



PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

Safety starts with YOU!

HOME AND RESIDENCE HALL SAFETY



- Don't leave valuables like your wallet, credit cards, or jewelry, in open view. Mark easily stolen items like laptops and iPods, and keep a list of serial numbers, model numbers, and descriptions.
- Whether home or away, always keep doors and windows locked.
- Don't keep large sums of money in your office, dorm room, or apartment.



- Report any broken windows or lights to maintenance and security staff.
- Take care of your keys. Don't give anyone the chance to duplicate them.
- Ask about special security procedures during holidays and vacations.
- In over half of reported rapes, women know their attacker. Be wary of bringing casual acquaintances to your room.
- Immediately report any unusual activity, or in-progress crimes to police!
- College and University campuses are not exempt from crime. But, vigilant students, faculty, and staff can assist with making this a safe community to live, learn, and work in.

TELEPHONE TIPS



- List only first initials and last name in telephone directories.
- Be suspicious of surveys or wrong number calls, and do not divulge your name or address.
- Never reveal that you are at home alone.
- Hang up immediately on obscene phone calls.
- Report repetitive harassing phone calls.

STREET SMARTS



- Go out with a friend – not alone – especially if you're headed for a late night snack or study break.
- Walk purposefully. Look confident. Watch where you are going. Be alert to your surroundings.
- Use well-lighted, well-traveled routes and try to walk with friends.
- Avoid shortcuts through isolated or wooded areas.
- Never hitchhike, and never pick up hitchhikers!

- Accept rides only from persons you know and trust. If harassed from a car, walk swiftly or run in the opposite direction to safety. If you're really frightened, scream for help.
- Avoid isolated areas like classrooms after class hours. If you must be in these places, work with a friend, let someone know where you are, and be alert.

SAFETY WHILE DRIVING



- Always secure all doors and windows when leaving your car.
- Park in well-lighted areas and try not to walk alone in parking areas at night.
- Have keys ready when you approach your car. Check car for intruders before entering and lock door immediately after getting into your car.
- Always keep your gas tank at least half full.
- Store valuables out of sight and lock them in the trunk when the car is parked.
- Never attach a name to your key ring. Keep car keys separate from other keys.
- If your car breaks down in an isolated area, raise the hood. Stay in the locked car. Ask whoever stops to call the police. Sound horn if threatened.

BICYCLES



- Park in well-lighted and well-traveled areas. Use a cover if you have one.
- Always lock your bike or motorcycle when leaving it unattended, even if it's only for a few minutes.
- University of Miami policy requires all bicycles on campus to be registered with campus police and secured with a campus police issued bicycle lock. Registration and locks are free. Visit www.miami.edu/police for more info.

IF SOMEONE TRIES TO ASSAULT YOU

- Stay as calm as possible. Think rationally and evaluate your resources and options – escape, use self-defense, negotiate, scream to attract attention, or act disgusting or crazy.
- It may be more advisable to submit than to resist and risk injury or death. You will have to make this decision based on the circumstances, such as the presence of a weapon, and the type of person you are.
- Try to provide detailed suspect information to police (i.e. height, weight, clothing, vehicle tag number).
- If you are robbed, threatened, or raped, call campus or local police immediately. You may save someone else from becoming a victim.

NEVER HESITATE TO CONTACT UM POLICE

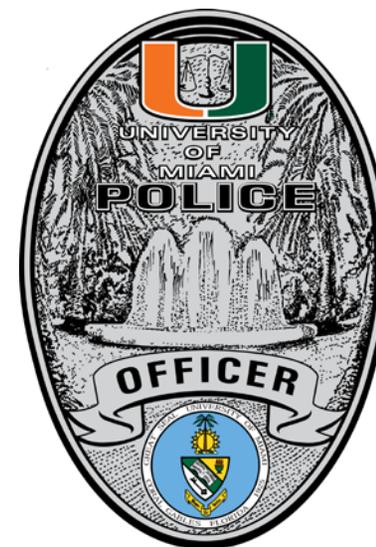
UM Police Dispatch (305) 284-6666

UM Police Fax (305) 284-1541

UM Crime Prevention (305) 284-1105

SART Hotline (305) 798-6666

www.miami.edu/police



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