University Police Services

Public Safety

Philosophy and Service. The Oklahoma State University Police Department is dedicated to enhancing the opportunity for students, faculty and staff to participate in the educational experience by providing a safe, protected and orderly environment. As a service organization, the department offers a full range of police resources, including area patrols, criminal investigations, crime prevention, facilities security analysis, and event planning. In addition, members of the department serve on University and community committees, provide training and specialized presentations to campus organizations and living groups, participate in the testing of safety and traffic control devices, and act as special advisers to all campus departments and administration. The professional police men and women, full-time staff members, and part-time employees are all handicapped to meet the high standards and multidimensional mission of a police department.

The OSU Police Department recently implemented a SafeWalk program. Established on November 1, 2013, and staffed with trained Public Service Officers, the SafeWalk program promotes personal safety by offering free walking escorts to members of the OSU community to destinations within the campus or off campus by either SafeWalk (the Greek Neighborhood and commercial area), the OSU Police Department’s non-emergency number (405-744-6523) and request assistance or make a request directly to any Public Service Officer on duty. The SafeWalk program operates between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. daily. In addition to the SafeWalk program, the OSU Police Officers perform security checks of campus buildings and surrounding grounds, watching for criminal behavior or suspicious activity, and have direct radio contact with the law enforcement officers of the OSU Police Department.

The OSU Police Department was the first policing agency in the State of Oklahoma to receive accreditation from the Oklahoma Association of Chiefs of Police. The OSU Police Department gained accreditation reviews in 1998 and continues its status after undergoing accreditation reviews in 2002, 2005, 2009, 2012 and 2015. The OSU Police Department is comprised of 34 sworn officers. The department maintains a large number of part-time employees (student employees) to perform low-threat duties such as escort and motorist assists and selected assignments dealing with traffic and crowd control. Through efficient management of resources and success in gaining grant funding from State and Federal sources, the department continues to provide highly trained officers with appropriate communications and police equipment.

Policies and procedures have been adopted that stress conservation of equipment and supplies. Grants from the Department of Justice and other sources have allowed the complete computerization of the records keeping and data management functions. Other grants have provided funding necessary for the installation of video camera systems and other protective measures in high target areas of the campus. Overall, the department has gained more than four hundred thousand dollars in grant support to provide the OSU community with better protection and police services. All officers are trained in the principles of community oriented policing.

OSU police provide a positive image to visitors and members of the campus community, whether it is providing directions, motorist assistance, information, or just a friendly welcome. Officers represent the University as a group of caring and professional people, intent upon enhancing a friendly community atmosphere. Necessary enforcement includes using alternatives to arrest when reasonable, and cooperating fully with administrative services and functions that have an impact on student conduct. Enforcement efforts are geared toward providing a safe community.

OSU police participation in athletic and special event staging and planning ensures that all aspects of safety and security of participants are considered. OSU police provide professional crowd control and traffic regulation before, during, and after such events. As first responders to emergency situations, OSU police operate in a manner that is professional and is consistent with the OSU community police policy. OSU police and staff find the OSU police willing to share statistics, insights, and experiences with the OSU police when the user is on campus, and connects with the OSU police department’s non-emergency number (405-744-6523) and request assistance or make a request directly to any Public Service Officer on duty. The OSU Orange Shield Safety App for both emergency and non-emergency, and a police officer will meet the person to gather the information. For those individuals preferring to use personal cell phones, the caller should dial 405-744-6523 for emergency assistance.

The OSU Police Department’s non-emergency number (405-744-6523) and request assistance or make a request directly to any Public Service Officer on duty. The OSU Orange Shield Safety App directs emergency calls to the OSU Police Department when the user is on campus, and connects with the OSU police department’s non-emergency number (405-744-6523) and request assistance or make a request directly to any Public Service Officer on duty. The OSU police provide a positive image to visitors and members of the campus community, whether it is providing directions, motorist assistance, information, or just a friendly welcome. Officers represent the University as a group of caring and professional people, intent upon enhancing a friendly community atmosphere. Necessary enforcement includes using alternatives to arrest when reasonable, and cooperating fully with administrative services and functions that have an impact on student conduct. Enforcement efforts are geared toward providing a safe community.

