

TEXAS A&M HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER MCALLEN CAMPUS ANNUAL REPORT 2009

September 30, 2010

Texas A&M Health Science Center – South Texas Center Campus is dedicated to providing a safe and secure campus environment for all students, faculty, staff, and guests. This information has been prepared to ensure that Texas A&M Health Science Center-South Texas Center Campus is in compliance with the federal guidelines under the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1999. This report includes crime statistics for the previous three years that occurred on campus, and on public property adjacent to and accessible from the campus. Crime statistics are solicited from The South Texas Center, the McAllen Police Department, Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office, and Hidalgo County Constable's Office.

Information for obtaining a copy of the annual security report is made available to all students, prospective students, employees, and prospective employees by email with a link to the Crimes Statistics webpage. The report is distributed throughout campus, available upon request at the Texas A&M Health Science Center-South Texas Center Administration Office and on the Texas A&M Health Science Center-South Texas Center Security website.

Campus Security (Jurisdiction, Enforcement, Arrest Powers)

Security officers are not employed at the South Texas Center. The McAllen Police Department is the sole law enforcement authority on the Texas A&M Health Science Center-South Texas Center campus, and is ready to assist twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year. The Director, Facilities, Construction, Planning, Risk Management, Security, Safety, and Fleet, Office of the Vice President for Finance and Administration, solicits statistics from the McAllen Police Department. The McAllen Police Department is located at 1601 N. Bicentennial Blvd. McAllen, Texas 78501, and is ready to assist twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year. The McAllen Police Department has full arrest powers on campus and is authorized to carry firearms.

Interagency Relationships

The Texas A&M Health Science Center-South Texas Center Administration maintains a working relationship with the McAllen Police Department, Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department, and other local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

Crime Prevention and Awareness Programs

The TAMU University Police Department's Specialized Services division is available and has conducted many different presentations. These presentations are held upon requests of faculty, staff and student organizations. Some of these programs include:

- Personal Safety
- Sexual Assault Prevention
- Alcohol/Drug Awareness
- Hazing
- Protecting Personal Property against Theft and Burglary
- Operation I.D.
- Workplace Safety

As part of the crime prevention program, the Security Administration offers security surveys for work spaces.

Crime Reporting Procedures

The campus community (faculty, staff, and students) is encouraged to report all crimes to the Administrative offices in a timely manner. Crimes should be reported to the Administration to ensure inclusion in the annual crime statistics. McAllen Police are available twenty four hours a day, year round. Crimes can be reported to the Security Department by any of the following means:

- McAllen Police..... (956) 681-2000
- Administration..... (956) 668-6300
- 9-911 should be utilized to report any life threatening emergency.

Confidential Reporting

Members of the campus community may confidentially report incidents in which they are victims or witnesses to any campus security authority for inclusion in the annual crime statistics. It may not be possible for campus security to investigate crimes that are reported anonymously or confidentially.

When to Call Security

- All Emergencies including medical, fire, and accidents.
- A firearm or weapon is seen in a room or on a person.
- Someone is displaying any type of unusual behavior.
- Someone states he/she wishes to hurt themselves or others.
- Suspicious persons in suspicious places.
- You or someone else is threatened with violence.
- You or someone you know is a victim of violence.
- Someone is harassing/stalking you or someone you know.
- A stranger entering your co-worker's workspace when you know they are gone.
- A person screaming (it may indicate they need help).
- Anyone looking into car window or trying door handles.
- The sound of breaking glass or other loud noises they may indicate an accident or other crime.
- Persons loitering around the building.
- Someone forcing entry into the building, car or vending machine.
- Anytime you feel unsafe or notice something that does not appear right.

Information Needed By Security

- What happened?
- When?
- Where?
- Is anyone injured?
- Vehicle description and if possible, the license number
- Direction of flight

- Description of persons (including clothing)
- When describing suspects, notice age, race, sex, height, and weight. Compare your weight and height with the suspect's. Pick out some unique characteristics that will help you identify the suspect in the future.

