

## SAFETY PRESENTATION PROGRAM

Through the use of brochures, posters, booklets, flyers, video tapes and other available materials, The Savannah State University Department of Public Safety will make materials available to members of the University Community.

The department has available engraving machines with which to mark valuables. Also, upon request the department can have a member of the department give a presentation on the following programs;

- ~ **DRUGS/ALCOHOL ABUSE AND PREVENTION**
- ~ **SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION**
- ~ **CAMPUS WATCH**
- ~ **CRIME PREVENTION**
- ~ **THEFT PREVENTION**
- ~ **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

To request a crime prevention program presentation, simply submit a written request to the Chief of Police at least five(5) working days before the event.

## SAFETY TIPS FOR STUDENTS:

~ **Immediately report any crime, suspected crime, or suspicious circumstances/persons to Public Safety day or night.**

~**Never leave your personal property unattended. Lock the door when leaving your room. Always take your possessions with you when moving about in the library, classrooms or offices.**

~ **When walking on or off campus after dark, employ the "buddy system" and walk with friends. Also, let friends know when and where you are going, how long you will be gone and when you expect to return. Let your friends know who you will be spending your time with. This alerts them if you are overdue and gives them a reference point to locate you.**

~ **Park your vehicle in a lighted parking area designated for students. Always lock your vehicle. Never leave valuables visible inside your vehicle, secure such items in the vehicles trunk. If you are planning to be away from your vehicle for an extended period, never transfer valuables to the trunk in the presence of others. Always remember to remove your keys from the ignition.**

~ **Properly lock and secure your bicycle to a bike rack, utilizing a strong chain and lock.**

## **ENSURING A SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT**

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

*HARRIS HALL  
Building 118  
Felix Alexis Circle*

## **~ STUDENTS RIGHT TO KNOW REPORT ~**

## **Welcome To Savannah State University**

The Savannah State University Department of Public Safety welcomes you to our campus. It is our sincere hope that you have great success here as a member of the Savannah State University community. It is our pledge as the Department of Public Safety to make your stay as safe and rewarding as possible. We are counting on your help to maintain a safe campus environment. You can begin by becoming familiar with the rules and procedures described in the student handbook and in this pamphlet.

Again, welcome to Savannah State University and may your stay here allow you to acquire the knowledge and skills to realize your life long dreams.

## **Your Public Safety Department**

The primary responsibility of the Public Safety Department is to safeguard the lives and property of faculty, staff, students and visitors here at Savannah State University. The department is able to accomplish this by making available law enforcement services throughout the campus twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week throughout the year.

The department is able to meet the demands of the campus, by patrolling in vehicles, on bicycles and on foot. In an effort to provide the highest level of safety, the department dispatches officers from a central communication center upon receiving a call for service or assistance. The department is available to conduct seminars in all areas of safety, on a regular basis. The department welcomes requests for public seminars. As you become familiar with the members of the department, you will note that not only do they perform law enforcement duties, but they also incorporate campus orientation services as well. These services include but are not limited to: campus escorts, vehicle emergency assistance and off campus escorts in emergencies both medical and non-medical.

The Department of Public Safety is staffed with all certified officers. The agency has a chief, two(2) lieutenants, one(1)sergeant and other public safety officers. In addition, the department is staffed with building security and attendants, communication specialists, a fire safety officer and a department secretary.

The officers assigned with Savannah State University Department of Public Safety have varied backgrounds and experiences. Several have military and law enforcement experiences from other state law enforcement agencies. The department personnel have college degrees and some who are currently enrolled at Savannah State University.

All sworn personnel attend specialized training beyond the state-mandated requirements for continued certification. This training include but is not limited to crime prevention, bike patrol, fingerprinting techniques, community-oriented policing, criminal investigation, interviews and interrogations, first aid and CPR.

**DRUG FREE CAMPUS POLICY:**

Savannah State University is committed to supporting and complying with the drug free schools and communities act amendments of 1989 (**Public Law 10-226, Section 22, Subpart 6**) The law, under this act, covers both drugs and alcohol, and relates to faculty, staff and students. Savannah State University aggressively promotes and requires a drug free campus among its faculty, staff and student body. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession, or use of illegal drugs or alcohol by Savannah State University employees, students, and visitors is prohibited by institutional policy. Violations of the Drug Free Campus Policy will result in appropriate disciplinary penalties, including termination of employment or expulsion and referral for prosecution through the appropriate judicial system of Chatham County.

Persons under the age of twenty-one(21) years old commits a misdemeanor (State Law Violation) when found in the possession of alcohol.