Crime Awareness

Security, Prevention, Statistics, Intervention

Crime. It is an unfortunate fact that criminal incidents of all types occur on college campuses. Many campuses around the country investigate and make public the nature of crimes, the number, and how they are investigated.

Oklahoma State University subscribes to that approach and further believes that the public should know how active the OSU Police is in crime prevention and detection.

The OSU police sponsor a number of special programs for faculty, staff and students designed to provide information about campus security practices and procedures. During freshman parents’ orientation each summer and monthly new employee seminars, procedures, suggested practices, availability of pertinent information, and individual responsibilities are discussed. The OSU police crime prevention staff provides additional safety and security programs as requested. (See also “Avoiding Victimization.”)

The crime statistics for the past three years for OSU may be found on the Internet at police.okstate.edu.

Reporting Crimes. Crime victims, regardless how seemingly insignificant the crime, are encouraged to promptly report the incident to the OSU Police or the appropriate police agency. To report a crime, a victim or witness need only call the police phone number, 311 (non-emergency) 911 for emergencies, and the Orange Shield Safety App for both emergency and non-emergency, and a police officer will meet the person to gather the information. For those individuals preferring to use personal cell phones, the caller should dial 405-744-6523 for non-emergency assistance.

The OSU Police Department has further developed procedures for collecting information on crimes and violations pertaining to liquor laws, drug-related violations, and weapons violations from such counseling personnel and persons referred for campus disciplinary actions on these offenses. Such violations are published along with other criminal statistics.

Should a student need assistance in reporting crimes or incidents on or off campus, university counselors or police will provide guidance, direction or assistance.

Crimes in Progress. To report a crime in progress, a person, victim or witness, can dial 911 or use one of the outside emergency telephones, call one of the OSU police officers or call the Orange Shield Safety App. Either reporting method will stimulate the response of police, fire, ambulance, or other first responders. The Orange Shield Safety App also allows texting of pertinent information along with video or still images of crimes in progress or suspicious activity. The Orange Shield Safety App also allows texting of pertinent information along with video or still images of crimes in progress or suspicious activity.
in progress or suspicious activity can be reported anonymously through the Orange Shield Safety App. In addition, the victim of serious crimes can request support personnel, such as ministers, rape crisis or domestic violence counseling, during or after reporting. Additionally, crime victims may be eligible for funds through victim compensation laws administered by the Office of the District Attorney.

**Actual Crime at OSU.** Although both OSU and the Stillwater community enjoy a relatively safe environment, it is important to realize that crimes do occur and that everyone should take reasonable precautions to protect themselves and their property.

The crime and arrest statistics reported are those which occurred within the jurisdictional boundaries of campus. They do not include "off campus" organizations or "off campus" private housing; these are within the city’s police jurisdiction. It is the responsibility of the Stillwater Police Department to monitor and record criminal activities at "off campus" organizations or "off campus" private housing. Crime statistics concerning these locations or areas are available at the Stillwater Police Department.

**Crime Statistics.** The OSU Public Safety Department collects and publishes crime statistics for the three most recent calendar years concerning the occurrence on campus, in on non-campus buildings, or property and on public property adjacent to OSU, of the following offenses reported to the local police agencies or to the OSU Police: Criminal Homicide, Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, Non-negligent Manslaughter, Non-Forcible and Forcible Sex Offenses, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, Arson, and Arson for liquor law violations, drug law violations, and weapon violations. Crime statistics are also reported by category of prejudice for any Hate Crimes reported.

All of these statistics are published on the OSU Public Safety Internet site at police.okstate.edu and are available for printing if individuals desire a printed version of the publication. A paper copy can be obtained by contacting the Public Safety Office or by writing to OSU Public Safety, 104 USDA Building, OSU, Stillwater, OK 74078 or by requesting a copy electronically at the above Internet site.

**Future.** Although it is believed that the low incidence of crime will continue, this report is not intended to give a false sense of security. Crime will occur, but prevention efforts can be effective in reducing the opportunities for criminal activity. Citizens play a key role in crime prevention efforts by being cautious, careful, and alert to personal safety and protective of personal and University possessions. The following prevention tips noted below should be followed. During non-open access hours, all residence hall doors are locked except the front desk entrance. Instances of propped open doors have occurred, and residents are encouraged to take security precautions in the halls and rooms. Individual rooms should be locked at all times for safety.

