Campus Safety Report

and

Bringle Lake Village Dormitory
Fire Safety Report

September 2014
Texas A&M University-Texarkana

The A&M Texarkana University Police Department (UPD) prepares this report on an annual basis to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. This report is prepared with the cooperation of the local police department; Office of Student Life; Office of Residence Life; Office of Admissions; Human Resources Office and the Judicial Affairs Officer.

Campus crime arrest and referral statistics include those reported to: local police where crimes occur on the street in front of our campus; designated campus officials and campus security authorities. This would include Deans, Judicial Affairs Officer, Residence Life Coordinator; Resident Advisors; Faculty advisors to student groups, coaches; Human Resource Officers and Office of Student Life staff. Each year, an e-mail notification is made to all enrolled students that provides the web site to access this report. Faculty and staff also receive an e-mail notification. The Admissions Office home page on the A&M-Texarkana web site gives the web site address for this report. Copies of this report can be obtained at the University Police Department at the Central Plant Building, 7101 University Ave., Texarkana, Texas. 75503. Prospective employees are given this information in job application packets.

Texas A&M University-Texarkana is committed to putting the health and safety of our students, employees and visitors above all other priorities. There is nothing more important than a human life. This report is designed to inform students and employees of various policies, procedures and prevention methods employed by the University. This report also informs students and staff of the type and amount of crime that has occurred on the campus over the past three years.

**Police/Security**

The A&M-Texarkana University Police Department (UPD) is responsible for preparing the annual Campus Crime Report. This would include maintaining a daily crime log showing all reported crimes each month. The UPD will compile annual crime and arrest statistics, as well as student referrals for campus disciplinary action for non-arrest situations involving drug, alcohol and illegal weapons possession violations. Daily crime logs for the previous 60-day period are available for inspection at the UPD during normal working hours.

The UPD has five (5) licensed, commissioned Police Officers and three (3) Security Officers at our Bringle Lake Campus. These officers will readily assist students, staff and faculty in any way possible. Our Police Officer’s are certified Texas Peace Officer’s as defined in Article 2.12 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures, pursuant to section 51.203 of the Texas Education Code. The primary jurisdiction of UPD officer’s includes all counties in which property is owned, leased, rented or otherwise under the control of A&M-Texarkana. As such, these officers have the same authority as municipal, county and state peace officers and are authorized to carry firearms and make arrests when needed.

A close working relationship has been maintained with the Texarkana Texas Police Department, as well as other State and Federal Agencies. A Mutual Aid agreement is in place with the Texarkana Texas Police Department.

**Incident Reporting and Response**

**Regular Reporting Procedures**

Any on-campus emergency, criminal offense or suspected criminal activity should be reported immediately. Students are encouraged to report this information to either the UPD (call 6611 from any
campus phone or **903-334-6611** from your cell phone) or by using the Blue Boy emergency phones in the main parking lot and the Bringle Lake Village parking lot. You can also call the Texarkana Texas Police Department by dialing 911. In addition, you can report a crime to the following areas:

Dean of College of Education and Liberal Arts - 903-223-3073
Dean of College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math - 903-334-6650
Director of Student Life - 903-223-3118
Coordinator of Student Activities - 903-223-1351
Residence Life Coordinator - 903-223-1355
Human Resources Department - 903-223-3113
Director of Residence Recreation and Wellness - 903-223-1362

If a crime is not reported promptly, evidence may be destroyed, leads could be missed and the potential to apprehend a suspect could be lost. Only by knowing what’s really happening in the campus community can steps be taken to help solve, reduce or prevent crimes from happening in the first place. Crimes that aren’t reported to authorities could give the campus community a false sense of safety so we encourage you to report any and all violations.

If you are a victim of a crime and do not want to pursue action within the University System or the Criminal Justice System, you may still file a confidential report. You can contact the UPD or any of the Campus Security Authorities and report a crime without revealing your identity. The University can then keep an accurate record of the number of crimes, reveal crime patterns and be able to alert the campus community to potential dangers. Felony Crimes on campus can also be reported anonymously by calling the local Crime stoppers number – 903-793-7867.

