Emergency Preparedness
Theft Prevention
Personal Safety

A reference guide for safety on campus

In addition to UAPD, the following resources are available to you:

- VIEW CRIME STATISTICS ONLINE AT SAFETY.UA.EDU
- VIEW THE SAFER LIVING GUIDE ONLINE AT POLICE.UA.EDU

UAPD IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK BY
PHONE: 205-348-5454
WEB: police.ua.edu
E-MAIL: ua.police@ua.edu

VIEW THE SAFER LIVING GUIDE ONLINE AT POLICE.UA.EDU
CONTENTS

2 Welcome

4 Emergency Preparedness and Response

5 What to do In a Weather Emergency

7 Help In Emergencies

9 Safety on Campus

10 Personal Safety

13 Protecting Property

16 What If Something Happens to Me or My Property?

17 Student Health and Wellness

18 Getting Around Campus

19 Travel Away from Tuscaloosa

20 Off-Campus Living

21 Local Rules and Regulations

23 Additional Safety Resources and Available Training
WELCOME to The University of Alabama. The University of Alabama Police Department seeks to partner with community members to promote a safe environment in which to live, learn and work. The men and women of the University of Alabama Police Department (UAPD) strive each day to provide the highest quality law enforcement services to the students, faculty, staff and visitors that comprise The University of Alabama family. We proactively seek to reduce the opportunity for crime to occur by emphasizing community education, using advanced technologies to promote safety, delivering relevant safety information, maintaining a highly visible, responsive patrol presence and actively pursuing justice when criminal incidents do occur. We believe that a three-tiered approach of education, environment and enforcement is instrumental to the positive influence of safety within our community.

University of Alabama police officers are always working and available to assist you. The department provides a comprehensive array of law enforcement services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year through a dedicated staff of more than 92 sworn, state-commissioned police officers and 21 full-time support personnel. All UA police officers are certified by the Alabama Police Officers’ Standards and Training Commission and have the same authorities and must meet the same expectations as law enforcement officers in any community. Additionally, the UAPD is accredited through the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), an international organization that certifies an agency’s compliance with a comprehensive body of modern professional law enforcement and management standards. As of the date of this publication, the UAPD is one of only 10 departments in the state of Alabama, and one of 73 campus law enforcement agencies in the United States, that holds CALEA accreditation.

While the UAPD works diligently to promote a safe environment, personal safety starts with you. You can enhance your safety by becoming informed and by using good judgment. Take the initiative to familiarize yourself with the safety information and services offered by The University of Alabama. An excellent place to start is this Safer Living Guide, the University’s publication that outlines
safety procedures and services, and the Safe@UA video, an interactive guide to student safety. Both of these resources can be accessed through the police department’s website (police.ua.edu). Follow up by attending one of the many educational programs provided by our community police officers or community services staff. Sign up for the free services the University provides to promote safety, such as UA Alerts, your link to vital emergency communications, and the GUARDIAN app, a service that works through your cell phone to provide instant access to the police department, as well as allowing you to set up your own personal virtual safety escort. Finally, get involved! There are a number of organizations and community groups that take an active role in promoting quality of life and safety at the University and within the surrounding community. By educating yourself and taking part, you can positively influence your community and learn valuable safety skills that will benefit you beyond The University of Alabama.

I hope your time here at UA proves to be among the most treasured in your life. If you should ever need the assistance of the UAPD, please do not hesitate to call us — we are here to help you!

Sincerely,

John Hooks
Chief of Police
In addition to the resources described herein, additional materials and information relating to campus safety are available at the following websites:

www.police.ua.edu
www.ua.edu/uact
www.police.ua.edu/safeua-2-2

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

The University of Alabama has a comprehensive emergency plan in place to deal with any crisis that may occur on campus. The University of Alabama Police Department (UAPD) is a fully accredited law enforcement agency with highly trained professional officers who are prepared to respond to emergencies of all types, including active shooter incidents. All UAPD officers have gone through specific training regarding emergency situations and regularly participate in training exercises. In addition, UAPD has a mutual aid agreement with the Tuscaloosa Police Department, the Tuscaloosa Fire and Rescue, and the Tuscaloosa County Sheriff’s Office and can draw upon their resources if needed. In a crisis or emergency, the primary focus of UAPD will be to locate and confront the threat immediately.

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

In the event of an emergency, the University is fully prepared to notify the University community through a variety of methods. For more details, please visit the Office of Emergency Preparedness website (www.ready.ua.edu).

PERSONAL SAFETY IN CRITICAL SITUATIONS

When there are incidents of violence in a school setting, initial reactions by those affected are critical. Any violent act is tense, uncertain and rapidly evolving. Preparedness and response for unpredictable incidents may vary with each situation. Each individual must evaluate the specific situation and make the best decision(s) regarding their own safety. Immediate and accurate information from witnesses will be instrumental to the mitigation of the incident. At the onset of a critical situation, the following steps should be followed:

• Seek a safe location.
• Immediately notify UAPD at 205-348-5454 (or 911 from a 347 or 348 phone).
• When you call UAPD, remain calm and provide your present building location and specific room number.
• Provide a complete description of the suspect(s) including any observed weapons and suspect’s last known location.
• Provide the location of any injured victims.
• Stay on the phone with the UAPD communications operator until the operator advises that you are no longer needed.
Once law enforcement officers are on the scene, they will move through the area/building to assist you.

Follow all directions from law enforcement officers immediately.

If, during a crisis, you have decided that your safest strategy is for you to stay in an office or classroom, it is suggested that you:

- Close and secure the door. If the door has a window, stay out of sight.
- Seek shelter under/behind heavy furniture that might hide your presence.
- Quietly call UAPD and provide the same information listed above.

If, during a crisis, you are on the perimeter of an incident, it is suggested that you:

- Stay out of the area in a safe location.
- Please do not add to the confusion by becoming a curious bystander.
- Follow any directions given by law enforcement officers.

WEATHER EMERGENCIES AND ALERTS

One of the guiding principles at The University of Alabama is to promote the personal safety of our students, faculty and staff during severe weather events. However, it is impossible to develop policies that anticipate every weather-related emergency. The following is intended to provide additional assistance for responding to severe weather on campus. UA is a residential campus with many students living on or near campus. In general, classes will remain in session until the National Weather Service issues tornado warnings that include The University of Alabama campus. Clearly, some students and faculty commute from adjacent counties. These counties may experience weather-related problems not encountered in Tuscaloosa.

Individuals should take the necessary precautions to ensure personal safety. Whenever the National Weather Service issues a warning, people in the path of the storm (tornado or severe thunderstorm) should take immediate life-saving actions.

Personal safety should dictate the actions that faculty, staff and students take.

