning of each semester. Recommendations from this survey are forwarded to the Southern Miss Physical Plant upon completion. You may report any lighting problems by accessing the Southern Miss University Police Department website at [usm.edu/police](http://usm.edu/police).

## **CRIME PREVENTION, HEALTH AND SAFETY EDUCATION FOR THE COMMUNITY**

The University Police Department, Student Health Services, Department of Housing and 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 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 campuses 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 property's serial numbers and a detailed description of the items, as well as engraving your items 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 meant 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.

## Drugs, Alcohol and the Law

This program is meant 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.

## Police Escort Services

The University of Southern Mississippi has partnered with the City of Hattiesburg's Hub City Transit to provide convenient and safe transportation on the University's Hattiesburg campus, as well as connect to the city's existing network of transit routes.

Hub City Transit's "Gold Route" includes 14 stops on campus, two of which offer opportunities to transfer to the city's existing transit system. Location of the stops can be found at [usm.edu/gold-route](http://usm.edu/gold-route). Gold Route buses are driven by City of Hattiesburg employees, and are Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant, as well as include the ability to secure and carry up to two bicycles.

The University's students, faculty and staff are able to utilize the system free of charge with valid USM identification.

Buses operate Mondays through Fridays, 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., while the University Police Department (UPD) remains on call to transport students to any location on the Hattiesburg campus on evenings and weekends, or in safety or emergency situations.

## Lock It Up

This program is designed to increase security awareness by reducing vulnerability. Officers use 3x5-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 receive a "Lock It Up" card.

# 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 police 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 [usm.edu/police](http://usm.edu/police).

## Protecting Your Property

- Record the serial numbers of your valuables.
- Engrave valuables with your license number.
- Register your bike with Parking and Transit Services.
- 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.

## STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES

The University of Southern Mississippi provides assistance to all students, faculty and staff through Student Counseling Services (SCS), Community Counseling and Assessment Center (CCAC) and the University Clinic for Family Therapy (MFT Clinic). These centers provide individual counseling, group counseling, assessment and referral services.

SCS provides free confidential counseling for any enrolled student. SCS is focused on helping students be successful in their academic pursuits. SCS also provides screenings and assessments for alcohol and drug abuse and dependency.

Students may seek services on an individual basis or by referral from other campus entities, such as the Office of the Dean of Students. Hattiesburg campus hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Students with immediate needs can be seen on a walk-in basis during business hours. For more information, call 601.266.4829.

Counseling services are also available at the Gulf Park campus Health Center Tuesday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students on the Gulf Coast can also access telecounseling services Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Health Center. For information, call 228.214.3300.

Twenty-four-hour response is available for emergencies, such as suicide or sexual assault, by calling 601.606.HELP (4357) or 911.

CCAC and MFT provide counseling, assessment and referral for students and faculty and staff through master's level students who are under the supervision of faculty professors.

Anyone who prefers to seek assistance from programs off campus are urged to contact Pine Belt Mental Healthcare Resources at 601.264.2111, Pine Grove Behavior System of Forrest General Hospital at 601.288.4800, or the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence at 800.800.1396. Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and Adult Children of Alcoholics groups meet in the Hattiesburg and Gulf Coast communities. For further information about any of these services, contact Student Counseling Services, Bond Hall East, 103 Ray Guy Way at 601.266.4829.

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

### DRUG AND ALCOHOL STATEMENT

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, Public Law 101-226, requires that, as a condition of receiving funds or any other form of financial assistance under any federal program, an institution of higher education must certify that it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and

alcohol by students and employees. This document was prepared and distributed in compliance with Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 86.

## STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, use or sale of alcohol, illegal drugs or controlled substances by university employees or students in the workplace, in classrooms, on university premises, at official university functions, on university business, in university vehicles or related to any university-sponsored activity is prohibited. In addition, employees and students shall not use alcohol or illegal substances or abuse legal substances in a manner that impairs work performance, scholarly activities or student life. Conduct involving prescription drugs, which have not been prescribed by a physician to the person using or in possession of them, will be treated as a violation of this policy.

The University reserves the right to inspect the workplace for alcohol, controlled substances, illegal drugs or paraphernalia relating to alcohol, controlled substances or illegal drugs and to question any employee when it reasonably suspects that this policy or any procedure under this policy has been violated.

All traditional freshmen, sophomores and other students under the age of 21 are prohibited from the possession and consumption of alcohol. All students are prohibited from the use and possession of illegal drugs. In addition, student organizations sponsoring events where alcohol is present are subject to the additional requirements and guidelines of the university's social events policy and registration form. For more information on the drug and alcohol policy, go to [usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-pres-pr-001](http://usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-pres-pr-001).

As part of the UNV 100 course, all freshmen and transfer students will be required to complete an alcohol and drug training module beginning in fall 2018.

## SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY STATEMENT

The University of Southern Mississippi prohibits sexual misconduct in any form, including sexual and gender-based harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking and intimate partner violence. The university's Sexual Misconduct Policy sets forth the resources available to students and employees and describes prohibited conduct. Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and is inconsistent with the standards and ideas of our community. The university is committed to ensure a safe and non-discriminatory academic, work and living environment and to meet state and federal requirements under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and relevant sections of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act.

The University of Southern Mississippi is committed to fostering and maintaining a community environment that recognizes the inherent worth and dignity of every person, regardless of sex, race, religion, national origin, age, gender or gender identity, sexual

orientation, disability or veteran status. All members of the University community share a responsibility to create and maintain an academic and work environment which promotes the respect, safety and dignity of each person. The University prohibits sex and gender discrimination and sexual misconduct in any form. This includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking or intimate partner violence. Criminal, civil and University disciplinary processes may be available to any University member with a complaint and enforced against a person found to have engaged in the prohibited behavior. The University is committed to fair and prompt procedures to investigate reports of sexual misconduct. Special emphasis is placed on the rights, needs and privacy of the person filing a complaint, as well as the due process rights of the accused. The University remains committed in preventing and addressing all forms of sexual misconduct through education, training, clear policies and procedures, and disciplinary consequences for University violations.

The full Sexual Misconduct Policy (Policy No.PRES-AA-001) and the full procedures for the Resolution of Allegations of Sexual Misconduct, (Policy No. PRES-AA-002) can be accessed at [usm.edu/sexual-misconduct](http://usm.edu/sexual-misconduct).

The Title IX coordinator is responsible for Title IX implementation and compliance with this policy with respect to sexual discrimination and sexual misconduct. The Title IX coordinator is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the University's response to, and investigation of, all complaints involving possible sex discrimination and sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking and intimate partner violence. For more information or to report sex or gender discrimination and sexual misconduct, contact the Title IX Office using the information listed below:

#### TITLE IX COORDINATOR

Rebecca N. Malley, Ph.D.

118 College Drive #5079, Hattiesburg, MS 39406

Telephone: 601.266.6804 or 601.266.4466

Email: [Rebecca.Malley@usm.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Malley@usm.edu)

Website: [usm.edu/sexual-misconduct](http://usm.edu/sexual-misconduct)

A Title IX representative is also available on the Gulf Park campus to consult with students and employees at our coastal locations at the following address:

Hardy Hall 332

730 East Beach Boulevard

Long Beach, MS 39560

Phone: 601.266.6804

## Jurisdiction

This policy applies to sexual misconduct that is committed by students, faculty, staff or third parties, whenever the misconduct occurs.

On University property:

This includes geographic confines of the University, including land, institutional roads and buildings, its leased premises, common areas

at leased premises, the property, facilities and leased premises of organizations affiliated with the University, such as University housing, and University-recognized housing; or

Off University property, if the conduct:

Occurs during University-sponsored events (e.g. field trips, social functions, including student organization events, University-related travel, study abroad programs, student recruitment activities, and service learning/internship experiences).

May have the effect of creating a hostile environment or posing a threat to the University community.

## Sexual Misconduct

Sexual misconduct is a broad, non-legal, umbrella term used to refer to a wide range of non-consensual and unwelcomed behaviors of a sexual nature. Sexual misconduct varies in its nature and severity. Sexual misconduct includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment, sex/gender discrimination, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking and intimate partner violence. Sexual misconduct can occur between strangers, acquaintances or persons who know each other well, including between people who are or have been involved in an intimate/sexual relationship. It can be committed by anyone, regardless of sex or gender, and can occur between people of the same or different sex or gender. This policy prohibits all forms of sexual misconduct. What follows is a description and examples of the wide range of behaviors that fall under the term "sexual misconduct."

Sexual misconduct offenses that are prohibited include, but are not limited to the following:

- Sexual harassment
- Gender-based harassment
- Sexual assault (non-consensual sexual intercourse and non-consensual intentional sexual contact)
- Sexual exploitation
- Stalking
- Intimate partner violence

## Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, including unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, and other verbal, nonverbal, graphic or physical conduct of a sexual nature when such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive, and objectively offensive to a reasonable person that it interferes with, denies or limits a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the University education or work programs or activities (hostile environment); or is based on power differentials. This exists when submission to or rejection of such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a condition of a person's academic standing or employment or is used as the basis for academic or work evaluation, grades advancement or other employment decisions (quid pro quo).