Security Response

The McAllen Police Department responds to all emergencies and investigates all reports of criminal activity that occur on campus. Their responses include but are not limited to the following:

- Investigation of reports following McAllen PD procedures.
- Arrest, file charges with the appropriate courts when such action is necessary.
- Reports involving students will be forwarded to the Judicial Affairs office for review and potential judicial action.

When a Serious Crime Occurs (Timely Warnings)

When a serious crime occurs on campus that represents an immediate threat to the campus, the Administration will publicize a warning. Timely Warnings will be distributed via e-mail and voice mail.

Emergency Response and Immediate Warning

Texas A&M Health Science Center is committed to providing a safe environment for the campus community, which includes students, faculty, staff, and guests. Due to past incidents of violence and critical emergencies on campuses across the country, The Texas A&M Health Science Center has a campus notification system known as HSC-ALERT (E2Campus). In the event of an immediate threat to the health or safety of the campus community the security office will activate HSC-ALERT immediately, without any delay. This system encompasses several means of notifying the campus community. Emergency information and instructions will be sent via text messaging to cell phones, audio messages to office and classroom phones, and campus wide emails. Warnings will only be withheld if they compromise the efforts to contain the emergency. The campus community is encouraged to keep their personal contact information current. The E2Campus system is periodically tested throughout the year. Information on this system is made via email three times a year before each test.

Crime Log

McAllen Police Department maintains a daily activity log of all calls for police assistance. This log also includes crimes that have occurred on campus.

Securing of Campus Facilities

The facilities of Texas A&M Health Science Center-South Texas Center are well maintained. Students, faculty, and staff at Texas A&M Health Science Center-South Texas Center have access to all academic and administrative facilities. Access to private offices and certain other areas are restricted through the issuance of keys. Visitors to the campus have access to those areas officially opened for study, work, or related functions. Administration monitors the facility closely to assure that no unauthorized persons have access during the day and after closing hours.

Security Considerations Used in Maintenance

The Administration works closely with other departments to maintain a safe campus. Maintenance checks and keeps repaired all locks and maintain the grounds to ensure an environment which is best suited for an institution of higher education. Maintenance personnel repair locks and doors that are not working properly. Maintenance checks the campus lighting on a regular basis and informs repairs all non-working lights. The campus community is encouraged to report all safety concerns to Administration, Facilities Services or the Environmental Health and Safety Officer.

Weapons/Alcohol/Drugs

Weapons

The use, possession, or carrying of any kind of firearm on the property of an institution of Higher Education is a violation of state laws and Health Science Center regulations. Violations may result in an arrest, and/or suspension from the Health Science Center. The only exceptions are for authorized law enforcement officers.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE

The Texas A&M Health Science Center prohibits the illicit use, sale, attempted sale, conveyance, distribution, manufacture, cultivation, dispensation, purchase, attempted purchase, and possession of illegal drugs, intoxicants, or controlled substances, at any time and in any amount or in any manner. Illicit drugs include all drugs for which possession is illegal under federal or state law, including prescription drugs for which the individual does not have a valid prescription.

The purchase, consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages in facilities under the control of the HSC shall in all respects comply with state laws and with guidelines as defined in System Policy 34.03 and System Regulation 34.02.01. Misconduct may result in arrests, and/or Health Science Center disciplinary action and penalties. Among the violations that could result in penalties are:

- The purchase, consumption, possession, or transportation of alcoholic beverages by anyone under the age of twenty-one.
- The furnishing of alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of twenty-one.
- Public Intoxication as defined by Texas Penal Code 49.02

Consumption of alcoholic beverages shall be limited to the designated areas and shall be subject to all requirements of state law, local laws, and Health Science Center regulations. Any use of alcoholic beverages should be in moderation. Loud or disruptive behaviors, interference with cleanliness of facilities, or drinking habits that are harmful to the health or education of an individual or those around him/her are reasons for appropriate disciplinary action by the Health Science Center.

