Week 5: Safety and the OU Police Department

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 on 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.

**Oklahoma ID Card vs. Oklahoma Driver’s License**

An Oklahoma ID Card is used for identification purposes only, and may be acquired 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.”

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**Divisions of the OU PD**

- **OU Police Department Divisions,**
- **Jurisdiction,** &
- **Contact Information**

**OK Driver’s License**

- **On campus 911 or 325-1911**
- **Off campus 911**

- **On campus 325-2864**
- **Off campus 321-1600**

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**Jurisdiction**

- Crimes that are committed at OU need to be reported to the OU Police Department
- Crimes that occur in the City of Norman need to be reported to the Norman Police Department

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**Contact Information**

- Emergency
- Non-Emergency
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 person shall drink any intoxicating beverage in any public place nor shall any person be intoxicated in such public place.

- 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.

+Personal Safety
- Make clear copies of EVERYTHING in your wallet
- Don’t carry your original passport
- Get an Oklahoma State ID
- Provide your roommate a copy of your class schedule
- Stay in touch with each other – advise each other where you’re

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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