Retaliatory harassment is defined as any adverse action taken against a person participating in a protected activity (e.g. Title IX process) because of the person's participation in that protected activity. Retaliation can occur against the alleged victim by the



accused or by the accused's friends or acquaintances. Retaliation can also be directed toward third parties (e.g. witnesses) because of their participation in the process or because of their support for an involved party.

Some examples of prohibited sexual harassment include

- Repeated sexual requests toward a person who has indicated the behavior is unwelcome;
- Lewd or sexually suggestive comments, gestures, jokes or innuendos;
- Commenting about or inappropriately touching a person's body;
- Repeatedly telling "dirty" jokes in class or in the office;
- Professors insisting that students have sex with them for a good grade;
- Explicit sexual pictures displayed in a staff member's office or on the exterior of a residence hall door; or
- An instructor request that students share their sexual history and fantasies in class discussions, yet the conversation is not in any way germane to the subject matter of the class. The instructor probes for explicit details and requires that students respond, though they are clearly uncomfortable.

## Gender-Based Harassment

Gender-based harassment includes harassment based on gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. This may include acts of aggression, intimidation or hostility, whether verbal or non-verbal, graphic, physical or otherwise, even if the acts do not involve conduct of a sexual nature. Such conduct must be sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive, and objectively offensive that it interferes with or limits a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the University's academic or work programs. For example, gender-based harassment can occur if students are harassed either for exhibiting what is perceived as a stereotypical characteristic for their sex or for failing to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity. In order to constitute harassment, the conduct must be such that it has the effect of unreasonably interfering with the student's academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, demeaning, or offensive academic or living environment.

## Sexual Assault

Sexual assault includes sexual penetration or intercourse or any other intentional physical contact of a sexual nature that occurs without consent. Sexual assault also includes attempted physical sexual contact without consent, as well as attempts to induce sexual activity via direct threats of physical violence, even where no physical contact ultimately occurs. Under the University's Sexual Misconduct policy, sexual assault offenses that are prohibited include the following:

### **Non-consensual sexual intercourse (or attempts to commit same):**

Any sexual intercourse, however slight, by any person upon another without consent and/or by force. It includes oral, anal and vaginal penetration, to any degree, with any object or body part (i.e. penis, finger, tongue). Intercourse includes vaginal penetration by a penis, tongue, finger or object; anal penetration by a penis, object, tongue

or finger; and oral copulation (mouth to genital contact or genital to mouth contact), no matter how slight the penetration or contact.

### **Non-consensual intentional sexual contact (or attempts to commit same):**

Any intentional sexual touching with any object, however slight, by any person upon another, without consent and/or by force. This includes intentional contact with the breasts, buttocks, groin, genitals, or touching another with any of these body parts, or making another touch the offender or themselves with or on any of these body parts.

- **Rape** is defined as the 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.
- **Fondling** is defined as the touching of the private parts 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** is defined as sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- **Statutory rape** is defined as sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Mississippi State criminal law does not define the term sexual assault. Rather, the criminal law sets forth such crimes as rape or sexual battery.

## Sexual Exploitation

Sexual exploitation occurs when a person takes sexual advantage of another person for personal benefit or to benefit another person other than the one being exploited, but does not involve actual or attempted physical contact.

Some examples of sexual exploitation include, but are not limited to the following:

- Recording images, video or audio of another person engaged in sexual activity or in a state of undress without that person's consent, even if the sexual activity itself is consensual
- Sharing or forwarding photographs, video or audio of another person engaged in sexual activity or in a state of undress—or threatening to distribute the same—without the person's knowledge and consent
- Invasion of sexual privacy. Viewing another person engaged in sexual activity or in nudity in a location where that person would have a reasonable expectation of privacy, without that person's consent and for the purpose of gratifying sexual desire
- Allowing others to observe consensual sex without obtaining consent of all parties
- Knowingly transmitting a sexually transmitted infection/disease or HIV to another person
- Sexually-based stalking and/or bullying

- Exposing one's genitals to another person without their consent
- Prostituting another person
- Administering alcohol or drugs to another person for the purpose of making that person vulnerable to non-consensual sexual activity

## Stalking

Stalking is a course of conduct involving more than one instance of unwanted attention, harassment, unwanted physical or verbal contact, use of threatening words and/or conduct, or any other course of conduct directed at an individual that could cause a reasonable person to fear for their safety, including physical, emotional or psychological harm or distress. Stalking violates Title IX when it is undertaken, at least in part, based on sex or gender.

Some examples of stalking include, but are not limited to the following:

- Physically following or pursuing a person against their wishes
- Following the person to work, class, home or other places where they frequently visit
- Vandalizing a person's property
- Photographing a person without their consent; and other threatening, intimidating or intrusive behavior
- Sending repeated, unwanted messages electronically (cyberstalking), by mail, a mutual friend or by other means, even after the person it is directed to requests that the unwanted attention and communication stop

Mississippi State statute, 97-3-107 – Stalking is consistent with the VAWA definition.

## Intimate Partner Violence

Intimate partner violence or relationship violence is defined as actual or threatened physical violence, intimidation, or other forms of physical or sexual abuse that would cause a reasonable person to fear harm to self or others. Under this policy, the term "intimate partner" refers to marriage, domestic partnership, dating relationship, casual or serious romantic involvement, whether the relationship is current or not.

Some examples of intimate partner violence include, but are not limited to the following:

- Hitting, kicking, punching, strangling or other violence
- Property damage
- Threat of violence to one's self, one's partner, family members, friends, pets or personal property of the partner

### Intimate Partner Violence Is Considered 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 cohabitating with or who has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family laws of the state of Mississippi, 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.

### Intimate Partner Violence Is Considered Dating Violence –

Includes 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 will be determined by the reporting party's statement and based on a consideration of the following factors:

- (i) The length of the relationship
- (ii) The type of relationship
- (iii) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship

Dating violence is currently not specifically defined by Mississippi Code.

## Mississippi Criminal Law Definitions of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking

**Domestic Violence** – Any of the following acts committed against a current or former spouse, a person living as a spouse or who formerly lived as a spouse or a child of persons living as spouses or who formerly lived as spouses, a parent, grandparent, child, grandchild or someone similarly situated to the defendant, a person with whom the defendant has a biological or legally adopted child in common, or a person in a current or former dating relationship:

1. Attempts to cause serious bodily injury to another or causes such an injury purposely, knowingly or recklessly under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life; or
2. Attempts to cause or purposely or knowingly causes bodily injury to another with a deadly weapon or other means likely to produce death or serious bodily harm; or
3. Strangles or attempts to strangle another; or
4. Attempts to cause or purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to another; or
5. Negligently causes bodily injury to another with a deadly weapon or other means likely to produce death or serious bodily harm; or
6. Attempts by physical menace to put another in fear of imminent serious bodily harm; or
7. Violation of a domestic violence protection order; or
8. Stalking; or
9. Cyberstalking; or
10. Threats of such acts.

**Dating Violence** – The term dating violence is not defined as such under Mississippi law. However, domestic violence is defined by reference to the term "dating relationship." Accordingly, it is proper to define dating violence as follows:

Dating violence means any of the following acts committed against a person in a current or former dating relationship as mentioned above.

Dating relationship means a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature between two individuals; it does not include a causal relationship or ordinary fraternization between two individuals in a business or social context. Whether a relationship



is a dating relationship shall be determined by examining the following factors:

1. The length of the relationship
2. The type of relationship
3. The frequency of interaction between the two individuals involved in the relationship

**Sexual Assault** – Mississippi state criminal law does not define the term sexual assault. Rather, the criminal law sets forth such crimes as rape or sexual battery. The definition of these terms is set forth below.

## Rape

Every person who has forcible sexual intercourse with any person or who has sexual intercourse with any person without that person's consent by administering to such person any substance or liquid, which shall produce such stupor or such imbecility of mind or weakness of body as to prevent effectual resistance, is guilty of rape.

For this crime, sexual intercourse means

1. A joining of the sexual organs of a male and female human being in which the penis of the male is inserted into the vagina of the female; or
2. The penetration of the sexual organs of a male or female human being in which the penis or an object is inserted into the genitals, anus or perineum of a male or female.

## Statutory Rape

The crime of statutory rape is committed when

1. Any person 17 years of age or older has sexual intercourse with a child who
  - Is at least 14 but under 16 years of age;
  - Is 36 or more months younger than the person and
  - Is not the person's spouse; or
2. A person of any age has sexual intercourse with a child who
  - Is under the age of 14 years;
  - Is 24 or more months younger than the person and
  - Is not the person's spouse.

Neither the victim's consent nor the victim's lack of chastity is a defense to a charge of statutory rape. For this crime, sexual intercourse has the same meaning under rape above.

## Sexual Battery

A person is guilty of sexual battery if he or she engages in sexual penetration with

1. Another person without his or her consent;
2. A mentally defective, mentally incapacitated or physically helpless person;
3. A child at least 14 but under 16 years of age, if the person is 36 or more months older than the child; or
4. A child under the age of 14 years of age, if the person is 24 or more months older than the child.