**Crime Prevention.** OSU has experienced success at reducing and preventing crime. Some of the more notable efforts are:
- Emergency telephone system
- Emergency 911 dialing
- Orange Shield Safety App
- SafeWalk Program
- 24-hour preventive patrols
- Campus foot patrol by uniformed officers
- Police officer bicycle patrol
- Police officer Segway patrol
- Burglar alarms in key areas
- 24-hour staff in residence halls
- Custodial staff in academic buildings after hours
- Crime prevention seminar presentations to groups
- Crime prevention pamphlets for students and employees
- Monitoring of some parking lots by surveillance cameras
- Crime stopper telephone line - 744.TIPS (744.8477)

In addition to preventing crime, considerable effort is devoted to crime intervention. All reported crimes are investigated immediately. Follow-up investigation occurs to identify the offenders. Where multiple incidents occur, surveillance techniques are implemented to help apprehend wrongdoers. When caught, offenders are processed through the county court system and OSU when appropriate.

**Police Protection.** The OSU campus is protected by a campus police agency consisting of 34 sworn officers, seven support persons, and nine part-time sworn officers. The agency is operated and available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Authority of the sworn officers is derived from state statutes; these allow for full police powers on property owned or operated by OSU. In addition the OSU Police Department has a multi-jurisdictional agreement with the City of Stillwater and Payne County Sheriff’s Office. These agreements provide additional resources for all agencies involved and therefore the OSU Police enjoy an excellent working relationship with other agencies within the community. All campus police officers undergo an extensive selection process and meet state-mandated training requirements.

**Community Policing.** The department subscribes to the concepts of community policing. The officers have been practicing problem-solving concepts for many years. A police officer bicycle and Segway patrol was established to provide an opportunity for the officers to have closer contact with students.

**Avoiding Victimization.** Tips for personal safety and property security:
- Be cautious of strangers.
- Avoid getting into vulnerable no-exit places.
- Do not hesitate to call police when confronted by unknown persons.
- Keep house or residence hall room locked.
- At night, walk in groups of at least two.
- Walk with confidence, and avoid walking near bushes and parked cars.
- Become familiar with the location of emergency telephones.
- When parking, remove valuables from plain view and lock the vehicle.
- Engrave valuables with driver’s license number and record serial numbers.
- Make copies of credit cards and lists of other valuables carried on person.
- Write name and ID number in several places in textbooks.
- Lock bicycle in a bicycle rack.
- Report all incidents and losses to police immediately.

When serious crimes occur on or off campus that are considered to be a threat to the campus community, that information will be provided to faculty, staff and students. The medium for this information dissemination will be the campus newspaper, student email newsletters, or in special instances, specific notices to on-campus residences. Such notices may be posted on residence hall entrance doors, in residents’ mail boxes, or placed on electronic voice mail. In addition, the OSU Department of Public Safety maintains an Internet page at police.okstate.edu. This page allows access to the daily crime log, crime prevention tips, and links to other sites providing similar information pertinent to the OSU campus.

**Alcoholic Beverages and Other Drugs.** As set forth in local, state and federal laws, and the rules and regulations of the University, Oklahoma State University prohibits, the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees in buildings, facilities, grounds, or other property owned and/or controlled by the University or as part of University activities. Under OSU regulations, with limited exceptions, no low-point beer or other alcoholic beverage is allowed in OSU housing, including fraternities and sororities. Furthermore, under the same regulations, the possession/ consumption of low-point beer or alcohol by those of legal age (over 21) is allowed only in certain designated, non-public places on the OSU campus, properties and facilities, including Lake Carl Blackwell. For further explanation, please see the pamphlet "OSU Dangers of Drugs and Alcohol Abuse.“

Drug and alcohol laws are vigorously enforced on the OSU campus. Violators are subject to criminal prosecution in the District Court of Payne County. The enforcement techniques range from plain view violation to long-term undercover investigations by local, state, or federal agents and agencies.