WHAT TO DO IN A WEATHER EMERGENCY

- In the case of a tornado warning (tornado has been sighted or detected by radar; sirens activated), all University activities are automatically suspended, including all classes and laboratories.
- If you are in a building, please move immediately to the best available refuge area or lowest level and toward the center of the building away from windows (interior classrooms, office or corridors) and remain there until the tornado warning has expired.
- Classes in session when the tornado warning is issued can resume immediately after the warning has expired at the discretion of the instructor.
- Classes that have not yet begun will resume 30 minutes after the tornado warning has expired provided at least half of the class period remains.
• Encourage students in your classroom to follow these procedures by remaining in the building and going with you to the lowest level of your building.

• Crimson Ride will immediately suspend operations, and the driver will direct passengers to shelter in select buildings.

Remember, when severe weather strikes and the warning sirens sound:

• Move into the nearest best available refuge area.

• Go to the best available refuge area or lowest floor available, in the center of the building, away from windows.

• Stay tuned to radio or television stations for further weather statements.

• Remain inside until the severe weather leaves the Tuscaloosa area.

If a tornado warning is issued for the University area, students, faculty and staff will be notified using the methods listed below. Please note: Technology allows the weather service to be more accurate in identifying geographic areas to be included in a tornado warning. If you receive notification of a tornado warning through any of these methods, move to safety immediately.

UA issues tornado warnings using some or all of the following methods:

• UA Alerts, which simultaneously deploys text messages, emails and phone calls

• Email via UA News

• Campus PA system, located in most academic buildings and residence halls (interior and exterior speakers)

• Social media, including Twitter and Facebook

• Media alerts through TV and radio stations and newspapers

• UA home page

• Digital signage across campus

• Crimson Ride bus marquees

• Campus cable network

• UAPD sirens

**SUMMARY**

The University of Alabama is prepared to handle all aspects of emergency management: mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. You should give thought and consideration to what you would do in an emergency. Familiarizing yourself with the information in this guide will help you and others in a time of crisis.

For more details, please visit the Office of Emergency Preparedness website (www.ready.ua.edu) and the UA Alerts website (www.ua.edu/alerts).
HELP IN EMERGENCIES

CONTACTING POLICE
Reporting a Crime or Suspicious Activity If you witness a crime or are the victim of a crime, obtain descriptions and call police. Be prepared to give a description of the offender, including clothing. If a vehicle is involved, get a description and the license plate number if possible. Remember which direction the vehicle travelled. UAPD encourages you to report crime, suspicious activity or safety concerns you may have to police.

Contacting Emergency Response Resources Enter the numbers of all local law enforcement agencies at the top of your cell phone directory; for a listing, see this guide’s back cover. Place UAPD’s number, 205-348-5454, on your speed dial. Remember, dialing 911 from your cellular phone will connect you to the local 911 center. If you need the non-emergency assistance, dial the appropriate agency directly using the appropriate agency phone number.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES
If someone on campus needs emergency medical care, call 205-348-5454 or 911. The call will reach UAPD. Usually, a police officer will be the first emergency official to arrive. In addition to police, a local ambulance service and paramedics from the Tuscaloosa Fire and Rescue Service will respond. When you call 205-348-5454 or 911, remember:

• The individual requiring medical attention should not be moved, except to be removed from life-threatening conditions.
• Someone should stay with the individual requiring medical attention until help arrives.
• Give complete directions to the location of the individual requiring medical attention.
• Accurately describe what happened.
• Stay on the line until the police communications operator tells you to hang up.
• Guide emergency officials to the individual requiring medical attention.
• Stay out of the way and keep others out of the way of emergency officials. Before you leave the scene, check with a police officer to see if further information is needed.
FIRE EMERGENCIES
In the event of a fire on or off campus, sound the nearest fire alarm in the building. Exit the building, then call 205-348-5454 or 911. Tell the police communications operator your name and address, and the location and extent of the fire. If you know of any people with disabilities in the building, tell the police communications operator about them. Assign an escort to each person with a disability. If you think it’s possible, confine the fire by closing nearby windows and doors, but never linger in a building in which smoke or fumes threaten to overcome you. Exit the building quickly and calmly. Do not use elevators, but follow the lighted exit signs to the closest fire exit. When possible, follow the posted evacuation route.

Meet emergency officials outside of the building and inform them of the location of the fire. Remain outside at a safe distance and keep others away from the building and from emergency vehicles. In all cases, follow the instructions of fire and police personnel on the scene. Fire prevention tips are available from Environmental Health and Safety by calling 205-348-5905 or by visiting www.ehs.ua.edu/operations/fire-safety.

THREATENING BEHAVIOR
Any information/situation noting an imminent threat to one’s safety or the safety of others should be considered as an emergency and immediately reported to UAPD. To contact UAPD, call 911 or (205) 348-5454.

Examples of Emergency Situations:
• Possession of a weapon (guns, knives, etc.) on UA property
• Possession of a bomb or bomb-making materials on UA property
• Physical assault or attempted physical assault (with or without weapons) on UA property
• Explicit threats to inflict physical harm to one’s self or others

Additional information on the University’s behavioral threat assessment resources and other avenues for reporting concerning or threatening behavior that is not considered an emergency situation is available at www.threatassessment.ua.edu.
SAFETY ON CAMPUS

A. SECURITY AND ACCESS TO CAMPUS FACILITIES
Academic and administrative facilities are locked after their business hours. Students and staff with access to buildings for after-hours work must lock doors behind them after they enter and are encouraged to follow all personal safety precautions. If you are alone at night in a campus building, be sure a friend knows where you are and when you’ll return home (if you don’t leave on schedule, remember to let your friend know). Use the Rave GUARDIAN app (see below). Never prop open a secured door to a building or residence hall. If you see a propped door, close it. In the residence halls, don’t permit anyone other than your guest to enter the building. If you see an unescorted male in a women’s residence hall, tell the RA or notify UAPD immediately.

B. CAMPUS LIGHTING
The University works to ensure that indoor and outdoor lighting on campus contributes to safety. If you see an outdoor light that isn’t working, call University Facilities at 205-348-6001 and give the information to the work-order clerk or voicemail. A lighting tour is periodically conducted to review that current equipment is adequate and maintained. You’re invited to join the tour and comment on lighting. Call UAPD at 205-348-5454 for details. If you are trying to plan safe routes through campus, UAPD can provide you with an after-dark walking route map containing enhanced lighting paths on campus, or you can find a copy on the University’s website: https://safety-estus.fa.ua.edu/UAPDWebsite/saferliving-guide.pdf.