For purposes of sexual battery, sexual penetration includes cunnilingus, fellatio, buggery or pederasty, any penetration of the genital or anal openings of another person's body by any part of a person's

body and insertion of any object into the genital or anal openings of another person's body.

A **mentally defective person** is one who suffers from a mental disease, defect or condition which renders that person temporarily or permanently incapable of knowing the nature and quality of his or her conduct.

A **mentally incapacitated person** is one rendered incapable of knowing or controlling his or her conduct, or incapable of resisting an act due to the influence of any drug, narcotic, anesthetic or other substance administered to that person without his or her consent.

A **physically helpless person** is one who is unconscious or one who for any other reason is physically incapable of communicating an unwillingness to engage in an act. A spouse of the victim, not living separate and apart from the victim, cannot be found guilty of this crime unless the sexual penetration is forcible.

**Stalking** – Any person who purposefully engages in a course of conduct directed at a specific person, or who makes a credible threat, and who knows or should know that the conduct would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her own safety, to fear for the safety of another person, or to fear damage or destruction of his or her property, is guilty of the crime of stalking.

**Course of conduct** means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of two or more acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose and that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her own safety, to fear for the safety of another person, or to fear damage or destruction of his or her property. Such acts may include, but are not limited to, the following or any combination thereof, whether done directly or indirectly:

1. Following or confronting the other person in a public place or on private property against the other person's will
2. Contacting the other person by telephone or mail or by electronic mail or communication
3. Threatening or causing harm to the other person or a third party

**Credible threat** means a verbal or written threat to cause harm to a specific person or to cause damage to property that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the safety of that person or damage to the property.

## Cyberstalking

- A person uses in an electronic mail or electronic communication any words or language threatening to inflict bodily harm to any person or to that person's child, sibling, spouse or dependent, or physical injury to the property of any person, or for the purpose of extorting money or other things of value from any person.
- A person electronically mails or electronically communicates to another person repeatedly, whether or not conversation ensues, for the purpose of threatening, terrifying or harassing any person.

- A person electronically mails or electronically communicates to another person and knowingly makes any false statement concerning death, injury, illness, disfigurement, indecent conduct, or criminal conduct of the person electronically mailed or of any member of the person's family or household with the intent to threaten, terrify or harass.
- A person knowingly permits an electronic communication device under the person's control to be used for any purpose prohibited above.

**Consent** is defined as a clear, informed and voluntary agreement/exchange between participants to engage in sexual activity. Consent can be communicated by words or actions as long as those words or actions are unambiguous and create mutually understandable permission regarding the scope of sexual contact or activity. Although consent can be communicated with actions, verbal communication is the most reliable form of asking for and gauging consent. Therefore, persons are encouraged to seek consent via verbal communication.

## How to Be an Active Bystander

Bystanders play a critical role in the prevention of sexual and relationship violence. Bystanders are individuals who observe violence or witness the conditions that perpetuate violence. They are not directly involved but have the choice to intervene, speak up or do something about it.

The university wants to promote a culture of community accountability where bystanders are actively engaged in the prevention of violence without causing further harm.

A person may not always know what to do even if they want to help. If you or someone else is in immediate danger, dial 911. The immediate danger could be when a person is yelling at or being physically abusive toward another and it is not safe to interrupt. Further information regarding bystander intervention is listed below:

1. Watch out for your friends and fellow students/employees. If you see someone who looks like they could be in trouble or need help, ask if they are ok.
2. Confront people who seclude, hit on, make out with, or attempt to have sex with a person who is incapacitated.
3. Speak up when someone discusses plans to take sexual advantage of another person.
4. Believe someone who discloses sexual assault, abusive behavior, or experience with stalking.
5. Refer people to on-campus or off-campus resources listed in this document for support in health, counseling or legal assistance.

## Risk Reduction

With no intent to victim blame and recognizing that only abusers are responsible for their abuse, the following are some strategies to reduce one's risk of sexual assault or harassment (Information obtained from the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, [rainn.org](http://rainn.org))

1. **Be aware** of your surroundings. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you to find a way to get out of a

bad situation.

2. Try to **avoid isolated areas**. It is more difficult to get help if no one is around.
3. **Walk with purpose**. Even if you don't know where you are going, act like you do.
4. **Trust your instincts**. If a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable, it probably isn't the best place to be.
5. **Try not to load yourself down** with packages or bags, as this can make you appear more vulnerable.
6. **Make sure your cell phone is with you** and charged and that you have cab money.
7. **Don't allow yourself to be isolated** with someone you don't trust or someone you don't know.
8. **Avoid putting music headphones in both ears** so that you can be more aware of your surroundings, especially if you are walking alone.
9. **When you go to a social gathering, go with a group of friends**. Arrive together, check in with each other throughout the evening, and leave together. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you to find a way out of a bad situation.
10. **Trust your instincts**. If you feel unsafe in any situation, go with your gut. If you see something suspicious, contact law enforcement immediately (local authorities can be reached by calling 911 in most areas of the U.S.).
11. **Don't leave your drink unattended** while talking, dancing, using the restroom, or making a phone call. If you've left your drink alone, just get a new one.
12. **Don't accept drinks from people you don't know or trust**. If you choose to accept a drink, go with the person to the bar to order it, watch it being poured, and carry it yourself. At parties, don't drink from the punch bowls or other large, common open containers.
13. **Watch out for your friends and vice versa**. If a friend seems out of it, is way too intoxicated for the amount of alcohol he or she had, or is acting out of character, get him or her to a safe place immediately.
14. **If you suspect you or a friend has been drugged, contact law enforcement immediately (local authorities can be reached by calling 911 in most areas of the U.S.)**. Be explicit with doctors so they can give you the correct tests (you will need a urine test and possibly others).
15. If you need to get out of an uncomfortable or scary situation, here are some things that you can try:
  - **Remember that being in this situation is not your fault**. You did not do anything wrong; it is the person who is making you uncomfortable that is to blame.
  - **Be true to yourself**. Don't feel obligated to do anything you don't want to do. "I don't want to" is always a good enough reason. Do what feels right to you and what you are comfortable with.
  - **Have a code word with your friends or family** so that if you don't feel comfortable, you can call them and communicate your discomfort without the person you are with knowing.



Your friends or family can then come to get you or make up an excuse for you to leave.

- **Lie.** If you don't want to hurt the person's feelings it is better to lie and make up a reason to leave than to stay and be uncomfortable, scared or worse. Some excuses you could use are needing to take care of a friend or family member, not feeling well, having somewhere else that you need to be, etc.
16. **Try to think of an escape route.** How would you try to get out of the room? Where are the doors and windows? Are there people around who might be able to help you? Is there an emergency phone nearby?
17. **If you and/or the other person has been drinking,** you can say that you would rather wait until you both have your full judgment before doing anything you may regret later.

## Programs to Prevent Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking

The university engages in comprehensive educational programming to prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. Educational programming consists of primary prevention and awareness programs for all incoming students and new employees and ongoing awareness and prevention campaigns for the campus community that includes the following:

- primary prevention information addressing sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking
- bystander intervention education
- sexual harassment information, including workplace harassment
- definition of consent for The University of Southern Mississippi
- State law pertaining to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking
- information on risk reduction
- information on resources available on campus to address these issues
- information on campus expectations and values

## Ongoing Education and Awareness Programs

Throughout the year, Southern Miss staff and students provide professional training and educational programming to faculty, staff and students on a variety of issues related to sexual assault, intimate partner violence, sexual harassment and stalking.

Programming available includes bystander intervention training, sexual assault response training, workshops for athletic teams, workshops for Greek organizations, ally training and many others.

Student Health Services offers training and primary prevention workshops to university students on healthy sexuality and healthy relationships.

The Office of General Counsel and the Title IX coordinator provide ongoing training and education to Southern Miss faculty, staff and students on issues related to sexual misconduct and stalking and staff reporting responsibilities.

Student Counseling Services, Housing and Residence Life and the University Police Department offer programs on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking to the campus community.

Student Counseling Services, along with Alpha Chi Omega and the Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention, sponsored "A Walk a Mile in her Shoes" and "Take Back the Night" events. The events raised awareness and education about domestic and sexual violence to students, faculty, staff and community members.

The University's Student Government Association, in collaboration with the Title IX Office and the Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention, sponsored programming to raise awareness about sexual assault and domestic violence in conjunction with the national campaign "It's on Us."

## Procedures Victims Should Follow if a Crime of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking Occurs

**The following information provides steps to follow should a sexual assault occur:**

1. Get to a safe place as soon as possible!
2. Try to preserve all physical evidence. The victim should not bathe, shower, brush teeth, douche, use the toilet, or change clothing until s(he) has a medical exam. Contact a close friend or relative, if available, who can provide support and accompany the victim to the medical exam and/or police department.
3. Get medical attention as soon as possible. An exam may reveal the presence of physical injury that the victim is unaware of. Following a sexual assault, antibiotics are typically given at the time of the exam to help prevent the victim from acquiring certain sexually transmitted diseases. Emergency contraception is provided to all female victims at risk of pregnancy from the assault (if the victim presents within 120 hours). If the victim reports memory loss, loss of consciousness or other circumstances suspicious for a drug-facilitated assault, a urine test may be done if the victim presents within 96 hours. Some of the commonly used "date rape" drugs, however, are only detectable in the urine for six to eight hours after ingestion.
4. Contact the police. Sexual assault is a crime; it is vital to report it. It is important to remember that reporting a crime is not the same as prosecuting the crime. The decision to prosecute may be made at another time. Final decision to prosecute is determined by the district attorney.
5. Consider talking to a counselor. Seeing a counselor may be important in helping the victim understand her/his feelings and begin the process of recovery.