**Reporting Criminal Offenses to Campus Security Authorities**

The UPD encourages anyone who is a victim or witness to any crime to promptly report the incident to the police. As an option, criminal offenses may also be reported to designated campus security authorities (CSA) (including, but not limited to) Director of Student Life; Deans; Human Resource Officers; Director of Residence Life; Coordinator of Student Activities; Director of Recreation and Wellness; Resident Advisors and Advisors to student organizations. If a crime is reported to a CSA, they must in turn notify UPD officers with this information. Even if the reporting person does not want a police investigation, the CSA must still report the information to the UPD and that crime will be reported in the annual crime statistics report.

The UPD, Student Services Offices and other campus security authorities will accept confidential and anonymous reports of crime for inclusion in the annual statistical report.

**Who is a Campus Security Authority?**

In addition to the members of the Texas A&M University-Texarkana Police Department, the following are considered to be Campus Security Authorities, hereafter referred to as CSAs.

- Any individual or organization specified in an institution's statement of campus security policy as an individual or organization to which students and employees should report criminal offenses.
- Any official with significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, officials who manage or otherwise oversee student and campus activities. For example, staff responsible for campus student housing, a student center, or student extra-curricular activities; a director of athletics or a team coach; faculty advisors to student groups; staff responsible for student discipline, and campus judicial staff. An **official** is defined as any person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution.
What are Campus Security Authorities required to do?

CSAs are responsible for reporting all those allegations of crimes specified in the Clery Act that are reported to them, and that they conclude were made in good faith, to the Texas A&M University-Texarkana Police Department. The crimes specified in the Clery Act are: murder/non-negligent manslaughter; negligent manslaughter; forcible and non-forcible sex offenses; robbery; aggravated assault; burglary; motor vehicle theft; domestic violence; dating violence; stalking and arson. If there is evidence that the perpetrator was motivated by bias, then simple assault, larceny (theft), intimidation, and vandalism must be reported as well (please see the definitions provided below). Timely submission of reports by CSAs is very important. If a crime is reported to a CSA, but goes no farther than that, A&M-Texarkana will be unable to fully meet its obligations under the law. Moreover, the campus community may lack information that could help them to stay safe.

What Should a Campus Security Authority Avoid Doing?

CSAs are not responsible for determining whether a crime took place. CSAs are also not responsible for attempting to apprehend an alleged perpetrator of a crime. These are matters best left to law enforcement personnel. CSAs should refrain from attempting to convince a victim to contact law enforcement if the victim chooses not to do so. However, they may note that crimes can be reported to the police anonymously.

How do Campus Security Authorities Fulfill Their Responsibilities?

When a crime is reported to a CSA, they should first ask the reporting party if they would like to report the crime to the police. If they would, they should contact the Texas A&M University-Texarkana Police Department at (903) 223-3114. The police department is located in the Central Plant building. In the event that an in-progress emergency is being reported, the reporting party should be advised to call 6611 immediately. If they are unable to, the CSA may do so on their behalf.

If the reporting party does not want to contact the police about the crime, the CSA should complete a Campus Security Authority Crime Report Form. Even if the reporting party does wish to contact the police about the crime, the CSA may complete the form for their records (check the appropriate box for the law enforcement agency the crime was/will be reported to). The procedure for completing the form is as follows:

- Have the reporting party read the top (boxed) portion of the form.
- Ask if they have reported, or are going to report, the crime to the police. Advise them that reporting a crime to the police does not commit them to filing charges. Crimes may be reported anonymously if the victim/reporting party so desires.
- Personal identifying information for the reporting party should be included if available. This will help to avoid double counting crimes. No such personal identifying information will be included in the Clery statistical disclosures.
- If a victim does not want the report to go any further than the CSA, they should be advised that the CSA is required to submit the report for statistical purposes. However, the report can be submitted without identifying the victim.
- It is very important that the location of the crime is reported as precisely as possible. A building name, parking lot number, close address, or cross street should be provided.
A description of the crime should be given, including as much detail as possible. This is to aid in the determination of exactly what crime occurred. It is important to note any injuries sustained or weapons used. The reporting party should indicate if they feel that the perpetrator committed the crime because of bias; and, if so, what lead them to believe that to be the case.

