SUBJECT: Off-Campus Sexual Battery

CASE REPORT: GPD CR#16-13326

DATE OF INCIDENT: Thursday, July 21, 2016

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NARRATIVE:

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 are currently investigating a sexual battery incident involving a 19 year old female that occurred Thursday, July 21, 2016 at approximately 2:00am in the area of 1620 West University Avenue (behind the Chain Reaction and 101 Cantina). The original witness to the incident, an employee of 101 Cantina, indicated that he was taking garbage outside and then heard noises behind a dumpster. When he went to see what may have been taking place, he observed the sexual battery taking place. He then got another employee, confronted the male, and after a brief struggle, the suspect was able to break free and run away from the two employees.

The GPD notified the incident and provided an immediate response but did not locate the suspect.

The suspect is described as white male, early 20’s, approximately 5’7” to 5’8” in height, 145-150 pounds, and was last seen wearing an orange plaid shirt, blue jeans, and gray Toms shoes. The GPD will be increasing patrols and are working active leads toward identifying and apprehending the suspect.

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).
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.

If you become a victim of crime, please contact law enforcement immediately by calling 9-1-1.

Immediately report any suspicious person or activity to law enforcement.

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

Do not allow anyone to follow you in your residence as you enter.

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

Always try to let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.

If possible, walk with others to your destination.

If you believe you are being followed, try to find the nearest populated location to get assistance and call 9-1-1.

For questions regarding information contained in this release, please contact Officer Wayne Clark at (352) 273-3304 or 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: wclark34@ufl.edu or see the UFPD webpage at www.police.ufl.edu

Released by:  Major Brad Barber, Assistant Director
Reviewed by:  Chief Linda Stump-Kurnick, Vice-President of Environmental and Public Safety
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