Sooner Global Newsletter

Issue 5/20

**Issue 5: Safety and the OU Police Department**

SGN 5 focuses on how to stay safe in Norman and protect your valuables!

Part of adjusting to life in America includes abiding by, and learning about laws and regulations that are in place to keep you safe and healthy. Like any country, America has its own laws and guidelines and it is very important that you are aware of these regulations so that you stay within the law and out of harm. This issue of SGN is designed to keep you aware of the health and safety regulations you will need to be aware of while studying at OU.

**Week 5**

- Police Divisions
- Rules regarding alcohol
The OU PD is comprised of 3 entities that together form one cohesive department, the OU Police Bike Patrol, the OU Police Department open 24/7, and OU Community Service Officers that assist in housing, academic and other campus buildings. Each entity is dedicated to your safety and security.

## Divisions of the OU PD

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OU Police Department</td>
<td>- Crimes that are committed at OU need to be reported to the OU Police Department</td>
<td>Emergency&lt;br&gt;- On campus 911 or 325-1911&lt;br&gt;- Off campus 911</td>
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<tr>
<td>OU Police Department Divisions</td>
<td>- Crimes that occur in the City of Norman need to be reported to the Norman Police Department</td>
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<td>Jurisdiction</td>
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## Oklahoma ID Card vs. Oklahoma Driver’s License

An Oklahoma ID Card is used for identification purposes only, and may be acquired (after arrival) if you would like another form of personal ID. If you wish to acquire a driver’s license begin by studying the Driver license test manuals available at [www.dps.state.ok.us](http://www.dps.state.ok.us). Click on “Drivers Manual.”
There are important rules and regulations regarding alcohol in America that you will need to be aware of including, where it is and is not allowed and who is allowed to consume alcoholic beverages.

♦ Drinking intoxicating beverages in a public place is a crime in the US
  - No drinking alcohol in the presence of the public, like on sidewalks, parks or driving. Establishments (clubs, restaurants) are considered public places too, but there enclosed and licensed for the product, and therefore drinking alcohol is allowed. Exception: OU football home game days

♦ Possession of alcoholic beverages
  - No person under twenty-one (21) years of age shall, in any public or private place, possess, consume or have control over any intoxicating beverage or low-point beer
  - Violating this law is a criminal act that may result in jail time, a court appearance, and a conviction
Identity Theft
ID Theft is a growing problem around the world. To protect yourself from having someone steal and use your identity be careful when using credit cards, keep an up to date balance on your personal accounts, and never carry your original identification documents (make a copy of your passport and/or Social Security.

Campus Safety

Personal Safety

**Do not** carry large amounts of cash
Do not carry credit cards
Do not carry your original Social Security Card
Do not carry your original passport
Do not loan your key out

**Do** carry identification
Do carry emergency contact information (for example, roommate and close friends)
Lock and check your doors and windows
Never walk alone after dark (Safewalk 325-WALK)
Use your cell phone

Blue Light Phones
These phones (image above) are part of an Emergency Phone System located throughout campus that serves as a direct line to OU Police.

Bikes Safety
Secure your bike using a U-lock or similar lock
Register bike at OUPD HQ or on-line (No Fee)
[http://www.ou.edu/oupd/](http://www.ou.edu/oupd/)

Personal Computers and Laptops
Engravers are available in University Housing and at the Safewalk Office (Cate Main)
Keep serial, make and model numbers for reference.

NEVER leave laptops unattended! They will be stolen!
+Tornado Sirens.

A steady siren for three to five minutes means **IMMINENT DANGER**. Take shelter immediately in the nearest suitable protective area. Protective areas should be identified in advance. *Once the sirens sound, it is too late to seek protection at a remote location.*

An "all clear" signal will **NOT** be given via the siren system. It is urged that reliance be placed on the broadcast media for this and other status and forecast information.

*Note: Tornado Sirens are tested every Friday at 12:00 pm and will typically not indicate an actual tornado*

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**Student Perspectives**

"Norman has been ranked among the top 10 cities to live in the United States by CNN and security is one of the main reasons. Being a college student at OU is one of the safest experiences; you can walk home late at night and feel secure."

Wara Bocangel from Bolivia
Major: Petroleum Engineering