University Counseling Services and the Employee Assistance Program have counseling and rehabilitation programs for students and employees. In addition, there are counseling and rehabilitation programs for students and employees. In addition, there are resources for all agencies involved and therefore the OSU Police enjoy an excellent working relationship with other agencies within the community. All campus police officers undergo an extensive selection process and meet state-mandated training requirements.

**Sexual Assault.** What to do if Victimized. Oklahoma State University’s prevention efforts in the area of sexual assault (including rape) involve the entire community. Many
Groups are involved in sexual assault prevention. These groups include the OSU Police Department, Residential Life, University Counseling, OSU faculty, Greek Life, University Conduct Office, OSU Student Health Center, OSU Mental Health, PAOK (students who are peer educators), and OSU staff personnel. They provide training programs, presentations, and workshops to any interested individuals or groups.

Program topics generally include stranger rape, date acquaintance rape, rapist characteristics, rape trauma syndrome, and victim recovery. An increasing number of presentations, explaining the male’s role in sexual assaults, are directed to all male audiences, such as fraternities and athletic teams.

**Procedures to Follow.** A victim of sexual assault should follow certain procedures and consider several options. These procedures and options are clearly outlined in the rape avoidance seminars mentioned previously and “Rape Prevention” pamphlets made available to the OSU community. These educational programs and pamphlets also outline techniques and strategies that help people recognize and avoid sexual assault threats.

**Evidence.** Preserving evidence is of paramount importance after a sexual assault. Victims should be careful not to bathe, douche, wash clothing, or tamper with other potential evidence after a sexual assault. The first inclination may be to do one or more of these; however, the temptation should be resisted. Evidence is critical in a criminal prosecution.

**Contacting the Police Department.** When a sexual assault is reported to the OSU Police Department or to the Stillwater Police Department, an officer is dispatched. Determining the extent of physical and emotional trauma that the victim has suffered will be the officer’s first concern. If the attack just occurred, the officer will want a brief review of the events, a description of the assailant, the direction of travel, and a description of the vehicle used by the assailant, if any. This information is necessary in order to apprehend the assailant as soon as possible. After the initial interview, the officer or whoever is designated by the victim, will assist in getting a complete change of clothes. Agreeing to have a Sexual Assault Examination. An officer or designee will take the victim to the Student Health Clinic or the Stillwater Medical Center to be examined by a physician. A complete physical examination will be given as well as treatment for any injuries. A friend or relative may be permitted to accompany the victim. In addition, the victim may be examined for the purpose of obtaining evidence that would be needed in court. Appropriate antibiotic therapy can be given to decrease the chances of developing venereal disease. After the examination at the hospital, the officer may bring the victim back to the police headquarters or another location to complete the interview. Again, a counselor is encouraged to be present.

The victim of a rape is not responsible for legal expenses related to the criminal prosecution. The case is prosecuted by the Office of the District Attorney. The victim only has to contribute time. The Stillwater Medical Center can provide initial medical services for rape victims. The Crime Victims Compensation Board can provide payment for medical services and counseling, even if charges are not filed. The victim need only file an application with the Office of the District Attorney.

**Police Investigation.** Later, at police headquarters, the victim will be asked to be more specific about the events of the attack. A person of the victim’s choosing may accompany the victim during this period. This questioning is done to help the investigation and to help arrange the events firmly in mind. The victim’s comments will probably be tape recorded for future reference. This will make testifying in court much easier and less frightening. It will be handled considerately and courteously. Only the investigating officer will ask questions. Based on conversations with the officer, the victim can then decide whether or not to file charges. Threats or harassment of a rape victim after charges have been filed are rare. When finished at police headquarters, the victim can go to a place of their choice. OSU and Stillwater Police officers have been trained to deal with sexual assault victims. However, if the victim should feel uncomfortable speaking to a male officer, every effort will be made to notify a female officer, female counselor, or female volunteer.

A rape or sexual assault may be reported to the hall director, a university counselor, or health worker at the Student Health Center. Charges do not have to be filed against the attacker if a rape is reported. However, it is wise to give information to the police anyway. The information and suspect description may help locate a suspect in other offenses and possibly prevent another person from becoming the victim of a rape. The police will not know that there is a rapist on campus unless they are told. The police will not pressure the victim to file charges. Victims of sexual assault can elect to have personal information eliminated from police reports.