## Involvement of Law Enforcement and Campus Authorities

Although the university strongly encourages all members of its community to report violations of this policy to law enforcement, it is the victim's choice whether or not to make

such a report. Furthermore, victims have the right to decline to notify law enforcement. However, the UPD, Office of General Counsel or Title IX coordinator will assist any victim with notifying law enforcement if the victim so desires.

Emergency	911
University Police Department	601.266.4986
Forrest County Sheriff's Department - H	601.544.7800
Harrison County Sheriff's Department - GP	228.896.3000
Jackson County Sheriff's Department - GCRL	228.769.3063
Lamar County Sheriff's Department - H	601.794.1005
Hattiesburg Police Department - H	601.544.7900
Long Beach Police Department - GP	228.865.1981
Ocean Springs Police Department - GCRL	228.875.2211
Mississippi Department of Public Safety	601.987.1212

H = Hattiesburg; GP = Gulf Park; GCRL = Gulf Coast Research Laboratory Halstead and Cedar Point Sites

### Reporting Incidents of Sexual Misconduct/Ammesty

Complaints may be made in writing by completing the Sexual Misconduct and Retaliation Online Complaint Form. This form is available on the university's sexual misconduct website ([usm.edu/sexual-misconduct](http://usm.edu/sexual-misconduct)). Reports can also be made directly to the Title IX coordinator. Please refer to the university's sexual misconduct website listed above for the office location.

An alleged victim does not have to decide whether or not to request any specific action by the university at the time the report is made, nor is there a time limit on reporting. The university is committed to supporting the rights of a person reporting an allegation of sexual misconduct to make an informed choice among options and services available.

While an investigation may begin on the basis of an oral complaint or report, the alleged victim is strongly encouraged to file a written complaint. Alleged victims are urged to submit a written and signed complaint setting out the details of the conduct which is the subject of the complaint, including the alleged victim's name and contact information; the name of the person directly responsible for the alleged violation; a detailed description of the conduct or event that is the basis of the alleged violation; the date(s) and location(s) of the occurrence(s); the names of any witness(es) to the occurrence(s); the resolution sought; and any documents or information that are relevant to the complaint.

Persons who have been victims of either sexual assault or sexual violence are encouraged to immediately contact the University Police Department (UPD) in Hattiesburg at 601.266.4986 or by dialing 911 and seeking immediate medical attention even if they do not wish to pursue criminal charges or otherwise pursue a complaint against their attacker. Contact the UPD at 228.214.3501 or 228.234.2068 on the Gulf Park campus or the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory. Individuals located at the Stennis Space Center should contact Protective Services at 228.688.3437.

**Anonymous Reporting** – Although the university encourages an alleged victim to talk with someone directly, the university does provide an anonymous phone reporting option within the United States, Guam, Puerto Rico and Canada by dialing toll free 877.310.0424 and an anonymous online reporting option located here: [usm.edu/compliance-ethics](http://usm.edu/compliance-ethics). Anonymous reports can also be filed through the university's CARES (Campus Action Referral and Evaluation System) program by visiting the Division of Student Affairs website: [usm.edu/student-affairs](http://usm.edu/student-affairs). These reports will trigger an inquiry or investigation. However, the university's ability to respond effectively may be limited by the level of information provided and/or the anonymity of the complaint. All anonymous reports will be referred to the Title IX coordinator and/or UPD.

**Exception for Public Disclosures and Certain Research-Based Disclosures** – Disclosures in the following categories shall not be considered notice of sexual misconduct to the university for purposes of triggering its obligation to investigate any particular incident (s):

**Public Disclosures** – Disclosures of incidents of alleged sexual misconduct during or in connection with public awareness events such as "Take Back the Night," candlelight vigils, protests, "survivor speak outs" or other forums. Although such disclosures do not constitute notice of sexual misconduct to the university for purposes of triggering its obligation to investigate any particular incident(s), such disclosures may inform the need for campus-wide education and prevention efforts.

**Certain Research-Based Disclosures** – Disclosures of incidents of alleged sexual misconduct made by a university community member during such member's participation as a participant in an Institutional Review Board-approved human subjects research protocol. Institutional Review Boards may, in appropriate cases, require researchers to provide information to all participants of a study about Title IX rights and about available university and community resources and support services.

### Amnesty

The health and safety of every community member at The University of Southern Mississippi is of the utmost importance. The university recognizes that students who have been drinking and/or using drugs (whether such use is voluntary or involuntary) at the time a sexual misconduct incident occurs may be hesitant to report such incident due to fear of potential consequences for their own conduct. The university strongly encourages students to report incidents of sexual misconduct to campus officials. A bystander reporting in good faith or an alleged victim reporting sexual misconduct to university officials or law enforcement will not be subject to campus conduct action for violations of alcohol and/or drug policies occurring at or near the time of the sexual misconduct.

## Procedures the University Will Follow When a Crime of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault or Stalking Is Reported

The university has procedures in place that serve to be sensitive to victims who report sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking, including informing individuals about their right to file criminal charges, as well as the availability of counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance and other services on and/or off campus, as well as additional remedies to prevent contact between a complainant and an accused party, such as housing, academic, transportation and working accommodations, if reasonably available. The university will make such accommodations, if the victim requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to the University Police or local law enforcement. Students and employees should contact

### Office of Ombudsman Services

Alfreda Horton  
R.C. Cook Union – Room 221  
118 College Drive #5073  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406  
Phone: 601.266.4025

## Assistance for Victims: Rights and Options

Regardless of whether or not a victim elects to pursue a criminal complaint or whether or not the offense is alleged to have occurred on or off campus, the university will assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking and will provide each victim with a written explanation of their rights and options. Such written information will include the following:

- the procedures victims should follow if a crime of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking has occurred
- information about how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties
- a statement that the institution will provide written notification to students and employees about victim services within the institution and in the community
- a statement regarding the institution's provisions about options for, available assistance in, and how to request accommodations and protective measures
- an explanation of the procedures for institutional disciplinary action

The university encourages prompt and accurate reporting of all crimes, suspected crimes and other emergencies.

## Rights of Victims and the Institution's Responsibilities for Orders of Protection, "No Contact" Orders, Restraining Orders or Similar Lawful Orders Issued by a Criminal, Civil or Tribal Court or by the Institution

The University of Southern Mississippi complies with Mississippi state law in recognizing orders of protection issued by a court of law to include all emergency protection orders, temporary protection orders and final protection orders. The university is sensitive to victims who report sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking, including informing individuals about their right to the availability of counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance and other services on and/or off campus, as well as additional remedies to prevent contact between a complainant and an accused party, such as housing, academic, transportation and working accommodations, if reasonably available. The university will make such accommodations, if the victim requests or in compliance with the protection order. Any person who obtains an order of protection from a Mississippi court or any other state should provide a copy to the University Police Department and the Title IX coordinator. Note that upon the issuance of a protection order in the state of Mississippi, the order shall be entered into the Mississippi Protection Order Registry by the clerk of the court and a copy provided to the sheriff in the county of the court of issuance. The University Police Department receives a copy of all protection orders issued by the Forrest County Justice Court.

A complainant may then meet with University Police to develop a Safety Action Plan, which is a plan for University Police and the victim to reduce risk of harm while on campus or coming and going from campus. This plan may include, but is not limited to, police escorts, special parking arrangements, changing classroom location, or allowing a student to complete assignments from home, etc.

The university may issue an institutional no contact order if deemed appropriate or at the request of the victim or accused. If the university receives a report that such an institutional no contact order has been violated, the university will initiate disciplinary proceedings appropriate to the status of the accused (student, employee, etc.) and will impose sanctions if the accused is found responsible for violating the no contact order.

## Accommodations and Protective Measures Available for Victims

Upon receipt of a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, the university will provide written notification to students and employees about accommodations available to them, including academic, living, transportation and working situations. The written notification will include information regarding the accommodation options, available assistance in requesting accommodations, and how to request accommodations and protective measures.



At the victim's request, and to the extent of the victim's cooperation and consent, university offices will work cooperatively to assist the victim in obtaining accommodations. If reasonably available, a victim may be offered changes to academic, living, working or transportation situations regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement. Examples of options for a potential change to the academic situation may be to transfer to a different section of a class, withdraw and take a class at another time if there is no option for moving to a different section, etc. Potential changes to living situations may include moving to a different room or residence hall. Possible changes to work situations may include changing working hours. Possible changes in transportation may include having the student or employee park in a different location, assisting the student or employee with a safety escort, etc.

