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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dear campus community member,

On behalf of all members of the University of Illinois Police Department and the Division of Public Safety, I am honored to have the opportunity to present our 2017 Annual Report. The information detailed in these pages reflects a summary of our activities and accomplishments in addition to trends and challenges we face as a community. The ability to maintain an attractive quality of campus life and climate is directly tied to the university’s position and reputation as a safe place for our global and diverse community to live and study.

Our mission to promote a safe and secure environment where education, research and public service can flourish is accomplished only with the partnership and assistance of our community. We have a very safe campus, but no community is completely immune from crime. This report is part of our effort to make sure our community members have the information they need to look out for themselves and each other. It is imperative that we all take responsibility for public safety in our community – none of us can do it alone.

Relationships with our community are cultivated in a positive and healthy manner based upon our values of justice, respect and integrity. Our current strategic plan to address crime, overall campus safety and preparedness centers on a four-prong effort: community-based personnel and increased visibility; crime prevention and analysis through continuous education and best practices; addressing critical emergency planning needs including reliable notification systems, building action and business continuity plans; and embracing technology to prevent crime, increase case clearance rates, and improve overall public safety and service.

I continue to be amazed and moved by the staff of the Division of Public Safety. With their seemingly unlimited passion to serve and protect, coupled with a persistent level of professionalism and compassion, each member of the Division is crucial to our ability to effectively satisfy day-to-day operational needs and respond to very challenging incidents.

Tragically, we faced two disturbing incidents during the past year — one in September 2016 when a shooting outside a party blocks from our campus resulted in a death, and another in June 2017 when a U. of I. visiting scholar from China was kidnapped. Both events brought with them terrible sadness, but I was also witness to the astounding ability of our campus community to come together during times of extraordinary distress. These are the events that test the strength of our community, and I am confident that we live, work and study in a community that will rise to meet any challenge.

The past year again reinforced that we are fortunate in our area to have exceptional relationships with our partner first-responders from the cities of Champaign and Urbana, Champaign County, and our state and federal agencies. We sincerely treasure and value these relationships, and I believe they are critical to maintaining everyday safety in the places where we live, work, study and socialize. On behalf of the Division of Public Safety, thank you for your continued support and assistance.

Jeff Christensen
Chief of Police
University of Illinois Police Department
NEW HIRES AND RETIREES

Staff at UIPD strive every day to maintain a safe community where education, research and public service can flourish.

Staff and sworn personnel of the University of Illinois Police Department work hard every day to make our campus community a safer place to live, work, and study.

For our 2016-2017 retirees, we wish them all the best in their next steps. And for our new employees, we welcome them to our campus community and encourage our community members to say hello when you see them around campus.

NEW HIRES

OFFICER ALEX TRAN (DECEMBER 2016)
TELECOMMUNICATOR ABBY JOHNSON (MAY 2017)
OFFICER DAN LEAKE (JULY 2017)
OFFICER JACOB GIBSON (JULY 2017)
OFFICER TYREL LEDBETTER (AUGUST 2017)
OFFICER DREW OSTERHOLT (AUGUST 2017)
OFFICER DYLAN SHORT (AUGUST 2017)

RETIREES

OFFICER CHRIS HAWK (AUGUST 2016)
TELECOMMUNICATOR SHELBY SMITH (MARCH 2017)
DEPUTY CHIEF TONY BROWN (AUGUST 2017)
The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has a very safe campus, but no community is completely immune from crime. Here’s a listing of some of the major statistics and instances of more severe crime reported to UIPD from July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2017.

In publishing this information, our goal is to give our campus community the information they need to be an active participant in their own safety and look out for themselves and others. For more information on how to reduce your risk of being targeted by a criminal, visit [police.illinois.edu/safety](http://police.illinois.edu/safety).

### TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE

12,218

### REPORTS

Total reports: 2,066

- MURDER: 0
- SEXUAL ASSAULT: 17
- HARASSMENT: 51
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: 24
- ROBBERY: 8
- AGGRAVATED BATTERY: 10
- BURGLARY: 21
- THEFT: 244
- MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT: 4
- ARSON: 2
- HATE CRIMES: 0
- WEAPONS LAW VIOLATIONS: 5

### TRAFFIC ISSUES

Total traffic stops: 3,133

- MOVING VIOLATIONS: 1,774
- EQUIPMENT VIOLATIONS: 558
- LICENSE/REGISTRATION VIOLATIONS: 475
- CITATIONS WRITTEN: 664
- WRITTEN WARNINGS: 2,631
Alcohol enforcement targets behavior, education — not tickets

Underage drinking and drug abuse is a significant health and public safety issue on college campuses across the nation, and the University of Illinois Police Department is taking steps to address those concerns without marring students’ public records.