Check the appropriate boxes on the form. Consult the definitions provided below as needed. If in doubt, contact UPD officers at 903-334-6611.

Liquor, drug, and weapon offenses are reported when an arrest (including a citation) is involved or a referral for university disciplinary action is made. Note the number of people arrested or referred.

If possible, determine what Clery Act geographical location the crime occurred in. Consult the location definitions provided below as needed. If in doubt contact UPD at 903-334-6611.

When the form is completed, please forward it as soon as possible to the Texas A&M University-Texarkana Police Department at the Central Plant building, Attn: Police Chief. The form may also be submitted by Fax to (903-334-6619.) Some departments may wish to retain a copy for their files. If so, the forms should be retained for at least three years.

Campus Security Authority Training

The A&M-Texarkana Police Department has a Power point presentation to help Campus Security Authorities understand the Clery Act, why they have been designated as a CSA, and what is required of them as CSAs. To assist you in better understanding the requirements, definitions and procedures involved with compliance to the Clery Act, the A&M-Texarkana Police Dept. will meet with CSAs to hold training sessions. Please contact the Police Chief at 903-223-3114 or call the UPD offices a 903-334-6611. You can also download the Clery Act Campus Security Authority PowerPoint Presentation.

Crime Definitions

Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter – The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

Negligent Manslaughter – The killing of another person through gross negligence.

Sex Offense Forcible (F) – Any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent: forcible rape; forcible sodomy; sexual assault with an object; and forcible fondling.

Sex Offense Non Forcible (N) – Unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse: incest; statutory rape.

Robbery - The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

Aggravated Assault – An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. It is not necessary for an injury to result when a gun, knife or other weapon is used in the commission of the crime.

Simple Assault – Assaults and attempted assaults where no weapon was used and which did not result in a serious or aggravated injury to the victim. (Currently, this crime category only applies to hate crimes.)
Burglary – The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. For reporting purposes this definition includes: unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or felony; breaking and entering with intent to commit a larceny; housebreaking; safecracking; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

Motor Vehicle Theft – The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. (Classify as motor vehicle theft all cases where automobiles are taken by persons not having lawful access even though the vehicles are later abandoned—including joyriding.)

Arson – Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

Liquor Law Violation – The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting: the manufacture, sale, transporting, furnishing, possessing of intoxicating liquor; maintaining unlawful drinking places; bootlegging; operating a still, furnishing liquor to a minor or intemperate person; using a vehicle for illegal transportation of liquor; drinking on a train or public conveyance; or any attempts to commit any of the foregoing violations. Note: this list does not include public drunkenness and driving under the influence.

Drug Law Violation – Violations of State and local laws related to the possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of illicit drugs.

Weapon Law Violation – The violation of laws or ordinances regulating weapons.

Domestic Violence – means a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed by:
- a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim,
- a person with whom the victim shares a child in common,
- a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner
- any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person’s acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction.

Dating Violence – means violence committed by a person”
- who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
  1. the length of the relationship;
  2. the type of relationship;
  3. the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Stalking means - engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable to:
- fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or
- suffer substantial emotional distress.

Hate Crimes – Any crime that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the victim's actual or perceived race; religion; gender; sexual orientation; ethnicity or physical/mental disabilities.
Disciplinary Referrals – incidents in which a student was not arrested but was referred for campus disciplinary action for liquor law violations, drug law violations, and illegal weapons possession.

Location Definitions

Campus – (i) any building or property owned or controlled by an institution within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area and used by the institution in direct support of, or in a manner related to, the institution's educational purposes, including residence halls; and (ii) any building or property that is within or reasonably contiguous to the area identified in paragraph (i) of this definition, that is owned by the institution but controlled by another person, is frequently used by students and supports institutional purposes (such as a food or other retail vendor).

Non-Campus – (i) Any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution; or (ii) any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of, or in relation to the institution's educational purposes, is frequently used by students, and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution.

Housing – Residence Halls or other university-owned residences.

Public Property—“public property” is defined by the Clery Act regulations as all public property including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities that are within the campus, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. This includes the sidewalk across the street from our campus, but does not include public property beyond the sidewalk.