To request changes to academic, living, transportation and/or working situations or protective measures, or to receive assistance in requesting these accommodations, a victim should contact the Dean of Students Office at 601.266.6028.

### Campus and Community Resources for Victims

A variety of support and counseling resources are available to those individuals who have experienced sexual misconduct. This information is provided in **Appendix A in the University's Procedures for the Resolution of Allegations of Sexual Misconduct**. However, listed below is a description and contact information for a select few.

**Student Counseling Services:** Student Counseling Services provide quality services to students by promoting sound mental health and the coping skills necessary for successful pursuit of their educational and life goals. Phone: 601.266.4829

**Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention:** A 24-hour, seven-day-per-week, campus and community-based center that serves all survivors of sexual violence and co-victims of violent death, including homicide and suicide, through direct services, counseling, advocacy, education and training. The Shafer Center serves the Hattiesburg campus. Phone: 601.264.7777

**Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence:** A 24-hour, seven-day-per-week, nonprofit organization based in South Mississippi, with a mission to support and serve victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and family members of homicide victims through counseling, advocacy, education and training. This Center serves the University's coastal locations. Phone: 800.800.1396

If you  
**SEE SOMETHING,  
SAY SOMETHING.**

## RAPE CRISIS CENTERS

The Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention  
118 College Drive #5196  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406  
601.264.7078  
Laurel, MS  
601.649.1721 / 24-Hour Crisis Line: 601.264.7777  
[thshafercenter.info/index.html](http://thshafercenter.info/index.html)

Wesley House Community Center  
East Mississippi Sexual Assault Center Inc.  
P.O. Box 1207, Meridian, MS 39202  
601.485.4736  
Crisis Lines: 800.643.6250 or 601.485.2828

Our House Inc.  
P.O. Box 3956  
Greenville, MS 38704  
662.334.6873  
Crisis Lines: 662.332.5683 or 888.884.5683

Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence  
P.O. Box 333  
Biloxi, MS 39533-0985  
228.436.3809  
[gcwcfn.org/wordpress](http://gcwcfn.org/wordpress)

S.A.F.E. Inc.  
P.O. Box 985  
Tupelo, MS 38802  
662.841.9138

Catholic Charities Inc.  
Jackson Rape Crisis Center  
200 North Congress Street, Suite 100  
Jackson, MS 39201-2248  
601.948.4495  
Crisis Line: 601.982.7273

The Guardian Sexual Assault Crisis Center  
806 N. Union Street  
Natchez, MS 39120  
601.442.0107  
Crisis Line: 888.721.5460

Safe Haven Inc.  
P.O. Box 5354  
Columbus, MS 39704-5354  
662.327.2259  
Crisis Lines: 601.485.2828 or 800.643.6250

Family Crisis Services of NW MS Inc.  
P.O. Box 1698  
Oxford, MS 38655  
662.234.9929

MS Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
P.O. Box 4172  
Jackson, MS 39296  
601.948.0555

## PARTNER VIOLENCE SHELTERS

Angel Wings Outreach Center  
P.O. Box 787  
Mendenhall, MS 39114-0787  
Admin: 601.847.5802  
Crisis Line: 1.866.847.5802

C.A.R.E.S.  
120 Coleman Street  
Cleveland, MS 38732  
Admin: 662.843.0111  
Crisis Line: 662.843.1491

Care Lodge  
P.O. Box 5331  
Meridian, MS 39302  
Admin: 601.482.8719  
Shelter: 601.483.8436  
Crisis Lines: 601.693.4673 / 888.593.4673

Catholic Charities-Shelter for Battered Families  
200 N. Congress St. Suite 100  
Jackson, MS 39201  
Admin: 601.366.0750 / Legal: 601.206.9339  
Shelter 601.366.0222  
Crisis Line: 1.800.237.9012

Our House Inc.  
P. O. Box 3956  
Greenville, MS 38704  
Admin. 662.334.6873  
Toll Free: 1.800.898.0834

S.A.F.E. Inc.  
P.O. Box 985  
Tupelo, MS 38802-0985  
Admin: 662.841.9138/ 841.9105  
Crisis Lines: 662.841.2273 / 800.527.7233

Domestic Abuse Family Shelter  
P.O. Box 273  
Laurel, MS 39441  
Admin: 601.428.1707  
Crisis Line: 1.800.649.1092

Domestic Abuse Family Shelter  
(Second Location)  
P.O. Box 1504

Hattiesburg, MS 39403  
Admin: 601.582.2102  
Gulf Coast Women's Shelter for Nonviolence  
P.O. Box 333  
Biloxi, MS. 39533  
Admin: 228.436.3809  
Crisis Lines: 228.435.1968 / 1.800.800.1396 / 888.593.4673

Haven House Family Shelter  
P. O. Box 57  
Vicksburg, MS 39181  
Admin. 601.638.0021  
Crisis Lines: 601.638.0555 / 1.800.898.0860

House of Grace  
P.O. Box 272  
Southaven, MS 38671  
Admin: 662.253.0252 or 0251  
Crisis Line: 662.342.1432

The Guardian Shelter  
P.O. Box 1225  
Natchez, MS 39121  
Admin: 601.442.0142  
Crisis Line: 1.800.273.6938

Safe Haven, Inc. (MS)  
P.O. 5354  
Columbus, MS 39704  
Crisis Lines: 662.327.6040 / 1.800.890.6040

Salvation Army Domestic Violence Shelter  
P.O. Box 630  
Pascagoula, MS 39568  
Phone: 601.762.8267

The Center for Violence Prevention  
P.O. Box 6279  
Pearl, MS 39288  
Admin. 601.932.4198  
Crisis Line: 1.800.266.4198

Salvation Army Domestic Violence Shelter  
P.O. Box 114  
Greenville, MS 38702  
Phone: 662.378.8070

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

National Suicide Prevention Hotline  
800.273.TALK (8255)

Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
mscasa.org

Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network  
rainn.org

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

The Gay-Straight Alliance at the Union  
Thad Cochran Center, Hattiesburg campus  
facebook.com/USMGSA  
Contact: s.kristine.johnson@usm.edu, jasmine.m.keys@usm.edu,  
or faculty advisor, eric.tribunella@usm.edu

The Dandelion Project  
thedeandelionproject.org  
601.283.8090

Southern Miss Alliance for Equality  
Gulf Park Campus  
usm.edu/gulfcoast/alliance-equality

The Spectrum Center  
210 St. 25th Ave.  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
601.909.5338  
hattiesburgpride.com

University of Mississippi Medical School's 2016 LGBYQ  
Resource Guide  
Search atumc.edu

### Confidentiality

The University of Southern Mississippi is committed to creating an environment that encourages campus community members to come forward if they have experienced any form of sexual misconduct. The university will work to safeguard the identities and privacy of those who seek help or who report sexual misconduct. However, it is important to understand the limits of confidentiality. Different people, depending on their positions at the university, have different obligations with regard to confidentiality. Generally, confidentiality applies when an individual seeks services from local rape crisis centers, including the Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention on the Hattiesburg campus, and the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence near the Gulf Park campus or USM's Student Counseling Services. For a more detailed description on confidentiality, refer to **Section 4.0 in the University's Procedures for the Resolution of Allegations of Sexual Misconduct**.

### Adjudication of Violations

Generally, complaints of sexual misconduct will be investigated and fully decided within sixty (60) business days (i.e. days when the university is open) of the date that the Title IX coordinator is notified of the complaint, unless there are extenuating circumstances, such as uncooperative witnesses, break periods, and periods when the university is closed.

The university has an obligation to investigate complaints or reports of sexual misconduct regardless of whether or not law enforcement is conducting a separate criminal investigation. However, the Title IX coordinator will comply with law enforcement requests for cooperation. This may require the Title IX coordinator to temporarily suspend the fact-finding aspect of the Title IX investigation while law enforcement is in the process of gathering evidence. The university will promptly resume its investigation as soon as the Title IX coordinator is notified by the

law enforcement agency that it has completed the evidence gathering process, which typically takes between three (3) to ten (10) calendar days, although the delay in the university's investigation may be longer in certain instances.

### How to File a Disciplinary Complaint Under This Policy

Complaints of sexual misconduct may be made or reported in person to the Title IX coordinator. Complaints may be made in writing by completing a Sexual Misconduct Complaint Form, which may be obtained from the Title IX coordinator, the university sexual misconduct website (usm.edu/sexual-misconduct) or at the Title IX coordinator's office.

Complaints of sexual misconduct may be made or reported to faculty, chairs, deans, dean of students, or any university employee, who shall then immediately report the incident to the university's Title IX coordinator.

### How the University Determines Whether This Policy Will Be Utilized

The Title IX coordinator shall have the responsibility, upon receiving a complaint or report of sexual misconduct, to conduct a preliminary investigation for the purpose of determining whether or not there is sufficient evidence of a violation of the university's sexual misconduct policy, which would justify proceeding with a formal investigation.

### Steps in the Disciplinary Process

Upon receiving a complaint or report of sexual misconduct, The Title IX coordinator will make an initial assessment of the complaint to determine if there is reasonable cause to believe the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy was violated. If the Title IX coordinator determines there is reasonable cause, the Title IX coordinator will proceed with a formal investigation or an informal resolution.