C. THE RAVE GUARDIAN PROGRAM
We recognize that there are times when a student may want to take advantage of additional personal safety options. Students who sign up for the Rave GUARDIAN app program can use their cell phones to notify UAPD at the touch of a single button if they need emergency assistance, to choose a “guardian” to act as a virtual escort via the app, or to set a passive timer based on their expected arrival time at a destination on campus or in the Tuscaloosa area. If a student initiates an emergency call or if the notification timer is not deactivated, GUARDIAN software provides UAPD with critical profile information and, in most cases, GPS information to help contact and locate the student if necessary. If the student deactivates the notification timer upon reaching the destination, no information is forwarded to UAPD. To sign up for the Rave GUARDIAN app, students should go to mybama.ua.edu and select the GUARDIAN link. There is no charge to sign up for or use the program.

D. EMERGENCY PHONES
Learn the locations of the bright blue emergency phones around campus. Each phone is clearly marked, and each is a direct line to the UAPD Communications Center. No dialing is necessary. In an emergency, all you need to do is push the red button. Refer to the “Walk on the Bright Side Map” for blue phone locations (https://safety-estus.fa.ua.edu/UAPDWebsite/saferlivingguide.pdf). Most passenger elevators on campus have emergency lines that operate the same way as the emergency phones. Push the red button marked “Emergency” and a UAPD communications operator will answer.

E. ADVISORIES
When we become aware of a situation that poses an imminent, ongoing, criminal
F. WEAPONS POLICY ON CAMPUS
Illegal or unauthorized possession of firearms, ammunition, explosives, other weapons or dangerous chemicals on University property is a violation of the UA Dangerous Weapons & Firearms Policy. For more information on the policy and available temporary storage of weapons to avoid policy violation, please visit www.ua.edu/about/policies/weapons.

PERSONAL SAFETY

A. SAFETY ON THE ROAD AND IN PUBLIC PLACES

• Upon parking your car, lock it with the windows up. At night, park as close as possible to lights and activity. When returning to your car, get a friend to go with you if possible. Always check the back seat (including the floor) before entering your vehicle.

• When driving, don’t stop for hitchhikers or broken-down vehicles. To help a stranded driver, use a phone and notify police. If you think you are being followed by a person in another vehicle, or being watched, drive to a well-lit, busy public place and call the police, or, if you can do so safely, use your cellphone to contact police while you drive to a well-lit, busy public place. When you arrive home, have your keys in hand as you leave the car.

• Make sure your car stays in good running condition, and you have enough gas. If you have car trouble, raise the hood or tie a handkerchief to the door handle to signal for help. Stay in the locked car, keeping the windows up. If someone stops to help, lower the window one inch and ask the person to call the police or an auto club.

• If your car has a personalized license plate, be sure it doesn’t give criminals useful information about you, such as your name or nickname.

B. SAFETY AT HOME
Assaults can occur at your residence. Practice prevention whether you live on campus or off.

• When you enter your residence, close and lock the door immediately. Use dead bolts and keep windows locked when not in use.

• Be smart about keys. Don’t leave them outside or in hiding places. Don’t lend them to anyone. If you lose your keys, change your locks. Have locks changed before you move in to a new residence.

• Get to know your neighbors and which ones you can trust in an emergency.

• Never open your door to strangers; install and use peep holes. Require proper identification from utility and repair people. If a stranger asks to use your phone, keep your door locked and offer to place the call yourself. If the situation seems suspicious, CALL POLICE IMMEDIATELY. Be able to describe the person when you report the incident to police.
• Don’t leave your name on your voice mail message. Agree with your roommates that none of you will give the following information to an unknown caller:
  Who is home;
  Who is out;
  When someone will return.

• In residence halls, follow all security regulations and tell your RA about unauthorized or suspicious persons.

• Make sure all entrances are well lit.

• When walking, avoid alleys, vacant lots and shortcuts. Listen for footsteps and voices. Notice cars that pass you more than once or pull up beside you. If someone follows you, go to a public building. If someone follows you on campus, use an emergency blue phone or call UAPD, and describe the vehicle and person to the police communications operator.

• Avoid placing visible banners or signs on the exterior or your apartment or dwelling because this sends a signal of college-aged occupants who may be away for weekends, breaks and holidays when burglars are looking for an easy opportunity.

C. SEXUAL MISCONDUCT
The University is committed to providing an environment free from sexual misconduct which, among other things identified in UA’s Sexual Misconduct Policy, includes gender-based assault, harassment, exploitation, dating and domestic violence, and stalking, as well as discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, and related retaliation. The University expects individuals who live, work, teach, study within or visit this community to contribute positively to the environment and refrain from behaviors that threaten the freedom or respect that every member of our community deserves.

The University encourages individuals to immediately report acts or threats of sexual misconduct referenced above to UAPD or local police authorities. All law enforcement agencies can be contacted by calling Emergency 911. UAPD may be contacted at 205-348-5454.

In addition to UAPD, individuals can report sexual misconduct to the University’s Title IX Office (205-348-5496 – www.titleix.ua.edu), the Office of Student Conduct (205-348-8234 – www.sc.ua.edu), or a Designated Harassment Resource Person (www.eop.ua.edu/persons.html). Confidential reporting is available, among other places, through the University’s Women & Gender Resource Center (205-348-5040). Other reporting options are addressed below.

For more information on the Sexual Misconduct Policy, sexual misconduct reporting options, available accommodations, safety, support, helpful resources, the criminal process, confidentiality and protection from retaliation, please visit the following websites:

  UAct: www.ua.edu/uact
  Sexual Misconduct Policy: www.titleix.ua.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy.html
  Title IX Office: www.titleix.ua.edu
  Women & Gender Resource Center: www.wgrc.ua.edu

The University’s Sexual Misconduct Policy also contains detailed descriptions and definitions for the following offenses under UA policy as well as federal and
Alabama law: dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, rape, sexual exploitation, sodomy, fondling, incest and statutory rape. (www.titleix.ua.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy.html)

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT RISK REDUCTION AND PREVENTION
Anyone can be impacted by sexual misconduct. Risk reduction strategies are steps that an individual can take to lessen the likelihood that they and others will be impacted by sexual misconduct.

1. Some safe and positive options for bystander intervention include:
   • Making up an excuse to get the individual out of a potentially dangerous situation;
   • Letting a friend or co-worker know that an individual's actions may lead to serious consequences;
   • Never leaving an intoxicated individual's side, despite the efforts of someone to get that individual alone or away from you;
   • Using a group of friends to remind someone behaving inappropriately that their behavior should be respectful;
   • Taking steps to curb someone's use of alcohol before problems occur;
   • Calling the authorities when the situation warrants; and,
   • Understanding how to safely implement the choice. Safety is paramount in active bystander intervention. Usually, intervening in a group is safer than intervening individually. Also, choosing a method of intervention that de-escalates the situation is safer than attempting a confrontation. However, there is no single rule that can account for every situation.
   • Visit the UAct website for helpful videos addressing intervention issues (www.ua.edu/campuslife/uact/videos).