Clery Act Timely Warning Policy

In the event that a Clery reportable crime happens on A&M-Texarkana campus that the Chief of Police (or his designee) judges to be an ongoing or continuing threat to the campus community, a campus-wide “timely warning” will be issued. The warning will be issued through the campus School Messenger System which will send emergency phone messages and e-mails to all students and employees. This same message will be displayed on our web page, our Facebook page, and all electronic signage throughout the university. The “Timely Warning” message that goes out will be the product of discussions of the University President and the Emergency Management Team. The Communications Manager will send out Timely Warnings.

Anyone having knowledge of an ongoing or continuing threat to the campus community that may warrant a timely warning to be issued should immediately report this information to the UPD and/or the city police department. The safety and security of the campus community is of the utmost importance.

Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures

A&M-Texarkana updated its Emergency Management Plan in the Spring of 2013. The plan was developed using the “all hazards” approach to emergency management. The University will conduct some type of exercise annually to test the effectiveness of the plan. This may consist of a table-top exercise or an actual drill that would test some aspect of the plan. Fire and evacuation drills will be held each semester.

The University has developed a volunteer Emergency Response Team that will assist in fires, evacuations and other emergency situations. This team has received training in light search and rescue; first aid and CPR; AED’s (Automatic External Defibrillator); and fire extinguisher training.
In the event of an actual emergency on campus, the University has several systems in place for communicating information quickly to the campus community. A&M-Texarkana uses the School Messenger Emergency Notification System. This is an emergency notification system that gives A&M-Texarkana the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly via phone, e-mail, text messages, web pages and electronic signage throughout the university. As of the fall of 2011 the Texas Legislature passed a law requiring all Universities to automatically enroll students, staff and faculty into our emergency alert system. All students; staff and faculty are now automatically enrolled in the School Messenger system and have the option of opting out of the system if they so desire. Each building is also equipped with a PA system that will be utilized during emergencies.

A&M-Texarkana will, without delay, notify the university community of any immediate threat to the health and/or safety of students or employees occurring on campus. The University President or designee; the Provost; the CFO; the VP of Student Engagement and Success; the Communications Manager; the UPD Chief; the Director of IT; the Human Resources Director and the Physical Plant Director will meet in person if possible, or by phone and determine the threat to the university and surrounding community. This group will determine the threat with the facts at hand and decide if a message is to be sent and if so, who to send it to, and the content of the message. The Communications Manager (with the Director of IT as backup) will then activate the emergency notification system, unless the notification shall in some way compromise the efforts to assist victims or contain, respond to or mitigate the emergency. If the group determines the surrounding community should also be notified, the Communications Manager shall contact local radio, television and news services.

**Campus Access and Security**

A&M-Texarkana is a public and open campus. For that reason, no effort is made to restrict the general public from entering the campus. However, the University Police Department reserves the right to ban individuals from the campus if they are considered a threat to the well-being of the campus community. The Bringle Lake Village dormitory is locked 24 hours a day and entry can only be gained by residents with a key card. Security cameras are located throughout the BLV dormitory and its parking lot and as well as all other buildings and parking lots throughout the campus. The BLV dormitory is controlled locked all the time and students can only gain entry by using their issued swipe cards.

The campus is routinely inspected for environmental safety hazards such as insufficient lighting; overgrown shrubbery; cracked sidewalks or parking lots and anything that could pose a hazard to members of the campus community.
Crime Prevention

Providing a secure campus is of the utmost importance to the university. The university, through various crime prevention programs, has made every attempt to provide a safe, secure environment for students and staff. Students and staff must also assist the university, being responsible for their own safety and the safety of others.

The Bringle Lake Village dormitory opened in August of 2011 and the first class of freshmen dorm students arrived on campus. Students live on campus all year long and their safety is paramount. Campus safety is promoted through regular maintenance of buildings and grounds, including the prompt replacement of non-operating lights and the trimming of bushes and hedges from building entrances and walkways.

The Bringle Lake campus has numerous security features. All buildings at the Bringle Lake campus are equipped with video cameras inside and outside the buildings. There are now five emergency phones (Blue Boys) on the walkways and in the parking lots by the main parking lot and the BLV Dormitory has one phone in each of its parking lots. These phones have a blue lite at the top of the device and are easily seen in the parking lot. To use a Blue Boy phone, simply push the call button and you will be connected to a police/security officer on campus.