The preliminary investigation will be initiated, conducted and completed generally within five (5) business days from the date the complaint or report is received by the Title IX coordinator.

If the Title IX coordinator finds (a) that there is no reasonable cause to believe that the facts in the complaint or the report constitute a violation of the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy or (b) the complaint fails to allege facts that suggest sexual misconduct or (c) the appropriate resolution or remedy has already been achieved, the coordinator shall close the investigation and notify the reporting party of the findings and that the matter is closed within two (2) business days.

If the Title IX coordinator determines there is reasonable cause to believe a violation of the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy has occurred, a formal investigation or an attempt at informal resolution will be initiated within two (2) business days.

Generally, cases of sexual misconduct will be investigated and fully decided within sixty (60) business days of the date that the Title IX coordinator is notified of the complaint, unless there are extenuating circumstances, such as uncooperative witnesses, break periods and periods when the university is closed. The Title IX coordinator shall select three (3) members of the Sexual Misconduct Investigative Team (SMIT) to investigate the complaint or report of sexual misconduct and an appropriate number of team members to serve on the Hearing Panel. During the investigation, SMIT members will



collect all evidence relating to the complaint or report of sexual misconduct from all available sources and conduct interviews when appropriate.

## Decision-Making Process

Upon completion of the formal investigation, they shall reach a finding by majority vote, based upon a preponderance of the evidence, as to whether or not a violation of the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy occurred and will prepare a written report in conformity with university policies, which will be presented to the Title IX coordinator.

## Possible Sanctions

Disciplinary sanctions are imposed by the appropriate sanctioning official when a university community member is found in violation of the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy. Sanctions for sexual misconduct will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The Title IX coordinator reviews proposed sanctions before they are imposed to ensure that they, along with the university's interim measures taken in response to the sexual misconduct, are reasonably calculated to end the sexual misconduct, prevent its recurrence, and remedy the effects on the reporting party and/or the university community. The sanctioning official reserves the right to broaden or lessen any range of recommended sanction(s) in the case of serious circumstances or egregious behavior. The sanctioning official will consider a range of factors when imposing sanction(s). This range includes

- The nature and severity of the prohibited conduct,
- Previous disciplinary history of the respondent,
- The practice established by previous sanctions,
- Whether force or a weapon was used,
- The involvement of multiple perpetrators, or
- Pre-meditated use of alcohol/drugs to facilitate the violation.

Any one or more of the sanctions listed below may be imposed when a responding party violates the university's Sexual Misconduct Policy. Possible sanctions include, but are not limited to the following:

- **Community/Mandated Service:** Responding party is required to work in the community and/or campus community for a designated time period.
- **Educational Interventions:** Responding party is required to write a letter of apology, reflective paper, participate in a course, workshop etc.
- **Warning/Probation:** Sanctioning official provides a written warning to responding party that further violation will result in harsher sanctions.
- **Restitution:** Responding party is required to cover the reporting party's cost of damage or loss of property/services
- **Campus Ban/Loss of Privileges:** Responding party is not allowed to enter certain campus buildings/locations or participate in activities/programs for a designated time period.
- **No Contact Order:** Responding party is prohibited from contacting, either directly or indirectly, the reporting party for a specified period of time. Contact includes, but is not limited to, email, social media, instant messaging, text messaging, phone calls, voicemail, direct visits, or through friends acting on behalf of the responding party.
- **Suspension:** Responding party is temporarily dismissed from

the university for a designated time period. All rights and privileges as a student or employee are suspended during this time period.

- **Expulsion/Employment Termination:** Responding party is dismissed from the university. All rights and privileges as a student or employee are terminated.

## University-Initiated Protective Measures

The Title IX coordinator, associate vice president for Human Resources, vice president of Student Affairs, Dean of Students Office and the University Police Department, working in coordination with other necessary university administrators, may take immediate interim actions prior to resolution of an allegation. In addition, depending on a reporting party's allegations or circumstances of a case, these interim measures may also be necessary to protect the safety of the university community. These measures may change over time, and the university will make every effort to avoid depriving any student of their education. Such actions are designed to enable students or employees with complaints and witnesses, to continue studies or duties of employment and to ensure the integrity of an investigation. The Title IX coordinator will communicate regularly with the parties to ensure interim measures remain necessary and effective.

These actions may include the following:

- Interim suspension of a responding party student or employee
- Emotional support/counseling services
- No-contact/no trespass/proximity orders
- Police escorts to ensure safe movement on campus
- Modifying class or work schedules as necessary
- Making alternative housing, workplace or transportation arrangements
- Addressing other academic or workplace concerns (e.g., assignments, grades, leaves of absence, and withdrawal)
- Involving law enforcement to assist in maintaining order or safety
- Any other appropriate action warranted by the circumstances

Violations of these protective actions will constitute related offenses, which may lead to additional disciplinary action.

## Notification to Victims of Crimes of Violence

The university will, upon written request, disclose to the alleged victim of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by such institution against a student who is the alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as the result of such crime or offense, the next of kin of such victim shall be treated as the alleged victim for purposes of this paragraph.

## Sex Offender Registration

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 education 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 [state.sor.dps.ms.gov](http://state.sor.dps.ms.gov).

## COMMUNITY AND STATE RESOURCES

### FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Hattiesburg Fire Department  
601.582.3311

Ocean Springs Fire Department  
228.875.4063

Long Beach Fire Department  
228.863.7292

Forrest County Emergency Management  
601.544.5911

Harrison County Emergency Management  
228.865.4002

Jackson County Emergency Management  
228.769.3111

Lamar County Emergency Management  
601.794.5378

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency  
601.933.6362 / 800.222.6362

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

Forrest County Sheriff's Department  
601.544.7800

Harrison County Sheriff's Department  
228.896.3000

Jackson County Sheriff's Department  
228.769.3063

Lamar County Sheriff's Department  
601.794.1005

Hattiesburg Police Department  
601.544.7900

Long Beach Police Department  
228.865.1981

Ocean Springs Police Department  
228.875.2211

Mississippi Department of Public Safety  
601.987.1212

### MEDICAL AND COUNSELING

Forrest General Hospital  
601.288.7000

Ocean Springs Hospital  
228.818.1111

Memorial Hospital  
228.867.4000

Garden Park Medical Center  
228.575.7000

Hattiesburg Clinic  
601.264.6000

Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention  
601.264.7777

Merit Health Wesley Medical Center  
601.268.8000

Gulf Coast Mental Health Center  
228.863.1132

Coastal Family Health Center  
877.374.4991

### RED CROSS

South Central Mississippi  
601.582.8151

Mississippi Gulf Coast  
228.896.4511

## ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS

### CLERY ACT CRIMES

Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f)) requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. The University Police Department collects the Clery crime statistics disclosed in the following charts through a number of methods. UPD maintains a close relationship with all police departments where Southern Miss owns or controls property to ensure that crimes reported directly to these police departments that involve the university are brought to the attention of UPD. In addition to collecting Clery crime statistics from local police departments, all reports of crime incidents made directly to UPD are entered into an integrated computer-aided dispatch system/records management system. The entries are recorded in the system in accordance with the crime definitions outlined in the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook and the FBI National Incident-Based Reporting System Handbook (sex offenses only). To ensure each report is appropriately classified in the correct crime category, the officer enters the report in the system, and a department administrator reviews the report to ensure it is appropriately classified. The department also periodically examines data in the system for appropriate classification. In addition to the crime data that UPD maintains, the university collects Clery crime statistics of reports made to various campus security authorities, as defined in this report. The statistics reported in the following charts generally reflect the number of criminal incidents reported to the various campus security authorities. The statistics reported for the subcategories on liquor laws, drug laws and weapons offenses represent the number of people arrested or referred to campus judicial authorities for respective violations, not the number of offenses documented.

### DEFINITIONS OF REPORTABLE CRIMES

**Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter** – Defined as the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another

**Manslaughter by Negligence** – Defined as the killing of another person through gross negligence

**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 parts of another

**Safety is everyone's responsibility.  
Everyone should help to make  
the campus a safer place.**

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 wherein marriage is prohibited by law

**Statutory Rape** – Defined as nonforcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent

**Robbery** – Defined as 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 or violence, and/or by putting the victim in fear

**Aggravated Assault** – Defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or 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.

**Burglary** – Unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft

**Motor Vehicle Theft** – 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 joyriding.)

**Arson** – 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 of another, etc.

**Weapon Law Violations** – The violation of laws or ordinances dealing with weapon offenses, regulatory in nature, such as the 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** – Violations of state and local laws relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing and making of narcotic drugs. The relevant substances include opium or cocaine and their derivatives (morphine, heroin, codeine); marijuana; synthetic narcotics (Demerol, methadones); and dangerous non-narcotic drugs (barbiturates, Benzedrine).

**Liquor Law Violations** – The violation of laws prohibiting the manufacture, sale, transporting, furnishing, possessing of intoxicating liquor; maintaining unlawful 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; all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned (Drunkness and driving under the influence are not included in this definition.)