2. Common sense, situational awareness and trusting one’s instincts will reduce the risk of sexual misconduct. The tips below are provided to help students decrease the potential chance of sexual misconduct:
   • If you consume alcohol, do so in moderation.
   • Do not leave your beverage unattended or accept a drink from an open container.
   • When you are with someone, communicate clearly to ensure he or she knows your limits and/or expectations from the beginning. Both verbal and nonverbal (body language) communication can be used to ensure the message is understood.
   • If you go on a date with someone you do not know very well, tell a close friend what your plans are.
   • You have the right to say “No” even if you first say “Yes,” and then change your mind; have had sex with this partner before; have been kissing or “making out”; or are wearing what is perceived to be “provocative” clothing.
   • Always have extra money to get home. Have a plan for someone you can call if you need help.
   • If you feel uncomfortable, scared or pressured, say “Stop it” or leave and call for help.
• When you go to a party, go with a group of friends. Arrive together, watch out for each other and leave together.
• Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
• If possible, avoid being isolated with a person you do not know or trust.
• Travel with a friend or in a group.
• Walk only in lighted areas after dark.
• Avoid walking alone after dark or during late hours.
• Keep the doors to homes, apartments and cars locked.
• Know where phones are located.
• Download and use the Rave Guardian Safety App available at www.mybama.ua.edu.

D. HARASSMENT
The University of Alabama is committed to providing a working and learning environment that is free from illegal harassment based on race, color, religion, genetic information, ethnicity, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability or veteran status. Individuals who report concerns of illegal harassment or hostile environment are protected from retaliation. For further information, please consult the University Harassment Policy at www.eop.ua.edu/harassment.html.

To report harassment or retaliation or to find more information on related issues, please visit the University’s UACT website at www.ua.edu/uact.

E. ONLINE COMMUNITIES AND SOCIAL NETWORKS
Online communities can be great tools to express yourself and learn about others around you, but keep in mind both the benefits and the risks. Bad things that happen in actual relationships, such as harassment and stalking, also occur online.

It is not a good idea to put your date of birth, Social Security number or campus wide identification number on these sites for everyone to see. Never disclose when you will be away from your residence. Additionally, be mindful of what you write or post on social media — something written in jest may not be perceived as such by others. In short, be careful and use good judgment.

PROTECTING PROPERTY
A majority of the crime on campus is theft of unattended property. Lock your dorm or apartment door, even when you’re home. Lock your car. Lock your bike. Use a locker and lock at the Rec Center. If you work in a University office, lock your purse and other valuables in a cabinet or drawer. It takes no time to lock up, even if you’re just leaving for a moment. UAPD recommend that you not bring fine jewelry, heirlooms or expensive clothing to school. During school breaks take laptops and other valuables home with you. Anyone could be a thief, so be sure to take precautions.

BOOKBAG AND TEXTBOOK THEFTS
Theft of backpacks and textbooks is surprisingly common due to textbooks resale value. Never leave your property unattended in a library, dining hall, classroom, recreation facility or restroom. Take your things with you or have a friend watch them. Make sure that you have clearly marked your property so that you can identify it as being yours.
SMARTPHONES AND LAPTOPS
Never leave your smartphone (iPhone, Droid, etc.) or laptop unattended. It is also wise to require a password or encryption process to protect the data on your smartphone or laptop.

CREDIT/ DEBIT CARDS/ ACTION CARDS
Don’t carry a lot of credit/debit cards in your wallet or purse. Carry just one or two and leave the others in a secure place at home. If your credit/debit cards are stolen, know what cards you had and the phone numbers to call to immediately cancel the cards and report them as stolen. Usually a thief will use your stolen cards in less than an hour. Don’t forget to check your statement every month to make sure there are no unauthorized charges. Protect your Action Card like you would protect one of your credit cards.

BICYCLE THEFT
Bicycles are stolen each year in Tuscaloosa and around the UA campus, and most are never recovered. The following measures can help protect your bicycle:

• Register your bicycle with the University (www.bamaparking.ua.edu/bicycle).
• Secure your bike properly. Thieves don’t merely steal whole bikes; often they’ll take the front tire from one bike and the rest from another.
• Place your front tire over the top rail of the rack, letting the body of the bicycle rest on top.
• Secure your front tire and frame to the rack.
• Lock your rear tire to the bike frame with another locking device.
• If it’s easily removable, take your seat with you.
• Engrave all parts of your bike — handlebars, seat, both wheels, frame — with identifying letters or numbers.

IDENTITY THEFT
Thefts of documents can be the first step in an identity theft crime. Keep documents with personal information secured at all times. Don’t carry your Social Security card in your wallet; keep it in a safe place. When discarding unwanted mail, shred sensitive or personal information with a shredder or by hand. Make sure you are on the national “do not call” list. (www.donotcall.gov) Adopt a “need to know” attitude about personal data. Your credit card company may need to know your mother’s maiden name, so that it can verify your identity when you call to inquire about your account. A person who calls you and says he’s from your bank or credit card company doesn’t need to know that information if it’s already on file with your bank. Make callers give you what information THEY have on file.

If you still don’t feel comfortable, get the caller’s name and return the call to a phone number you know is associated with the valid company. The more information printed on your personal bank checks, such as your Social Security number or driver’s license number, the more personal data you are routinely handing out. Check your monthly financial statements carefully to find out if someone has made unauthorized debits or charges against your accounts. Periodically ask for a copy of your credit report. Make sure all active accounts were actually opened by you. Email schemes, called “phishing,” attempt to trick you into disclosing sensitive information. The email appears to come from companies with whom you may regularly do business (e.g., Paypal, eBay, a
financial institution or a credit card company). Many of these email schemes contain links to look-a-like websites loaded with actual trademarked images. The sender asks you to confirm your personal information for some made-up reason: your account is about to be closed, or your information has been lost because of a computer problem. The sender instructs you to “re-enter” credit card numbers, Social Security numbers, bank PINs or other personal information. If you actually provide the information requested, the data goes to scammers. This data is often used to order goods or services or to obtain a credit card in your name.