For a lot of students, college is the first time that they experiment with alcohol or experience peer pressure to drink. The University of Illinois Police Department provides alcohol safety classes and other information so that if students choose to consume alcohol during their free time, then they are encouraged to do so in a way that is safe, healthy and responsible. But many times, alcohol is used to excess – and that can lead to other problems like pedestrian and traffic issues, fights, robberies, sexual assault and other violence.

According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, about 1,825 college students die each year from alcohol-related unintentional injuries, including motor vehicle crashes. Nearly 700,000 students are assaulted by another student who has been drinking, and 1 in 4 college students report experiencing academic consequences from alcohol misuse.

That makes alcohol abuse a key public safety and health issue on campuses across the country.

“There are many important crimes

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that officers would like to be focusing on, but our number one mission is protection of life and safety,” said U. of I. Police Officer Ryan Snow. “We believe there is no greater focus than keeping our community safe, and we do that by stepping in when we see someone that might present themselves as possible victims of these dangerous situations.”

Snow is a certified Drug Recognition Expert, which is specialized training that allows him to better recognize symptoms of drug and alcohol use and qualifies him to testify as a subject matter expert in court. In 2016, he was recognized as a Mothers Against Drunk Driving “DUI Hero” for his efforts to fight impaired driving.

“Police attempt to discourage these types of crimes by stepping up enforcement on alcohol-related issues,” Snow said. “Police also have unfortunately seen accidents related to alcohol that have deadly consequences. Falls, pedestrian-versus-vehicle accidents and extreme alcohol poisoning are a few things that officers have dealt with during my time on patrol.”

Still, U. of I. Police officers are not looking to damage a students’ future job prospects or other opportunities by introducing them to the criminal justice system. Instead, university police are able to write student discipline referrals to avoid citations or arrests. That keeps the violation within the university, out of court, and gives those students access to further education and resources about alcohol and drug issues.

Between July 2016 and June 2017, U. of I. Police officers wrote a total of 10 court summonses (which include arrests or tickets) for liquor law violations and 135 for drug-related violations. Instead, they wrote 252 student discipline referrals for alcohol and 347 for drugs. University of Illinois Police write tickets under the laws of the cities of Champaign and Urbana, and so the department receives no revenue from fines.

“In general, most officers tend to address behavior. If the behavior they see is in some way dangerous to either the person performing the act or others around them, enforcement in some fashion is needed,” Snow said. “I have adopted the same process for this as many others around me have by saying to people, ‘If you don't bring attention to yourself by being a general public nuisance, you have a good chance of just getting a wave from me.’”

As long as students are enjoying themselves in a way that is respectful of each other and the campus, they usually will not be approached by officers for their behavior.

“We don't randomly pick people on the street to stop,” Snow said. “We address behavior and that usually means behavior that is dangerous or destructive in some way.”
The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus is very safe, but no community is entirely crime-free.

All universities are required to report and publish certain crime statistics from their campuses. We’ve compiled 2015 numbers — the most recently published statistics — from 21 schools comparable in size, mission and location to see where Illinois falls among its peers. For a complete listing of statistics and the schools included in the comparison, please visit police.illinois.edu/clerystats. Calendar year 2016 numbers will be available after October 2017.

For more information about the Clery Act, please review the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Annual Security and Fire Safety Report at police.illinois.edu/clery.

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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>FONDLING</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT</td>
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<td>10</td>
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The University of Illinois Department reaffirmed its Tier II accreditation status during the summer of 2017 after an extensive review by the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ILEAP).

ILEAP accreditors visit the department periodically to complete an exhaustive review of the department’s policies and practices to ensure it meets each of 180 evaluation criteria. The evaluators last reviewed the University of Illinois Police Department in 2012 and gave the department their highest (Tier II) accreditation level.

At the time, the University of Illinois Police Department was the only campus department in the state which attained the Tier II status, and that status was renewed this summer.

"The accreditation process ensures that we’re serving our community in the best way possible,” said U. of I. Police Deputy Chief Tony Brown. “This renewed accreditation affirms that our department is up to date on best practices for police departments in the state of Illinois.”

The Tier II accreditation was officially issued July 14 after an evaluation process spanning several months.

“The ultimate goal here is to provide efficient, professional service to our campus community, Brown said. “We provide all the services of a traditional police department, with some additional services uniquely-tailored to a university environment. We want to be sure we’re doing that in the best way we can."

"We provide all the services of a traditional police department, with some additional services uniquely-tailored to a university environment. We want to be sure we’re doing that in the best way we can."

-Deputy Chief Tony Brown
Instances of gun violence in the greater Champaign-Urbana area continue to drop, in large part because of the work of the multi-agency Street Crimes Task Force.