**Support Services**

**University Conduct Office.** If the victim does not want the case to be addressed through the criminal justice system, another alternative is available. Cases involving students who are accused of non-academic misconduct might be assigned to the Office of Student Conduct. Persons found guilty of sexual assault, forcible or non-forcible, could be placed on probation or suspended from OSU. Both the accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during a campus disciplinary hearing, and both are entitled to be informed of the outcome of any disciplinary proceeding.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Conduct at 405.744.5470. Also, a copy of the “Student’s Rights and Responsibilities” can be obtained at various locations on campus.

**Role of University Housing and Residential Life.** The hall directors and resident assistants who work in the residence halls continually attend sexual assault training programs, and they learn how to respond to a student who has been victimized by a sexual or physical attack. They have been informed about the resources available; in fact, some have been trained to conduct sexual assault presentations and workshops. A victim of a sexual assault may request assistance from the University administration in changing academic and/or living situations where a continued threat may be reasonably assumed.

**Role of University Counseling Services.** The OSU Student Health Center and University Counseling Services provide individual and group counseling services for those victimized by sexual or physical assault. Services are available to all Oklahoma State University students, regardless of gender, and their significant others.

The psychological and emotional trauma after a sexual assault can be painful. Possible symptoms include: eating disorders, sleep disturbances, lack of trust, guilt feelings, depression, mood swings, and relationship and communication problems. Sexual assault incidents can only be greatly reduced when men and women understand the dynamics involved in sexual assaults and are willing to participate in educational programming and ongoing communication.
Student Code of Conduct

Office of Student Conduct Education and Administration

Campus Address and Phone:
328 Student Union, Stillwater, OK 74078
405.744.5470
Website: studentconduct.okstate.edu

Oklahoma State University is committed to creating and maintaining a productive living and learning community that fosters the intellectual, personal, cultural and ethical development of its students. Self-discipline and valuing for the rights of others are essential to the educational process and to good citizenship. Attendance at Oklahoma State University is a privilege and students are expected to meet or exceed the University standards of conduct both on and off campus.

The purpose of the Student Code of Conduct is to educate students about their civic and social responsibilities as members of the University community. The Student Code of Conduct outlines University policies and procedures that all students are expected to adhere to during their time at OSU. Each student is responsible for reading the Student Code of Conduct in its entirety. It is available online at http://studentconduct.okstate.edu/code and in print from the Office of Student Conduct Education and Administration.

Cowboy Community Standards

The Student Code of Conduct specifies the following behavioral standards that OSU students aspire to follow and promote:

- **Integrity:** Oklahoma State University students are expected to exemplify honest, honor, and respect for the truth in all of their actions.
- **Community:** Oklahoma State University students build and enhance their community. They understand and appreciate how their decisions and actions impact others and are just and equitable in their treatment of all members of the community.
- **Social Justice:** Oklahoma State University students recognize that respecting the dignity of every person is essential for creating and sustaining a flourishing university community. They act to discourage and challenge those who actions may be harmful to and/or diminish the worth of others.
- **Respect:** Oklahoma State University students must show positive regard for each other and for the community.
- **Responsibility:** Oklahoma State University students are expected to accept responsibility for their learning, personal behavior and future success, and students should appropriately challenge others to do the same. Students should use judgment, be trustworthy, and take personal responsibility for their actions.

1 is 2 Many

Oklahoma State University (OSU) takes acts of sexual harassment, which includes sexual violence, extremely seriously and believes that 1 victim is 2 many. Sexual harassment and sexual violence are forms of gender discrimination that are not tolerated at OSU. The university strongly encourages victims to report all acts of gender discrimination. Anyone can report instances of sexual harassment and sexual violence to Student Conduct in 328 Student Union or at 405-744-5470. For more information on sexual harassment or sexual violence visit: http://1is2many.okstate.edu

All incoming students are required to complete sexual harassment and sexual violence training before enrolling in future semesters. Training can be complete online at http://1is2many.okstate.edu.