VEHICLE CRIMES
Each year thieves break into vehicles and steal purses, sports equipment, clothing, smartphones, laptops, stereo equipment, etc. To reduce risk of theft from your vehicle:

• Keep valuable items out of sight.
• Engrave your name on all items that might interest a thief.
• Check the area for any suspicious activity (e.g., someone loitering nearby), and report any such activity to the police.
• If you have an item with a serial number, record and keep the number in a safe place.
• Remove your stereo faceplate if it is made to do so.
• Lock your doors and roll up your windows.
• Never leave your vehicle running while unattended.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING (COP)
UAPD currently provides officers and supervisors to the Community Oriented Policing (COP) program. COP is a philosophy of full-service, personalized policing where the same officer is assigned to a specific geographical area on a regular basis, working in a proactive partnership with citizens to identify and solve problems. The focus of COP is not simply on responding to crime, but on preventing crime and resolving problems. The philosophy rests on the belief that the police and the community must work together as partners to solve the challenges faced in today’s society.

OPERATION ID
Marking valuables brings the best chance for recovering them, and it’s a proven way to discourage theft. Operation ID makes it easy. Through this UAPD program, easy-to-use electric engravers are loaned to students. Engrave an identifier on all items that might interest a thief such as a stereo, bike, laptop, smartphone, refrigerator, etc.

Engravers may be checked out at UAPD between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. The loan period is 24 hours. You will need your Action Card. For more information, call UAPD Community Services Division at 205-348-8361. With a permanent marker, put your name and address on the inside cover of your textbooks, and put your initials (or other marks you’d recognize) on one or more of the pages. UAPD provides a property registration sheet on their website for you to record the manufacturer, model number and serial number of each item. Keep this form in a safe place away from your valuables.
WHAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ME OR MY PROPERTY?

REPORTING A CRIME
Despite everyone’s best efforts, people will become victims of a crime. If that happens to you, UAPD will provide you with as much help and information as possible. When you call UAPD to report an incident or offense, a police report may be filed. A police officer will meet with you and take the report after gathering all available facts. The completed report is then forwarded to an investigator, who may contact you for an interview or to gather additional information. If a suspect is developed in the case, you will have a few choices to make: prosecute through the Tuscaloosa criminal court system (have the subject arrested), issue a student non-academic misconduct citation (University Code of Student Conduct process) if the suspect is a student, or do nothing to the suspect (no prosecution). After this decision, the next step will vary depending on court appearances and testifying. The UAPD investigation division is here to help you; if criminal prosecution is chosen, the investigator will more than likely be in court with you to testify on the investigation findings. If within 60 days you are not notified of an arrest in your case, you may call the telephone number of the law enforcement agency to check the case status. UAPD investigators can be reached at 205-347-0500. Be prepared to give your name, the date of the crime or a case number to the investigator who answers your call.

If you are the victim of a crime off campus and need police services, contact the agency that has jurisdiction. Local law enforcement includes Tuscaloosa Police Department (205-349-2121); Northport Police Department (205-339-6600); Tuscaloosa County Sheriff’s Department (205-752-0616); and Alabama State Troopers (205-553-5531). UAPD and other local police agencies exchange information regularly and work together in a number of efforts aimed at improving the safety of the community. These cooperative efforts enable UAPD to work with and for UA students and employees in situations that occur off campus.

ADDITIONAL REPORTING OPTIONS
The University’s UAct website (www.ua.edu/uact) provides information on how to report or obtain assistance with a variety of issues relating to dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, sexual violence or other Title IX violations, illegal discrimination, harassment, child abuse or neglect, hazing, threat assessment, retaliation and ethical violations or fraud.
STUDENT HEALTH AND WELLNESS

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS
Do not consume drugs or alcohol illegally. If you do choose to consume alcohol, drink responsibly; overindulging can have many negative effects for you and those around you. For more information on prohibited conduct under University policy, local, state and federal laws, disciplinary sanctions for violations, and the dangers of drugs and alcohol, consult the University’s Alcohol and Other Drug Policy at [www.sc.ua.edu/alcoholdrugpolicy.cfm](http://www.sc.ua.edu/alcoholdrugpolicy.cfm). For more information on the University’s numerous drug abuse and substance prevention and education programs, visit [www.aodprevention.ua.edu](http://www.aodprevention.ua.edu).

MENTAL HEALTH
If you or someone you know is experiencing symptoms of depression or other mental health issues, contact the UA Counseling Center at 205-348-3863 ([www.counseling.ua.edu](http://www.counseling.ua.edu)). You can also anonymously receive support from a volunteer by texting the crisis text line; to do so, text “BAMA” to 741-741.

SUICIDE PREVENTION
If you or a member of the University community is struggling with suicidal thoughts, feelings or concerns, be aware of the following resources:

- UA Counseling Center – call 205-348-3863 to schedule an appointment ([https://counseling.sa.ua.edu/counseling/suicide-prevention](https://counseling.sa.ua.edu/counseling/suicide-prevention))
- Crisis Text Line – text BAMA to 741-741 (available 24/7)
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline – call 1-800-273-8255 (available 24/7)
- If it is an emergency situation, please immediately contact UAPD (205-348-5454).

The University also offers a suicide prevention training program that is designed to help students and employees prevent suicide by, among other things, providing tools to recognize and assist people at risk. For more information, see [www.asklistenrefer.org/ua](http://www.asklistenrefer.org/ua).

Additional assistance and resources for students are available through the University’s Office of Student Care & Well-Being ([www.bamacares.ua.edu](http://www.bamacares.ua.edu)). The office is available via email at bamacares@ua.edu or by phone at 205-348-2461.

ADDITION PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION RESOURCES
If you are concerned about yourself or someone you know who may be misusing alcohol or other substances, or may be involved with gambling, there are resources on campus that can provide assistance:

ALCOHOL AND OTHER SUBSTANCES
For assistance with alcohol and other substance abuse, contact the UA MPACT program (205-348-5144), which offers a number of substance abuse services. All services are subject to confidentiality protections.

- If you are in recovery from alcohol and other substance abuse and would like to connect with the Collegiate Recovery Community, call 205-348-0943 or visit [www.recovery.ua.edu](http://www.recovery.ua.edu).

GAMBLING
The University of Alabama has a Financial Health, Debt Management and Gambling Strategic Health Team. For assistance with gambling concerns, contact the UA Counseling Center at 205-348-3863.
GETTING AROUND ON CAMPUS

DRIVING ON CAMPUS
UAPD and other local police agencies enforce all state laws governing the operation of vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians. Be sure to obey traffic regulations at all times; if you do not you may be cited or jailed, depending on the severity of the traffic violation or condition of the driver. CRIMSON RIDE is the University’s bus system with several on-campus and apartment routes. For Rider Policies visit www.crimsonride.ua.edu/riderpolicies.