While gun violence on campus is rare, some areas of Champaign-Urbana do experience isolated instances of firearms-related crimes. And in September 2016, it became tragically clear that areas very close to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus are not immune.

Early on Sunday, Sept. 25, shots were fired following a fight in the 300 block of East Green Street, Champaign – only blocks from the U. of I. campus and in a central part of the campus nightlife area. Four people were hit with gunfire, one fatally. One of the victims who survived was a U. of I. graduate student.

The response was swift – within three days, the Champaign Police Department identified and obtained an arrest warrant for the shooter, and he turned himself in on Sept. 30. Over the months to come, another seven people who were involved in the fight which led to the shooting were identified and arrested.

Well before that, in June 2015, the University of Illinois Police Department teamed up with the

"The drop (in shootings) is drastic, and I wholeheartedly believe that it is the targeted investigations being conducted by the Street Crimes Task Force."

-Lt. Joseph McCullough

continued on page 11
Champaign and Urbana police departments and the Champaign County Sheriff’s Office to form the Street Crimes Task Force, a unit focused on identifying violent offenders and getting illegal guns off the streets.

Since then, the number of shootings in the greater Champaign-Urbana area has dropped sharply, and the work continues in 2017.

“This unit’s success is evident in the numbers of shootings reported in the area,” said U. of I. Police Lt. Joseph McCullough. “The drop is drastic, and I wholeheartedly believe that it is the targeted investigations being conducted by the Street Crimes Task Force.”

The group also investigates drug-related crimes, as bad drug deals or monetary debts can often be the impetus for gun violence. By reducing the amount of drug sales, police can also reduce the amount of violent crime associated with narcotics.

The University of Illinois Police Department has contributed at least two officers to the unit since its inception, and at times other detectives or the department’s narcotics K-9 unit have assisted.

Also hitting its stride is the C-U Fresh Start program, which launched in 2016 and is designed to deal with the social issues associated with gun violence. The program attempts to identify would-be offenders and offer them resources to succeed instead of continuing down a path toward a violent future.

While gun violence remains extremely uncommon on campus, no community is immune from crime. The University of Illinois Police Department makes the safety of students – as well as faculty and staff – it’s number one priority. The combined patrol of four local police departments makes the Urbana campus the most-densely patrolled area in the region, and nearly 1,700 security cameras are placed in areas designed to deter crime.

These efforts, along with the work of the Street Crimes Task Force and the C-U Fresh Start program, are designed to prevent further instances of violence.

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**BY THE NUMBERS**

The Street Crimes Task Force is comprised of officers from the Champaign, Urbana and University of Illinois police departments and the Champaign County Sheriff’s Office. It was designed in 2015 to remove illegal firearms from the streets and to specifically keep an eye on known violent offenders and their associates. Here is some of the task force's activity during the first seven months of 2017:

**ARRESTS**

- **STATE ARRESTS:** 43
- **CITY ARRESTS:** 2
- **STATE WARRANTS:** 23
- **CITY WARRANTS:** 11

**NARCOTICS**

- **CONTROLLED BUYS:** 108
- **SEARCH WARRANTS:** 45
- **COCAINE SEIZED:** 373 GRAMS
- **CRACK SEIZED:** 60 GRAMS
- **HEROIN SEIZED:** 137 GRAMS
- **METHAMPHETAMINE SEIZED:** 559 G

**FIREARMS**

- **FIREARMS SEIZED:** 70
ENHANCING SAFETY

Security cameras continue to prove valuable in investigations

As of June 2017, the University of Illinois Police Department had a total of 1,652 security cameras on its campus network — an increase of just more than 200 from the previous year.

In reviewing data from 2013 through 2015, UIPD found that, in 60 percent of the cases that had video footage, investigators were able to either support the facts of the case given to them by witnesses or solve the case because of the footage.

Many of these cases are incidents for which there would otherwise be no physical evidence or suspects other than what police can observe on security cameras. In other cases, investigators are able to identify and arrest offenders much more quickly because of the security footage.

The usefulness of campus security cameras was evident following the June 2017 kidnapping of U. of I. visiting scholar Yingying Zhang. After receiving a missing person report, UIPD quickly located video footage of Ms. Zhang entering a black Saturn Astra which was later determined to be driven by former graduate student Brendt Christensen. He was arrested for Ms. Zhang’s kidnapping and was awaiting trial as of the publishing of this report.

No one is tasked with monitoring security camera footage at all times. The only instances where security cameras are monitored in real time are during special events like football games or the Illinois Marathon, during a crime in progress or when an officer is responding to a call for service. Investigators may go back and review footage after receiving a crime report. Otherwise, the video is deleted after 30 days by university policy.

