Campus Safety Tips

As we begin another academic year, the Rice University Police Department (RUPD) would like to remind students, faculty and staff to remain vigilant about personal safety and security and to take steps to prevent becoming a target of crime. The following are important tips that can improve your personal safety:

- Be aware of your surroundings and alert to any signs that something may be wrong or out of place. Pay attention to your instincts.
- Report any suspicious activity or emergencies on or near Rice property immediately to RUPD at 713-348-6000. If you’re off campus, call 911.
- Program RUPD’s number into your cellphone for quick access.
- Use the emergency blue light phones located around campus that ring directly to RUPD to get help during an emergency, to request an escort or to report suspicious activity.
- Request an RUPD escort if you have to travel alone at night across campus or to the Rice Village Apartments or the Rice Graduate Apartments by calling 713-348-6000.
- If you are a victim of crime, don’t fight back. Cooperate with the assailant and then contact the police as soon as it is safe to do so. Defend yourself only if it is a last resort and you are being physically assaulted.
- You are urged to register your bicycle with RUPD on our website at Bike Registration and use a U-bolt bike lock to secure your bike.
- Don’t allow strangers into residential colleges.
- Don’t leave property unattended.
- Be sure the emergency notification info in your Esther account is up to date so that you can receive crime alerts by text and email.

Our goal is to help you achieve your research, teaching and learning goals in a safe and orderly environment. As part of our efforts to reduce crime, we are informing you and other students, faculty and staff so that everyone can take responsibility for safeguarding our community. For additional information on safety and security, please read our Annual Security Report at http://www.rice.edu/safety/safety_tips.shtml.

Johnny C. Whitehead
Chief of Police
RUPD