Drugs

The use, possession, consumption, sale, manufacture, or furnishing of illicit drugs and narcotics, including marijuana and drug paraphernalia, is prohibited by state law and Health Science Center regulations. Violations may result in arrest and or suspension from the Health Science Center for a definite period of time.

Substance Abuse Programs

Sexual Assault

Sexual Assault (Rape) is a non-consensual sexual act involving force, manipulation, or coercion. It is an act of aggression, violence, and power and is a felony crime under Texas Penal Code 22.011. The perpetrator can be either a stranger, acquaintance, relative, or date.

Reporting Procedures

If a sexual offense occurs on campus, the victim has the option and will be encouraged to notify the McAllen Police Department. Assistance with notifying the police will be provided by campus authorities if desired by the victim. It is important for the victim to receive prompt medical attention and for evidence to be preserved. The victim will be notified of existing counseling services on campus as well as off-campus services such as the Women's Shelter. If a sexual offense occurs off campus, the victim will need to report the offense to the local police department; however, the victim can still receive assistance from on campus resources including Counseling.

What to do if you are a victim of Sexual Assault

- Do not destroy evidence by bathing, douching, washing hands, brushing teeth, changing clothes or linens, eating or drinking. It is important to preserve evidence to assist in the investigation.
- Notify a friend or family member to help you collect your thoughts. Call the McAllen Police Department (9-911) or Security, who in turn will contact McAllen PD.
- Seek medical attention in the ER of a local hospital. You need to have a sexual assault exam even if you decide not to press charges. The exam is used to collect evidence as well as to assure you that you did not sustain injuries, which may not be visible.
- Seek counseling. The University Counseling Center has counselors that can be available to students twenty-four hours a day. You can also contact the local Women's Shelter.

What happens when the Police respond

- Police officers will respond immediately.
- The police will gather information from the victim and collect all evidence.
- The police will encourage the victim to seek medical attention and will arrange transportation.
- An investigator will interview the victim.
- The MPD's crime victim's liaison will be available to assist the victim.
- In ALL cases the victim will be treated with compassion, consideration, understanding, and patience during the interview.
- Security will make every attempt to maintain the confidentiality of the victim.
- Even if no criminal charges are filed, information gathered and evidence obtained by the police can be used in Health Science Center disciplinary action if the assailant is a student.

Disciplinary Actions for Alleged Sexual Offenses

The Office of Vice President for Student Affairs conducts campus disciplinary proceedings in cases of alleged sexual offenses. Possible sanctions to be imposed following the determination of an on-campus disciplinary procedure regarding rape, acquaintance rape, or other sex offenses, forcible or non-forcible, include the appropriate action such as loss of privileges, block of enrollment, probation, suspension, dismissal or expulsion. Accusers and the accused are both entitled to have others present during the disciplinary proceedings and the accuser and accused will be informed of the outcome of the disciplinary proceeding.

Sexual Assault Programs

The STC offers special programs throughout the year to raise awareness about Sexual Assault. These programs are sponsored by the Texas A&M University Police Crime Prevention Division. You can also contact the Alcohol and Drug Education Programs, Department of Student Life at (979) 845-0280.

Sex Offender Registration

Information regarding sex offenders can be found by clicking on the link below or on the through links connected to the Texas Dept. of Public Safety.

https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/DPS_WEB/SorNew/index.aspx

Victim's Assistance

The McAllen Police Department has a crime victim's liaison available for victims of crime. The liaison provides guidance to victims with medical, emotional, or financial needs, and makes referrals to the appropriate counseling agencies. The liaison assists and provides information to the victim during criminal investigations. For more information or to contact the victim's liaison call (956)682-4321.

Important Phone Numbers

- McAllen Police (956) 682-4321
- Administration..... (956) 668-6300

Personal Safety Tips

Have a personal safety plan; know what you are going to do in the event of an emergency. (What if game)

- Keep all contact information current.
- When going out, go with a friend, arrive together and leave together.
- Walk purposely. Be Confident. Look Confident. Stay Alert.
- Avoid dark and isolated areas. Use well-traveled routes.

