The following information was reported from the Gainesville Police Department (GPD) today and is being distributed to the campus community due to the crime’s close proximity to the University of Florida campus:

The GPD is currently investigating the occurrence of an armed robbery that took place on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 just before 3:00am. The incident took place around the 2200 block of SW 2nd Avenue. According to information provided by the GPD, the victim stated that he was on his way home from the midtown area when an unknown black male, wearing a baggy grey T-shirt, approached him from behind. The black male told him to give him his money while pulling a gun out and pointing it at the victim. The victim gave the suspect his phone instead and was then able to run away from the scene of the incident. The suspect was believed to have fled on foot back towards the midtown area. The victim later contacted the GPD to report the incident and a canvass of the area was conducted with no suspect located.

The suspect is described as a black male, black male, between 5`8" and 5`10", with short black hair but not completely shaved, no facial hair, between the ages of 20 and 25, with medium skin color, and was last seen wearing a grey baggy T-shirt.

Anyone with information about the incident or who may know the man’s identity is asked to call the Gainesville Police Department at 352.955.1818 or text keyword GPDFL plus your tip to 274637 (CRIMES). Those who wish to remain anonymous can call Crime Stoppers at 352.372.STOP (7867).
Basic Safety Tips and Considerations for the University of Florida Community

Report suspicious activities or individuals immediately using 9.1.1

Always be alert and aware of your surroundings. This is particularly true if you are wearing headphones and may not be able to hear someone near or behind you.

If possible, walk home with a friend.

If someone bothers you, don’t be embarrassed to attract attention to yourself. Yell!

Avoid walking alone. On campus, use the Student Nighttime Auxiliary Patrol (SNAP), a safe campus escort service by calling 352.392.7627 (SNAP).

Stay in well-lighted areas, away from alleys, bushes, and entryways.

If someone stops and asks for directions, avoid getting close to the individual.

The UFPD firmly believes that crime is never the fault of the victim. These general safety tips are provided in an effort to assist members of the UF community.

For questions regarding information contained in this release, please contact Major Brad Barber at (352) 273-3309. If after hours, please call (352) 392-1111 (#UFPD (#8373) and ask to speak to a Patrol Supervisor. I can also be reached via e-mail at: wbarber@ufl.edu, or see the UFPD webpage at http://www.police.ufl.edu.

Released by: Major Brad Barber, Assistant Director
Reviewed by: Deputy Chief Darren Baxley, Associate Director
Number: 14—05