**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 cohabitating with or who has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, 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 in which the crime of violence occurred

**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 will be determined by the reporting party's statement and based on a consideration of the following factors:

- (i) The length of the relationship
- (ii) The type of relationship
- (iii) The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship

**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. For the purposes of this definition,

- A) **Course of Conduct** means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts which the stalker directly, indirectly or through third parties by any action, method, device or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens or communicates to or about a person or interferes with a person's property.
- B) **Reasonable person** means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.
- C) **Substantial emotional distress** means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

**Hate Crimes** – Includes all of the crimes listed below that manifest evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim based on one of the Categories of Prejudice listed below, plus the following crimes:

**Larceny/Theft** – The unlawful taking, carrying, lending or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another

**Simple Assault** – 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** – 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

**Destruction/Damage/Vandalism to Property** (except arson) – To willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it

## Categories of Prejudice

**Race** – A preformed negative attitude toward a group of persons who possess common physical characteristics genetically transmitted by descent and heredity that distinguish them as a distinct division of humankind

**Gender** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons because those persons are male or female



**Religion** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons who share the same religious beliefs regarding the origin and purpose of the universe and the existence or nonexistence of a supreme being

**Sexual orientation** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation

**Gender identity** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender identity

**Ethnicity** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of people whose members identify with each other through a common heritage, often consisting of a common language, common culture (often including a shared religion), and/or ideology that stresses common ancestry

**National origin** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of people based on their actual or perceived country of birth

**Disability** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their physical or mental impairments, whether such disability is temporary or permanent, congenital or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age or illness

## **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 within or reasonably contiguous to the area identified in 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 property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks and parking facilities, that is within the campus or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.

If you  
**SEE SOMETHING,  
SAY SOMETHING.**



# CRIME SUMMARY for The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department

## Crimes Reported by the 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.

OFFENSE (REPORTED BY HIERARCHY)	YEAR	ON CAMPUS	NON-CAMPUS	PUBLIC PROPERTY	TOTAL	RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES	UNFOUNDED CRIMES
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	2017	4	0	0	3	4	1
	2016	3	2	0	5	0	0
	2015	4	1	0	5	4	0
Fondling	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2017	2	0	0	2	1	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	1	0	0	1	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2017	6	1	0	5	2	2
	2016	3	2	0	5	1	0
	2015	6	3	0	9	3	1
Motor Vehicle Theft	2017	4	0	0	3	0	1
	2016	4	0	0	4	0	3
	2015	10	0	0	10	0	2
Arson	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	1	1	0	2	0	0
	2015	3	0	0	3	0	0
Liquor Law Arrests	2017	0	0	1	1	0	0
	2016	4	0	0	4	2	0
	2015	4	0	1	5	0	0
Drug Law Arrests	2017	11	0	1	12	1	0
	2016	12	0	0	12	1	0
	2015	14	1	1	16	1	0
Weapon Law Arrests	2017	2	0	0	2	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	2	1	0	3	0	0
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	9	0	0	9	8	0
	2016	31	0	0	31	18	0
	2015	35	0	0	35	24	0
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	35	0	0	35	13	0
	2016	23	0	0	23	4	0
	2015	23	0	2	25	10	0
Weapon Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2016	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2015	3	1	0	4	1	0
Domestic Violence	2017	3	0	0	3	2	0
	2016	2	0	0	2	1	0
	2015	11	0	1	12	4	0
Dating Violence	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	1	1	0	2	1	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	2017	0	1	0	1	0	0
	2016	1	2	0	3	0	0
	2015	1	0	0	1	0	0
Larceny (Grand and Petit)	2017				93		
	2016				134		
	2015				140		
Simple Assault	2017				9		
	2016				5		
	2015				19		
Auto Burglary	2017				23		
	2016				34		
	2015				31		
DUI	2017				1		
	2016				7		
	2015				13		

\*Note: Residential facility crime statistics are a subset of the on-campus category, i.e., they are counted in both categories.

# CRIME SUMMARY for The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department

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

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.

OFFENSE (REPORTED BY HIERARCHY)	YEAR	ON CAMPUS	NON-CAMPUS	PUBLIC PROPERTY	TOTAL	RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES	UNFOUNDED CRIMES
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	1	0	0	1	1	0
	2015	0	2	0	2	0	0
Fondling	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2017	0	0	2	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	9	0	0	9	9	0
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	3	0	0	3	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	1	0	1	0	0
Stalking	2017	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2016	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny (Grand and Petit)	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Simple Assault	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Auto Burglary	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
DUI	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0



# CRIME SUMMARY for The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department

## Crimes Reported by University Police Department at Gulf Park campus, including John C. Stennis Space Center

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.

OFFENSE (REPORTED BY HIERARCHY)	YEAR	ON CAMPUS	NON-CAMPUS	PUBLIC PROPERTY	TOTAL	RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES	UNFOUNDED CRIMES
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny (Grand and Petit)	2017	6	0	0	6	0	2
	2016	6	0	0	6	0	0
	2015	5	0	0	5	0	0
Simple Assault	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Auto Burglary	2017	1	0	0	1	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
DUI	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0

# CRIME SUMMARY for The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department

## Crimes Reported by University Officials at Gulf Park campus, including John C. Stennis Space Center, or Other Law Enforcement Agencies

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.

OFFENSE (REPORTED BY HIERARCHY)	YEAR	ON CAMPUS	NON-CAMPUS	PUBLIC PROPERTY	TOTAL	RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES	UNFOUNDED CRIMES
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny (Grand and Petit)	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Simple Assault	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
Auto Burglary	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
DUI	2017	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0

# CRIME SUMMARY for The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department

## Crimes Reported by University Police Department at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory Halstead and Cedar Point Sites

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.

OFFENSE (REPORTED BY HIERARCHY)	YEAR	ON CAMPUS	NON-CAMPUS	PUBLIC PROPERTY	TOTAL	RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES	UNFOUNDED CRIMES
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Rape	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Fondling	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Incest	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Statutory Rape	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Robbery	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Aggravated Assault	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Burglary	2017	1	0	0	1		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Motor Vehicle Theft	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Arson	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Liquor Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Drug Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Weapon Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	1	0	0	1	1	
	2016	1	0	0	1	1	
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Weapon Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Domestic Violence	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Dating Violence	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Stalking	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Larceny (Grand and Petit)	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	1	2	0	3	1	
	2015	1	0	0	1		
Simple Assault	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	1	0	0	1		
Auto Burglary	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
DUI	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		



# CRIME SUMMARY for The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department

## Crimes Reported by University Officials at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory Halstead and Cedar Point Sites or Other Law Enforcement Agencies

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.

OFFENSE (REPORTED BY HIERARCHY)	YEAR	ON CAMPUS	NON-CAMPUS	PUBLIC PROPERTY	TOTAL	RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES	UNFOUNDED CRIMES
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Negligent Manslaughter	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Rape	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Fondling	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Incest	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Statutory Rape	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Robbery	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Aggravated Assault	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Burglary	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Motor Vehicle Theft	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Arson	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Liquor Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Drug Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Weapon Law Arrests	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Weapon Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Domestic Violence	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Dating Violence	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Stalking	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Larceny (Grand and Petit)	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Simple Assault	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
Auto Burglary	2017	1	0	0	1		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		
DUI	2017	0	0	0	0		
	2016	0	0	0	0		
	2015	0	0	0	0		

## 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.

### Hattiesburg Campus

No hate crimes were reported to The University of Southern Mississippi Police Department during **2015, 2016 or 2017.**

### Gulf Park Campus

There were no reported hate crimes reported for the years **2015, 2016 or 2017.**

## Gulf Coast Research Laboratory Halstead and Cedar Point Sites

There were no reported hate crimes during **2015, 2016 or 2017.**

## Criminal Offenses Reported by Hattiesburg Police Department for the City of Hattiesburg

ACTUAL CRIMES REPORTED	CITY OF HATTIESBURG		
OFFENSE (INCLUDES ATTEMPTS)	2015	2016	2017
Criminal Homicide			
Murder/Homicide	6	8	3
Manslaughter	0	0	0
Sex Offenses			
Forcible	18	10	7
Non-Forcible	0	0	0
Robbery	35	49	42
Aggravated Assault	31	44	49
Burglary	411	374	356
Motor Vehicle Theft	59	85	106
Arson	3	4	4
NUMBER OF ARRESTS			
Liquor Law Violations	102	109	101
Drug Violations	480	396	432
Illegal Weapons Possessions	90	88	127