An Emergency Management Plan is in place to direct students and staff in exact procedures to follow in any given emergency. The plan was updated in the Spring of 2013 and can be found on the university web site (tamut.edu) by clicking on “Staff,” or by simply typing in:

Fire alarm/evacuation drills are conducted every semester. Fire alarm drills are conducted at least once a semester at the BLV dormitory. A police/security officer is on duty 24 hours a day and will assist any student or staff in getting to their vehicle safely. Security will also assist in opening locked car doors and providing jump-starts when needed. The UPD has an I.D. Program to help protect property from theft by engraving driver’s license numbers on personal property. Engravers are available for check out at the UPD which is located in the Central Plant Building at the Bringle Lake campus.

Throughout the academic year the Student Services Office provides educational workshops and programs on topics ranging from anxiety/depression to domestic/dating violence and numerous other subjects. For a complete schedule of workshops/programs, contact student services at 223-3062.
Sexual Assault

Sexual Assault and Aggravated Sexual Assault are serious felony crimes. A&M-Texarkana considers it essential to provide Sexual Assault Awareness Programs for students and employees, aimed at the prevention of such crimes. UPD Officers are well trained in all aspects of sexual assault investigation. The UPD and the Student and Academic Support Service Office, offer brochures and other literature aimed at promoting awareness of rape, date rape, and other sex offenses. Occasionally, speakers from various agencies are invited to the campus to present programs on sexual assault awareness and prevention.

If a sex-related offense does occur on campus, the victim is encouraged to report the incident to the UPD and/or the Texarkana Texas Police Department. If a sexual assault is reported to any A&M employee, that employee will assist the subject in notifying University police at 903-334-6611 and/or the city Police Department by calling 911. It is extremely important for the victim to receive immediate medical treatment, while preserving any physical evidence related to the crime. For this reason, the victim should not bathe, shower, douche, or change clothes prior to a medical exam. A representative from the Rape Crisis Center will be contacted to meet with the victim at the hospital. A&M Texarkana has a contract with a local Counseling firm to provide counseling to students at no cost. This counseling can be obtained by contacting the Director of Student Life at 903-223-3062.

Victims of sexual crimes must decide whether to call the police and press charges in these cases. Most rapists are repeat offenders and your report may prevent future acts from occurring. On-campus disciplinary action in cases of alleged sexual assault will be handled in accordance with the Policy on Sexual Harassment in the University Policy and Procedures Manual. Both the accuser and the accused have the same opportunity to have witnesses present during a campus disciplinary proceeding. Both the accuser and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of any campus disciplinary proceeding brought, alleging sexual assault. If the accused is a student at A&M-Texarkana, the Vice President for Student Engagement and Success shall appoint a Hearing Committee who shall hear the facts of the case. If the Hearing Committee determines the student’s behavior violates acceptable University conduct, the VPSES may suspend or expel the student from the university. Victims of sexual assault will be notified of various options for changing academic schedules and living situations upon their request.

Criminal Prosecution and Student Disciplinary Hearings

The victim of a sexual assault may choose for the investigation to be pursued through the criminal justice system, the campus disciplinary system or both. The UPD, with the victim's consent, will immediately conduct a criminal investigation of on-campus sexual assault incidents. Completed investigations will be forwarded to the District Attorney’s office for review and possible prosecution. The University will change a victim's academic and living situations after an alleged sex offense by making special accommodations such as distant learning options, if those changes are requested by the victim and are reasonably available.