**POSSESSION OR USE OF FIREARMS OR LETHAL WEAPONS:**

The University prohibits the possession or use of privately owned firearms or lethal weapons on campus, including those in vehicles. The Department of Public Safety will initiate the appropriate criminal action against any person found in violation of this state felony law. (**Ga. Code 16-11-127.1**)

**REPORTING PROCEDURES:**

All crimes that occur on the campus of Savannah State University, along with all suspicious activities, should be reported, immediately to the Department of Public Safety via telephone or in person. The office of Public Safety is operational 24 hours a day. If you are the victim of an assault, particularly a sexual assault, contact public safety immediately. If an assault occurs; it's advised against clearing or removing any evidence that could be used to pursue the case for a successful adjudication in court. Treatment and counseling will be arranged by the Department of Public Safety in conjunction with the Office of Student Affairs.

The Department of Public Safety handles emergencies as well as routine telephone and radio communications via the dispatchers. Utilizing radio communication with the local 911 center, the department provides prompt response to medical, fire and other emergencies.

**The telephone numbers for contacting Public Safety:**

- EMERGENCY ..... 356-2772 OR 911**
- NON-EMERGENCY ..... 356-2186**
- INFORMATION ..... 356-2187**

**Confidential and anonymous information can be reported to (912) 356-2018 (SST/PTD) or Crime Stoppers**

**(912)234-2020.**

**Chief of Police, Alvin Stokes welcome comments and concerns. He can be reached by phoning (912) 356-2186, 356-2018 and e-mail stokesa@savstate.edu**

**When reporting crimes or suspicious activities, be sure to provide the following information:**

- ~ NATURE OF THE INCIDENT**
- ~ PERSONS INVOLVED**
- ~ YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR POLICE RECORD**
- ~ THE LOCATION FROM WHICH YOU ARE CALLING**
- ~ INJURIES IF ANY**
- ~ WEAPONS IF ANY**
- ~ ANY OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION YOU FEEL IS IMPORTANT OR NECESSARY.**

**AUTHORITY:**

The powers of authority for the Department of Public Safety derive from **Georgia Code 35-8-10.**

**JURISDICTION**

Georgia Law (**Acts 1968, pg. 370; 1974, pg. 611**) provides University and College Campus Police arrest powers for offenses committed on any public or private property within five hundred (500) yards of any property under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The law enforcement efforts of the Savannah State University Department of Public Safety generally will be confined to properties of Savannah State University. Jurisdictional authority for property within five hundred (500) yards of any property under the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia will be utilized only at the request of other agencies having original jurisdiction, in a situation jeopardizing life and property safety, or in other emergency situations.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY COOPERATION**

The Savannah State University Department of Public Safety works closely with other law enforcement agencies, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) Thunderbolt Police Department, Chatham County Police, Chatham County Sheriff Department, City of Savannah Police Department, Chatham County District Attorney, Chatham County Narcotics Unit, Secret Service, and other state college and university law enforcement agencies.

**SECURITY / ACCESS TO RESIDENCES HALLS:**

Savannah State University residence halls are staffed

by a residence hall director and a residence hall assistant. They work with the department's building attendants to insure a safe living environment for the students.

**Safety tips for a secure residence hall:**

- ~ Upon leaving make sure the door(s) is properly closed.**
- ~ Doors should not be left propped open or altered in any way to prevent proper closing.**
- ~ Unauthorized or uninvited persons should not be admitted.**
- ~ Lock all windows and doors.**
- ~ Use only authorized doors. Doors with alarms should only be used during emergencies.**
- ~ Suspicious persons should be reported immediately to the residence hall staff or public safety.**
- ~ Maintenance deficiencies which may compromise the security of the building are to be reported immediately. After hours report to the Department of Public Safety (356-2186). During normal business hours reports should be made to Plant Operations at (356-2266). Problem may also be reported to Housing at (356-2324) or to the Residence Hall Director.**

The Department of Public Safety is responsible for the security of all campus facilities and must enforce compliance with all rules and regulations regarding access to facilities.

**NOTES**

TYPES OF CRIMES	97	98	99
<b>I. CRIMINAL HOMICIDE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>A. Murder and Non-negligent</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b>Manslaughter</b>			
<b>B. Negligent Manslaughter</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>II. SEX OFFENSES:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>A. Forcible Sex Offenses</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>B. Non-forcible Sex Offenses</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>III. ROBBERY</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>IV. AGGRAVATED ASSAULT</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>V. BURGLARY</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>VI. MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>VII. ARSON</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ARRESTS</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Liquor Law Violations</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Drug Law Violations</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Weapon Law Violations</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Hate Crimes</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>