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





**ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT 2017** for The University of Southern Mississippi





# The University of Southern Mississippi

## FIRE SAFETY REPORT

Residential Facilities	Total Fires	Fire Number	Cause of Fire	Deaths	Injuries	Property Damage
<b>HATTIESBURG CAMPUS</b>						
Century Park North # 1 – 2901 W. 4th St.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Century Park North # 2 – 2901 W. 4th St.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Century Park North # 3 – 2901 W. 4th St.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Century Park North # 4 – 2901 W. 4th St.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Hattiesburg – 108 E. Memorial Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Hickman – 112 E. Memorial Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Hillcrest – 6263 U.S. Hwy. 49	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Mississippi – 116 E. Memorial Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
McCarty – 103 Eagle Walk Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Wilber – 6173 U.S. Hwy. 49	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Van – Century Park South	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Scott – Century Park South	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Luckyday – Century Park South	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cedarbrook A – 313 N. 37th Ave.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cedarbrook B – 311 N. 37th Ave.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cedarbrook C – 309 N. 37th Ave.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cedarbrook D – 307 N. 37th Ave.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cedarbrook E – 305 N. 37th Ave.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cedarbrook F – 303 N. 37th Ave.	1	1	Bathroom Vent Fan	0	0	\$150
Scholarship – 3589 Montague Blvd.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Duplex – 3571 Montague Blvd.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Delta Delta Delta – 102 Pinehaven Cir.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Chi Omega – 104 Pinehaven Cir.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Alpha Chi Omega – 106 Pinehaven Cir.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Kappa Delta – 108 Pinehaven Cir.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Alpha Kappa Alpha – 110 Pinehaven Cir.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Delta Gamma – 112 Pinehaven Cir.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Phi Mu – 114 Pinehaven Cir.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Alpha Delta Pi – 116 Pinehaven Cir.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Pi Beta Phi – 118 Pinehaven Cir.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Phi Kappa Tau – 101 Fraternity Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Sigma Alpha Epsilon – 105 Fraternity Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Kappa Sigma – 107 Fraternity Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Sigma Nu – 109 Fraternity Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Sigma Phi Epsilon – 111 Fraternity Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Delta Tau Delta – 113 Fraternity Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Pi Kappa Phi – 115 Fraternity Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Sigma Chi – 118 Fraternity Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Alpha Tau Omega – 3601 Morningside Dr.	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
<b>GULF COAST RESEARCH LABORATORY</b>						
Faculty House – Halstead Site	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Dormitory – Halstead Site	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cottage #2 – Halstead Site	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cottage #3 – Halstead Site	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cottage #4 – Halstead Site	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
Cottage #5 – Halstead Site	0	0	N/A	0	0	0

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. All fire alarm systems and fire sprinkler systems are monitored daily for problems and are tested annually.

# FIRE LOG

Date of Fire	Report #	Time Reported	Building	Location	Nature of Fire	Damage Estimate	Injuries	Deaths
1-24-15	150049	11:16	ADP	Kitchen	Pot on Stove	0	0	0
2-5-15	150094	1:07	AKA	Kitchen	Trash Can	0	0	0
5-4-15	150364	13:20	Hillcrest	Outside	Trash	0	0	0
10-14-15	150765	23:38	PKP	Outside	Homecoming Float	0	0	0
10-17-15	150781	18:28	PKP	Outside	Homecoming Float	0	0	0
10-18-15	150795	7:20	KS	Outside	Homecoming Float	0	0	0
10-29-16	160821	2:17	Sigma Chi	Outside	Homecoming Float	0	0	0
10-30-16	160837	21:57	SAE	Laundry Room	Belt on Dryer	\$25	0	0
4-30-17	170032	7:10	Cedarbrook F	Bathroom	Vent Fan	\$150	0	0

# FIRE SAFETY SYSTEMS

Residence Hall	Central Monitored Alarm Smoke and Heat	Fire Sprinkler System	Fire Extinguishers	Fire Pump	Stand-Alone Smoke Detectors	Number of Fire Drills Per Year
<b>HATTIESBURG CAMPUS</b>						
Mississippi	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Hickman	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Hattiesburg	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Wilber	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Hillcrest	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
McCarty	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Delta Delta Delta	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Chi Omega	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Alpha Chi Omega	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Kappa Delta	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Alpha Kappa Alpha	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Delta Gamma	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Phi Mu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Alpha Delta Phi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Pi Beta Phi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Scholarship	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Duplex	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2
Phi Kappa Tau	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Sigma Alpha Epsilon	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Sigma Nu	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Sigma Phi Epsilon	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Delta Tau Delta	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Alpha Tau Omega	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Sigma Chi	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Pi Kappa Phi	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Kappa Sigma	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2
Century Park North	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	2 per building
Century Park South	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	2 per building
Cedarbrook	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	0

## GULF COAST RESEARCH LABORATORY

Building	Currently Sprinkled	Planned to Sprinkle	Approximate Time Frame	Alarm Monitoring Panel
<b>HALSTEAD SITE</b>				
Faculty House	Yes			Yes
Dormatory	Yes			Yes
Cottage #2 - 2 Bdrm	Yes			Yes
Cottage #3 - 1 Bdrm	Yes			Yes
Cottage #4 - 1 Bdrm	Yes			Yes
Cottage #5 - 2 Bdrm	Yes			Yes

# 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. Micro-Fridges (combination microwave, refrigerator and freezer) are provided in the residence halls. Small refrigerators and Micro-Fridges are allowed. Cooking appliances (such as percolators, toasters and hot plates) are not allowed in student rooms. George Foreman grills or similar products are also not permitted.

**Electrical Requirements** - Only heavy-duty, single-receptacle extension cords should be used in residence hall rooms. Due to 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. Housing and Residence Life staff and UPD reserve the right to enter student rooms to locate the source of the problem and to ensure everyone has evacuated the building.
8. Smoking should not occur on front steps or entrances to buildings, including under the entry awnings.

The most important tool to remember in case of fire is to stay calm and know your exits.

## 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 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 **911** 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 **911**.
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 **911** 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 **911**.
2. If you suspect that someone is missing or trapped, contact firefighters on scene or at the fire engine, police officers or ambulance personnel.
3. Await emergency response personnel at a safe location and direct them to the scene. Report the fire to the hall office or the nearest available resident advisor. Do not re-enter the building until instructed to do so by the fire department.
4. Follow directions of fire and police personnel.
5. Report to the person who is taking roll.
6. Never re-enter the building to save your personal belongings.
7. Stay calm.

**Your safety is our  
number one concern.**

## LIFE SAFETY GUIDELINES AND POLICIES FOR RESIDENCE HALLS AND SORORITY HOUSES

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 building.**
  - 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 they may cause a false fire alarm.**
9. **Halogen lamps are prohibited from use on campus.**
10. **Never have a fire ignition source in the building.**
  - 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. **Smoking is not allowed inside the building.**
12. **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.
13. **Never tamper with or attach anything to any life safety equipment, such as smoke alarms, sprinklers systems, etc.**
  - All sprinkler closets must be locked and never used for storage.
14. **No bonfires, camp fires or open fires are allowed.**
15. **All alterations inside or outside of the building, such as construction, excavation, etc. must be pre-approved by the Safety Department.**
  - Examples include haunted houses, platforms, stages, room changes, etc.
16. **A minimum of 36 inches of clear space shall be maintained in front of all electrical boxes.**
17. **Electrical and mechanical rooms must be locked and never used for storage.**
18. **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.

## LIFE SAFETY GUIDELINES AND POLICIES FOR FRATERNITY HOUSES

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 fraternity 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 bonfires, camp fires or any open fires are allowed.**
12. **Smoking is not allowed inside the fraternity 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 never used for storage.
15. **All alterations inside or outside of the building, such as construction, excavation, etc. must be pre-approved by the Safety Department** (haunted houses, platforms, stages, room changes, etc.).
16. **No platforms or diving boards are 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 storage.**
19. **Swimming pools:**
  - Pools should be a minimum of 20 feet away from the house.
  - Pools should be no more than 24 inches at the deepest point. Side walls of pool must have a maximum height of 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 per connection or less, as listed on the manufacture 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 decorations must be removed before leaving for the holiday break.

**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.**

# The University of Southern Mississippi

## GENERAL INFORMATION ON FIRE AND SAFETY

1. Two (2) fire drills per semester
  - One scheduled fire drill will take place each semester in every residence hall.
  - The local fire department is involved.
  - Another fire drill is scheduled sometime during the semester. This drill is random.
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.
  - Checklists, dorm safety guidelines, etc., are also posted on the safety webpage.
4. Training is required 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 2017 year, the Fire/Safety Department conducted two fire drills per residence hall.

### 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.

### Inspections

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

### Persons to Be Notified in Case of Fire

University Police Department	Bob Hopkins
Physical Plant	Chris Crenshaw
Fire/Safety	Clint Atkins, Steven Flowers
Housing Maintenance	Rodger Jackson
Housing and Residence Life	Scott Blackwell
Dean of Students	Eddie Holloway
Student Affairs	Dee Dee Anderson
University Communications	Jim Coll

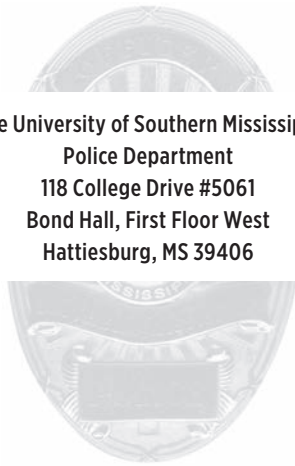
### Future Improvements

All new construction will have fire alarm systems and fire sprinklers installed in them.

Additional fire safety training will be made available to students to help them become better educated and more aware of fire safety on campus.







The University of Southern Mississippi  
Police Department  
118 College Drive #5061  
Bond Hall, First Floor West  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406



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.