PARKING ON CAMPUS
Parking Services is responsible for all functions relating to the management, maintenance and planning of campus parking lots and parking garages, the issuance of parking permits, the collection of enforcement charges for parking and traffic violations, the acceptance of appeals from such violations, parking information services, and the administration of athletic and special event parking. Parking Services is a division of Transportation Services and is located in the Campus Drive Parking Deck at 451 Campus Drive East; you may contact them at 205-348-5471. For additional information about UA traffic and parking regulations, visit www.bamaparking.ua.edu/regulations.

MOTORIST ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MAP)
If you ever have car trouble on campus, you do have a friend in MAP, the University’s Motorist Assistance Program. MAP employees offer free assistance with vehicle problems 24 hours a day. When you need motorist assistance, call 205-348-0121 and give your name, location, and information on the problem. A UA MAP employee, in a distinctly marked vehicle, will be sent to assist you.

BICYCLE SAFETY
Bicycle-vehicle and bicycle-pedestrian accidents are becoming more common at UA, often because the cyclist or pedestrian is not obeying these state laws:

- A bicycle is recognized as a vehicle by all 50 states and The University of Alabama. Bicycles have the same rights and duties as motor vehicles: all traffic signs and signals apply equally to cars, bikes and pedestrians.
- Bicyclists must ride on the right side of the road, as far right as you safely can and in the same direction as the traffic around you.
- When riding at night, make sure your bicycle is equipped with a white headlight attached to the front, and a clearly visible red reflector at the rear.

For additional information on the University’s expectations with respect to bicycles on campus, visit www.bamaparking.ua.edu/regulations. A bicycle safety tips video may be viewed at www.riskmanagement.ua.edu/video/bicycle/index.htm.

Other important guidelines for cyclists to follow for the prevention of accidents and injuries:

- Wear a helmet. It might prevent a serious head injury in the event of a fall or collision.
- Keep off the sidewalk. Sidewalks are meant for pedestrians, so avoid riding your bike anywhere but on the road. Occasionally, you may see UAPD officers riding on the sidewalk responding to an emergency or checking buildings.
• Think ahead. Anticipate others’ mistakes and leave room and time for defensive action. For example, cars or trucks making right turns might not see you, so leave room to react safely.

• Yield to cars. Even if you think you have the right of way, remember that a car is much bigger, faster, heavier and harder to maneuver than a bike.

• If you must ride at night, use the required lighting and reflective equipment and wear reflective and/or light-colored clothing.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY
While UA has made progress in providing adequate parking on campus, many UA faculty, staff and students choose to park their cars at one location and walk across campus for the remainder of the day. Walking can help reduce traffic congestion. When walking or driving, remember:

• Pedestrians must obey all traffic signs, signals, lights, and regulations and must use sidewalks when provided.

• Pedestrians have the right of way in crosswalks, but not when crossing the street at other points. When crossing at a point not in a marked crosswalk, pedestrians must yield to car and bike traffic. Regardless of where they cross the street, pedestrians should always be alert to their surroundings and prepared to avoid oncoming traffic if necessary.

• Pedestrians must not cross a roadway between intersections at which traffic lights are used, except at crosswalks.

PERSONAL MOBILITY DEVICES, SKATES, AND SKATEBOARDS
Skating on steps is discouraged because of the enormous potential for injuring yourself. Other skating activities carry additional risks: activities like waxing steps for skating and moving bike racks increase the potential for injury to other people, and are punishable as defacement of University property.

For information on the responsibilities and procedures to ensure pedestrian safety, proper operations and enforcement of skateboards, longboards, in-line skates, roller skates and electronic personal assistance mobility devices, see www.bamaparking.ua.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/04/Skateboard-Policy-2016-pdf.pdf.

TRAVEL AWAY FROM TUSCALOOSA
When you have the opportunity to experience places outside of Tuscaloosa (both domestic and international trips), we encourage you to review these safe travel suggestions before your trip: www.riskmanagement.ua.edu/information/UA-Safe-Travel.pdf.
OFF-CAMPUS LIVING

If you live off campus, you need to be extra aware of your surroundings in order to stay safe and within the law. Some activities, such as how loud you play your music and how long you leave your garbage cart by the curb, are matters about which there are laws that you must obey or risk paying a fine.

CRIMSON CHOICE

Crimson Choice, UA’s preferred residential rental education program, is an important part of the University’s comprehensive approach to student well-being. While UA can never guarantee that accidents and criminal activity will not occur, Crimson Choice is intended to help UA parents and students make more educated decisions when selecting off-campus housing. For more information, visit www.crimsonchoice.ua.edu.

Even if you don’t live on campus, your behavior says a lot about you and the University. Here are some guidelines for off-campus living:

- Get to know your neighbors. If you know each other, you’re likely to be more considerate of each other’s privacy, property and peace.
- Make an effort to find out how things are done in your neighborhood or apartment complex. Some questions to ask your real estate agent, landlord or neighbors: Where is it okay to place my garbage? Where can I dispose of large items? Where can I safely and legally park my car? What are the traffic laws on my street? Whose responsibility is the yard?
- Be responsible. If you have a party, don’t let it get so large that you can’t keep an eye on your guests. Be sure you know all your guests, and ask them in advance to respect your neighbors’ property. Keep the noise down and ask your guests to cooperate. As always, remember applicable alcohol laws and the consequences of breaking them.
- Obey the traffic laws in your neighborhood. There are other people’s children and pets to think of, not to mention your driving record.
- Park only where it is legal, safe, and considerate — don’t park on your own or anyone else’s lawn or block anyone’s driveway.
- Be aware that not all of your neighbors are students. Their attitudes toward their property, their privacy, and neighborhood peace and quiet may differ from yours.
- Keep up appearances. Don’t move furniture to your yard or front porch, and don’t leave your garbage cans or carts at the curb — move them to your driveway or close to the house between pickup days.
- Remember that although your schedule may permit week-night parties, your neighbors may have any number of reasons — jobs, children, illness — for needing a good night’s sleep.
UAPD FRINGE PATROL

UAPD work closely with members of the Tuscaloosa Police Department to provide additional law enforcement presence in the business and residential areas surrounding the University. UAPD assigns police officers to work in the area commonly known as the Strip and also in the surrounding neighborhoods of the UA campus. The geographical boundaries are: Jack Warner Parkway to the north, Queen City Avenue to the west, 15th Street to the south, and Hackberry Lane to the east. Fringe officers work evening and nighttime hours 7 days a week, 365 days a year. These officers may perform their law enforcement tasks in marked patrol units, unmarked vehicles, police bicycles, foot patrol or a combination of all of these methods. The officers may be in police patrol uniform or in plain clothes depending on the mission of the assignment and the needs of the community.

LOCAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Following is a list of 15 offenses for which UA students are most frequently cited or arrested, along with the typical fine or sentence for a first offense. Subsequent offenses can cost much more, including jail time or probation. For most of these offenses you may not be arrested, although the officer may always choose to arrest uncooperative or disorderly people, but a citation will be issued. A citation works like a traffic ticket: there’s a fine to pay, and a court appearance may be required. The information here is subject to change, but should provide an idea of the issues that can be created by one of these charges. For more information, visit the following websites: www.sc.ua.edu/alcoholdrugpolicy.cfm
www.sc.ua.edu/laws.cfm
www.tuscaloosa.com/Government/Municipal-Court-1/municipal-court

1. DUI. A single DUI offense can result in a cost that may exceed $2,100. If there’s an accident, it can be much worse. There is a required sobriety hold with this arrest. DUI facts you should know:
   • You don’t have to be driving to be in convicted of DUI — being in physical control of the vehicle (sitting in the driver’s seat with the keys in the ignition) is enough.
   • Even on a first DUI offense, jail time may be given, especially when there’s an accident or a high blood-alcohol level.
   • For ages 18-20, the legal blood-alcohol level is .02 percent.

2. PUBLIC INTOXICATION. Arrest is automatic for this offense, which covers any behavior in a public place that indicates intoxication, either alcohol or drug-induced. The cost of a public intoxication arrest may exceed $475. Offenders must also attend a drug or alcohol abuse program and pay the program cost. There is a required sobriety hold with this arrest.

3. OPEN BEVERAGE CONTAINERS. It is illegal in Tuscaloosa to carry an open alcoholic beverage in public, or to drive a car in which there is an open alcoholic beverage. This ordinance includes cups, bottles and cans and applies equally to party-goers and bar patrons. A violation may cost over $300 if issued a citation and in excess of $400 if arrested.
4. IMPROPER IDENTIFICATION BY A MINOR (FAKE ID). Improperly identifying yourself may cost you over $300 if issued a citation and over $475 if arrested. It can also result in the suspension of your license for 90 days.

5. MINOR IN POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL (MIP). If you’re under 21 and you’ve got alcohol, it could cost you at least $400 if issued a citation and in excess of $475 if arrested. If you’re over 21 read items 6 and 7 below.

6. SALE OF ALCOHOL TO MINORS. A first offense can cost over $750 if issued a citation and over $825 if arrested. A second offense could include jail time plus a fine.

7. ADULT ALLOWING MINORS TO CONSUME OR POSSESS ALCOHOL AT AN OPEN HOUSE PARTY. If cited for this offense, you must appear in court and may be fined over $750. If arrested, it could cost you over $825.

8. LITTERING. “Litter” in this case includes cigarettes, cups, beer cans and bottles, as well as anything else you might toss aside. If you are caught littering, you could pay in excess of $825, plus a fine set by a judge. Littering from a vehicle could cost you over $350.

9. FAILING TO MOW YOUR GRASS. A Tuscaloosa city ordinance makes it unlawful for any person owning, residing in or on, or having charge or control of any premises within the city to allow weeds and grass to exceed 12 inches in height. Violators may be fined over $250 if issued a citation and in excess of $325 if arrested or summonsed.

10. NOISE ORDINANCE VIOLATION. If your neighbors can hear your TV, music or voice, they can call the police. A citation may cost you over $350 and an arrest could cost you in excess of $425.

11. PARKING. You can’t park just anywhere, especially on your own or anyone else’s lawn, in front of a neighbor’s driveway, too far away from the curb, or in a no-parking zone. Obtain any permits you need, both on and off campus, as early as possible. Tuscaloosa parking fines generally run from $50 to $100.

12. FALSE OR NUISANCE FIRE ALARMS. False reports may result in community service hours and/or fines up to $500 plus restitution.

13. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. Encompassing household members that are related, married or in a dating relationship, these offenses typically result in the arrest of one of the involved parties, requires a mandatory court appearance and a 24-hour jail hold.

14. TRESPASSING. Some local parks have specific opening and closing hours. Time spent in these parks outside of those hours is trespassing. Pay attention to warning signs at spillways and dams also. A trespassing offense may cost over $325.

15. FAILURE TO REMOVE GARBAGE CARTS FROM CURB. If you leave your garbage cart on the street for more than 24 hours after your regular pickup day, you may owe over $300.
Along with fines and incarceration, you may be issued a Student Non-Academic Misconduct citation (SNAM) for violation(s) of the UA Student Code of Conduct.

You may be asked to address your misconduct with the Office of Student Conduct, even though it did not occur on campus. Possible sanctions include: a warning, probation, loss of privileges, fines, discretionary sanctions, residential housing suspension or expulsion, or University student status suspension or expulsion.

**ADDITIONAL SAFETY RESOURCES AND AVAILABLE TRAINING**


The Alabama Department of Public Safety also provides an online listing of sex offenders currently registered with the state. This listing is available on the Alabama Department of Public Safety website at [www.dps.alabama.gov](http://www.dps.alabama.gov) (click on the “Sex Offender Registry” link). For information regarding the enrollment or employment of registered sex offenders at The University of Alabama, or to request a printed copy of the Campus Security and Fire Safety Report, write UAPD, Attention: Community Services Division, Box 870180, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0180.

For more information on any safety topic, or to schedule a safety program, contact Community Services at UAPD, **205-348-8361**.
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<tr>
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**LIGHTING AND BLUE PHONE MAP LEGEND**