- **Change your daily routine, use different routes to and from class/work.**
- **Lock all doors and windows when leaving your vehicle, even for just a few minutes.**
- **Have your keys ready when you approach your vehicle or home. Check the area before entering.**
- **Do not enter if you notice anything suspicious or out of place.**
- **Don't keep large sums of money on your person or in your Residence.**
- **Lock all doors and windows to your residence even if you are only leaving for a short while.**
- **Do not advertise that you are not home by leaving notes on your front door or answering machines stating you are not home.**
- **Let someone know where you are going to be, especially if you are going to be out late at night.**

Fire Safety Report

The Texas A&M Health Science Center does not utilize any on-campus housing for its students and is not required by federal law to provide a Fire Safety Report.

CAMPUS SAFETY SUMMARY

SOUTH TEXAS CENTER - McALLEN, TEXAS CAMPUS

Crime Stats 2009

January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009

CAVEAT: The South Texas Center is part of The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center. The South Texas Center is a stand-alone campus located in McAllen, Texas.

Offense	On Campus	On Campus Housing	Public Property	Off Campus Bldg./ Property	Total
Murder	0		0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0		0	0	0
Arson	0		0	0	0
Burglary	0		0	0	0
Manslaughter	0		0	0	0
Murder	0		0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0		0	0	0
Robbery	0		0	0	0
Sexual Offense Forcible	0		0	0	0
Sexual Offense Non-forcible	0		0	0	0
Drug Law Arrest	0		0	0	0
Drug Law Referral	0		0	0	0
Liquor Law Arrest	0		0	0	0
Liquor Law Referral	0		0	0	0
Weapon Law Arrest	0		0	0	0
Weapon Law Referral	0		0	0	0
Hate Crimes					
Race	0		0	0	0
Gender	0		0	0	0
Religion	0		0	0	0
Sexual Orientation	0		0	0	0
Ethnicity	0		0	0	0
Disability	0		0	0	0

Crime Stats 2008
January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008

Offense	On Campus	On Campus Housing	Public Property	Off Campus Bldg./ Property	Total
Murder	0		0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0		0	0	0
Arson	0		0	0	0
Burglary	0		0	0	0
Manslaughter	0		0	0	0
Murder	0		0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0		0	0	0
Robbery	0		0	0	0
Sexual Offense Forcible	0		0	0	0
Sexual Offense Non- forcible	0		0	0	0
Drug Law Arrest	0		0	0	0
Drug Law Referral	0		0	0	0
Liquor Law Arrest	0		0	0	0
Liquor Law Referral	0		0	0	0
Weapon Law Arrest	0		0	0	0
Weapon Law Referral	0		0	0	0
Hate Crimes					
Race	0		0	0	0
Gender	0		0	0	0
Religion	0		0	0	0
Sexual Orientation	0		0	0	0
Ethnicity	0		0	0	0
Disability	0		0	0	0

Crime Stats 2007
January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007

Offense	On Campus	On Campus Housing	Public Property	Off Campus Bldg./ Property	Total
Murder	0		0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0		0	0	0
Arson	0		0	0	0
Burglary	0		0	0	0
Manslaughter	0		0	0	0
Murder	0		0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0		0	0	0
Robbery	0		0	0	0
Sexual Offense Forcible	0		0	0	0
Sexual Offense Non- forcible	0		0	0	0
Drug Law Arrest	0		0	0	0
Drug Law Referral	0		0	0	0
Liquor Law Arrest	0		0	0	0
Liquor Law Referral	0		0	0	0
Weapon Law Arrest	0		0	0	0
Weapon Law Referral	0		0	0	0
Hate Crimes					
Race	0		0	0	0
Gender	0		0	0	0
Religion	0		0	0	0
Sexual Orientation	0		0	0	0
Ethnicity	0		0	0	0
Disability	0		0	0	0