As police continue to build out the network, they will place cameras in strategic locations where they are most likely to deter crime or produce useful footage to solve crimes.

Security cameras are an important part of the department’s crime prevention initiative. The cameras themselves are a natural deterrent for would-be criminals, and they have been successful time and again in producing useful evidence for detectives.
ENHANCING SAFETY

Police focus on safe expression of First Amendment rights

As political demonstrations pick up steam on college campuses across the country, the University of Illinois Police Department is reassessing the way it approaches “First Amendment gatherings” in Champaign-Urbana.

Lt. John Brown says a revised policy on large demonstrations formalizes the practice UIPD has observed in recent years – and that is shifting the focus from controlling crowds to facilitating individuals’ right to express themselves in a safe manner.

“The previous policy was based on attitudes from 20 years ago,” Brown said. “Those have changed.”

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and its police department has a good history of working with community organizers to set up safe, peaceful demonstrations where protesters have a chance to voice their opinion.

“When they’re willing to work with us and tell us what they need, we can help them accomplish their goals,” Brown said. “We’re not here to put a stop to it.”

There are contingency plans in place if an event were to spiral out of control, however. Controversial speakers on campuses elsewhere in the country have drawn protesters from outside their communities who are looking more to cause mayhem than voice an opinion.

The University of Illinois Police Department has access to staffing from other local departments if it came to that. People of differing opinions may be separated by fencing or other barriers to provide for safe egress and ingress – but in a place that still allows them to effectively express themselves.

The key is always patience.

“We no longer consider (demonstrations) a crowd control issue,” Brown said. “We want to help facilitate people’s abilities to exercise their First Amendment rights.”

police.illinois.edu

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UIPD Year in Review 2016-2017
WHO WE ARE

We work to further the university’s academic mission by providing a safe place where our students, faculty and staff can excel academically and professionally.

The University of Illinois Police Department is a 24-hour operation, and our police officers have full arrest authority in any county where university property is located. In 2012, the department became the first university police agency to receive accreditation through the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. It offers all the traditional police services, but unlike traditional police departments, those services are uniquely tailored to meet the needs of our university in a community-based manner meant to improve and maintain a healthy climate and quality of campus life.

Our Patrol operations are the backbone of that effort. The most basic service any police department can provide is a quick response when someone calls 911. Our patrol officers do that and more. They are the first to respond when anyone needs an officer, and their careful documenting and monitoring of criminal activity in our area provides the foundation investigators and crime prevention experts need to take public safety one step further. In addition to responding to in-progress emergencies and other calls, their proactive policing efforts are what drives our community-based philosophy.

All police officers, and particularly those in the Crime Prevention unit, work not only to stop crime, but also in an educational capacity to empower individuals to take care of themselves and others. Those efforts are particularly important on a college campus, where students may be away from home for the first time and experiencing a new environment. Officers work directly with new and international students to introduce them to campus. The department offers programs like self-defense, alcohol safety classes and sexual assault awareness programming.

In addition to identifying and arresting criminal offenders, detectives in our Investigations division provide services adapted for a college campus. Detectives are specially trained to support and care for survivors of sexual assault. Some investigators are assigned to the Targeted Response Unit, which addresses crime hot spots and street crimes, particularly those closely tied to the use and sale of narcotics. The TRU provides a rehabilitation mechanism for students who are drug users or low-end dealers to reform their destructive habits and develop into productive students and alumni.

Staff members in the Office of Emergency Management work full-time to ensure every university facility is prepared for otherwise unimaginable emergencies. It is only through this kind of preparation and ongoing training for evolving conditions that our campus can react quickly in extraordinary situations which occur with alarming frequency throughout the country.

Compliance staff members work toward our ongoing effort to bring our campus into compliance with mandates set forth in legislation like the Clery Act, Violence Against Women Act, Title IX, Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act, protection of minors and many other federal and state laws that regulate university procedures. These experts are specially trained in interpreting very complex statutes which would subject the university to significant penalties if it were to fall or remain out of compliance.

This balance of police services aims to further our department’s mission to provide a safe and secure university environment where academics, research and public service can flourish.
RESOURCES

CONTACT US
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS POLICE DEPARTMENT
1110 W. SPRINGFIELD AVENUE
URBANA, IL 61801

EMERGENCY: 911
NON-EMERGENCY: 217-333-1216

POLICE.ILLINOIS.EDU
POLICE@ILLINOIS.EDU

SOCIAL MEDIA
FACEBOOK: FB.COM/UIPOLICE
TWITTER: @UIPD
INSTAGRAM: @UIPOLICE
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SEXUAL VIOLENCE
SEXUAL MISCONDUCT RESPONSE, PREVENTION
AND REPORTING OPTIONS:
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