- South Engineering Research Center: 7-F
- H.M. Comer Hall (Mineral Industries Building): 6-E
- Tom Bevill Energy, Mineral, and Materials Science Research Building: 5-F
- Rogers Library for Science and Engineering: 7-F
- Interdisciplinary Science Building - Shelby Hall: 6-F
- AIME (Ala. Institute for Mfg. Excellence): 5-E
- Science and Engineering: 7-G
- McMillan Building (University of Alabama Press): 5-F
- Maintenance Grounds: 7-C
- Freidman Hall: 9-B
- Blount Undergraduate Initiative Living-Learning Center: 5-D
- Moore House (unoccupied): 7-B
- Frederick R. Maxwell Hall: 9-C
- Paty Hall: 5-D
- Riverside West: 4-E
- Riverside East: 4-F
- Riverside North: 3-E
- Riverside Residential Commons: 4-E
- Lakeside Residential Area East: 4-D
- Lakeside Residential Area West: 4-D
- Lakeside Dining: 4-D
- Ridgecrest East Residential: 5-C
- Ridgecrest West Residential: 6-C
- Ridgecrest South Residential: 6-C
- ten Hoor Hall: 8-C
- Maintenance Quonset: 7-C
- Rowing Facility: 2-D
- Presidential I: 3-F
- Robert E. Witt Student Activity Center: 3-E
- Presidential II: 3-E
- Highlands on Hackberry: 2-F
- Highlands on Hackberry: 2-G
- Highlands on Hackberry: 3-G
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<td>4944</td>
<td>Delta Chi</td>
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<td>North Lawn Hall</td>
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<td>5010</td>
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<td>5017</td>
<td>Stallings Center (RISE Program)</td>
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<td>Delta Sigma Theta</td>
<td>8-G</td>
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<td>4260</td>
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<td>5133</td>
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<td>4292</td>
<td>Bryant Dining</td>
<td>5-D</td>
<td>5365</td>
<td>Outdoor Pool Facilities</td>
<td>7-K</td>
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<td>4293</td>
<td>Bryant Residence Hall</td>
<td>9-G</td>
<td>5370</td>
<td>Women’s Softball Complex</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10-G</td>
<td>5372</td>
<td>Student Recreation Center</td>
<td>8-K</td>
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<td>10-H</td>
<td>5373</td>
<td>Recreation Fields and Restrooms</td>
<td>9-J</td>
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<tr>
<td>4376</td>
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<td>10-H</td>
<td>5386</td>
<td>Recreational Tennis Courts</td>
<td>10-K</td>
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<td>4377</td>
<td>511 Bryce Lawn Apartment</td>
<td>10-H</td>
<td>5389</td>
<td>Soccer Complex</td>
<td>10-K</td>
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<td>4379</td>
<td>423 Bryce Lawn Apartment</td>
<td>9-H</td>
<td>5390</td>
<td>Tennis Facilities - Outdoor</td>
<td>8-L</td>
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<tr>
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<td>9-H</td>
<td>5391</td>
<td>Tennis Facilities - Indoor</td>
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<td>8-H</td>
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<td>4382</td>
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<td>Law Center</td>
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<td>6025</td>
<td>Batting Practice Facility</td>
<td>13-H</td>
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<tr>
<td>4384</td>
<td>500 Bryce Lawn Apartment</td>
<td>9-H</td>
<td>6080</td>
<td>Coleman Coliseum</td>
<td>15-G</td>
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<tr>
<td>4385</td>
<td>422 Bryce Lawn Apartment</td>
<td>9-H</td>
<td>6082</td>
<td>Football Complex</td>
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<td>4835</td>
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<td>6086</td>
<td>Crisp Indoor Practice Facility</td>
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<td>4836</td>
<td>Sigma Chi</td>
<td>11-I</td>
<td>6116</td>
<td>Bailey Track Stadium</td>
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<td>4837</td>
<td>Theta Chi</td>
<td>11-I</td>
<td>6118</td>
<td>Frank M. Moody Music Building</td>
<td>11-H</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
6119 Strength and Conditioning Facility 14-G
6208 University Police Center 15-J
6218 Natatorium 13-F
6219 Aquatic Center 13-F
6299 ISSR Building 13-K
6301 Bryant Conference Center 12-H
6302 Alumni Hall 12-H
6303 Paul W. Bryant Museum 12-G
6305 Center for Community-Based Partnerships 12-J
6369 Sewell-Thomas Baseball Field 13-H
7004 Harris Hall 11-C
7006 Rose Administration Building 10-D
7017 Doster Hall 10-D
7028 Barnwell Hall 12-D
7046 Bryant-Denny Stadium 11-B
7054 Farrah Hall 11-F
7059 Foster Auditorium 11-E
7074 Osband Hall 11-E
7088 Little Hall 11-E
7090 A. B. Moore Hall 11-E
7158 President’s Mansion 11-D
7194 Retail Center on Bryant Drive 12-D
7202 East Annex 11-D
7203 Adams Hall 11-D
7205 Reese Phifer Hall 10-C
7206 Tutwiler Hall 13-C
7213 Hayden-Harris Hall 11-F
7244 Mary Burke Hall 12-F
7298 Martha Parham Hall 12-E
7831 Delta Gamma 11-E
7832 Alpha Delta Pi 11-E
7833 Alpha Gamma Delta 11-D
7834 Delta Delta Delta 11-D
7839 Alpha Chi Omega 11-C
7840 Gamma Phi Beta 12-D
7841 Alpha Phi 12-E
7842 Kappa Kappa Gamma 11-D
7843 Kappa Delta 11-D
7848 Zeta Tau Alpha 12-C
7849 Phi Mu 12-C
7912 Alpha Kappa Alpha 12-D
7918 Kappa Alpha Theta 11-C
9180 South Lawn Office Building 14-K
D280 Stadium Drive Parking Deck 8-C
D282 North Hooe Parking Deck 8-C
D284 Ridgecrest Parking Deck 6-C
D286 Ferguson Center Parking Deck 6-D
D288 Riverside East Parking Deck 4-G
D480 Campus Drive Parking Deck/Action Card 8-G
D780 Magnolia Parking Deck and Surface Lot 12-D
A Hotel Capstone 12-G
B W. B. Jones Hall (Oil and Gas) 8-F
C Baptist Campus Ministries 11-G
D St. Francis University Parish and Catholic Student Center 12-F
E Canterbury Chapel Episcopal Church and Student Center 11-F
F University Lutheran Chapel 12-F
G Wesley Foundation 12-F
H Disciple Student Fellowship Center 13-E
I Hillel House 11-G
J University Presbyterian Student Association 11-A
K Temple Emanu-El 11-G
L National Water Center 4-G
M Sid McDonald Hall (UA System Office) 12-L
### UAPD CASE INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tr>
<td>UA TITLE IX OFFICE</td>
<td>205-348-5496</td>
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<td>UA WOMEN &amp; GENDER RESOURCE CENTER</td>
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<td>CRISIS TEXT LINE</td>
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<tr>
<td>TURNING POINT OF WEST ALABAMA</td>
<td>205-758-0608</td>
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<tr>
<td>UA STUDENT HEALTH CENTER</td>
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<td>DCH NORTHPORT HOSPITAL</td>
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<td>UA OFFICE OF STUDENT CARE &amp; WELL-BEING</td>
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<td>UA OFFICE OF THREAT ASSESSMENT</td>
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<td>ALABAMA STATE TROOPERS</td>
<td>205-553-5531</td>
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<td>TUSCALOOSA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE</td>
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**VIEW THE SAFER LIVING GUIDE ONLINE AT POLICE.UA.EDU**

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**SAFER LIVING GUIDE**

A reference guide for safety on campus

Emergency Preparedness
Theft Prevention
Personal Safety

Lighting and Blue Phone Map Included

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**WEB:** police.ua.edu

**E-MAIL:** ua.police@ua.edu

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E-MAIL: ua.police@ua.edu

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Reporting Officer’s Name:_______________________________________
Investigating Officer’s Name:____________________________________
Your Case Number:____________________________________________

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