

THE CHIEF'S *Brief* MARCH/APRIL 2023



Safety Tips:

Spring break is approaching and many may have travel plans. If you are leaving the country, look up the latest U.S. State Department Advisories for the region you are traveling to. These can be found at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories>

If traveling locally during the break, remember to watch for distracted drivers; reduce your speed; don't drive and text; and most of all, don't drink and drive.

Let others know when you will be traveling. Share your route and expected time of arrival with a trusted friend or family member. That way, if you do not show at the expected time, your route is known. You can also let a trusted friend or family member follow you through your phone through apps like "Find my Friends" or "Life 360". Finally, just be smart and be aware of your surroundings.

Most of all, have a safe and fun break!

If you see something, say something! If you see suspicious persons or activity, call your University Police Department immediately at 985-549-2222. We are available 24-7/365. We are physically located on the 1st floor of Pride Hall.

Send any questions or comments to police@southeastern.edu.

We will see you around campus! LION UP!

Chief Beckner

Southeastern Louisiana University Police Department



POLICE

What we've been up to:

Welcome to this month's Chief's Brief. This is a monthly feature to let you, the Lion Community, know what has been happening on campus, where you can meet an officer, answer any questions you have about your University Police Department (UPD), and to offer a monthly safety tip.

I would like to give a shout out to Coach Ayla Guzzardo and the Southeastern Lady Lions for their NCAA conference championship and the first ever selection to the big dance. The season was a memorable one and the future is even brighter with many more big dance appearances to come.

UPD, along with the rest of the Lion Nation, has had to weather the network outage. We were able to keep many of our systems up and the internet going in our department with emergency backup systems. We remained on duty never losing access to our dispatch and report writing software, our safety features provided to the community such as the Lion Safe App, and the Emergency Alert System. You were always safe!

Not unlike you, we have not been able to provide some basic functions in the office, like accessing our internal data. I want to applaud our students who have endured many disruptions during their learning process. From the 2020 pandemic shutdown, to Hurricane IDA, to this incident, you've endured! If you are graduating or have been here for the last 3 years, you can truly say you know how to handle a crisis and you can adapt to any situation. The Lion Nation is truly resilient. I have to say, I have seen the many meme's going around and the creativity and wit has kept a smile on my face. I'm glad to see the sense of humor, but having a sense of community is also important - please thank your faculty because they have also endured these hardships. Also a big thank you to the University's technology staff for getting our systems back up and running as soon as it was safe to do so.

As many of the systems begin to return and the reality of catch up begins, I understand the stress and anxiety that can come along with that reality. Make sure you have an outlet. UPD Officers are here 24/7 and can put you in touch with any resources you may need through our University Counseling Center.

Upcoming UPD Events:

April begins the many extra events on campus, which UPD must cover. We scale back our own events so we may provide law enforcement coverage to other events. With that said, we are always patrolling campus through various means. If you have a question or just want to chat with an officer, they are more than willing.

April 19, 2023 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., UPD will be participating in "Guns -N- Hoses" - a charity basketball event to benefit Autism Awareness Month. UPD will be joined by the Hammond Police Department, Hammond Fire Department, and the Independence Fire Department to play basketball at the University Center.

April 25, 2023 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the Division of Student Affairs will have its Convocation in the Student Union Ballroom. This is when our division honors the reason we are here, our students.

April 26, 2023 is Denim Day. We show support for survivors and educate others about all forms of sexual assault. UPD Officers will be wearing jeans as their uniform on this day. I encourage Lion Nation to join in and tag us in your social media posts of you wearing jeans - @southeasternupd

If you or your organization would like UPD to present on a topic, please reach out to us and we will make it happen.