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**Date Rape Prevention Checklist**

- Set sexual limits. You don’t “owe” anyone sex. Communicate those limits. People can’t read your mind.
- Trust your feelings. If you feel pressured, you probably are.
- Pay attention to behavior that doesn’t seem right. Power stares, someone who grabs or pushes, someone who doesn’t listen or disregards what you’re saying, someone who blocks your way, or someone sitting or standing uncomfortably close are all clues that you should stay alert.
- Be assertive. Get angry and act immediately with a negative response if things seem out of control. Stand up for yourself. It’s ok to make a scene or be rude in public if someone is pressuring you which may help you to get away from that person.
University disciplinary action may be imposed on individual students, recognized student organizations and/or University faculty and staff found in violation of the University sexual misconduct policy. In addition to any criminal prosecution, students may be placed on probation, suspended or expelled, for committing violent or criminal acts on campus or at campus related events. University disciplinary proceedings are detailed in the A&M University-Texarkana Student Handbook. In accordance with the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 57, victims may use a pseudonym to protect their identity. A pseudonym is a fictitious name or set of initials chosen by the victim to be used in all public files and records concerning the sexual assault.

What happens when the Police are called?

Police units will respond immediately. An ambulance or a police officer will transport the victim to the emergency room of the local hospital. The police will properly gather all evidence. A physical examination is necessary to take care of obvious and/or hidden physical injuries and will provide the opportunity for the victim to discuss with a physician potential pregnancy or communicable disease concerns. In addition, emergency room personnel will call the local rape crisis center so that a counselor can provide support and education.

To preserve evidence for an examination, a victim:

- Should not shower, bathe or douche;
- Should not comb hair or wash hands;
- Should try not to urinate;
- Should not smoke, eat, brush teeth, or rinse mouth if oral contact took place; and
- Should not change clothes. (A victim should carry a change of clothes in case the clothes they are wearing need to be kept for evidence. If clothes must be changed, a victim should place them in a paper bag because plastic may destroy evidence).

A criminal investigator will interview the victim. The victim has the option of requesting a concealed identity or pseudonym during the investigation. In all cases the victim will be treated with compassion, consideration, understanding and patience during the interview. The officer will make every attempt to maintain the confidentiality of the victim.

University Disciplinary Process

Victims have the option to pursue University disciplinary charges if the assailant is an A&M University-Texarkana student. Sexual assault is a violation of the A&M University-Texarkana Student Code of Conduct. Whether the student wants to involve the UPD or the Student Conduct process, a medical examination is essential. Information and evidence obtained by the police can be used in university disciplinary action if the assailant is a student, regardless of whether or not criminal charges are filed.

University disciplinary proceedings for cases involving misconduct are detailed in the Student Handbook under The Student Code of Conduct. The code provides disciplinary proceeding guidelines for students and hearings. A student found responsible for a sexual assault could be prosecuted in state court, and also have action taken by the university. After an alleged sexual assault, student victims have the option to change their academic and/or campus arrangements if such changes are reasonably available.

Rights of Both Parties

1. Both the accused and accuser are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during an institutional disciplinary proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by an advisor of their choice.
2. Both the accused and the accuser must be informed of the outcome of any institutional
disciplinary proceeding that is brought alleging a sex offense. Compliance with this paragraph does not constitute a violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). For the purpose of this paragraph, the outcome of a disciplinary proceeding means only the institution’s final determination with respect to the alleged sex offense and any sanction that is imposed against the accused.

Written Request

The university will disclose to the alleged victim of a crime of violence, or non-forcible sex offense, the results of any disciplinary hearing conducted by the university against the student who is the alleged perpetrator of the crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of the crime or offense, the institution will provide the results of the disciplinary hearing to the victim’s next of kin, if requested in writing.

Additional Law Enforcement Information

In Texas, sexual assault (rape) is an offense that ranges from a second degree felony to a first degree felony punishable by a sentence ranging from two to ninety-nine years in prison and a fine of up to $10,000.

Title IX Reporting

Individuals may also report a sex offense to the university’s Title IX coordinator. This individual is responsible for coordinating the University’s compliance with Title IX. The Title IX coordinator’s office is located in the University Center building, room 126C, which is located at 7101 University Ave., Texarkana, Texas, 75503, phone # 903-223-3062

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment of students and employees at Texas A&M University-Texarkana is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the University community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary actions.

**Sex Offender Registration Information**

The Federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act requires institutions of higher education to advise the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by a State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained.

In the State of Texas, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is the statewide source of information on sex offenders required by law to register. The DPS Sex Offender Registration open record information may be obtained at the internet location: [https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/DpsWebsite/index.aspx](https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/DpsWebsite/index.aspx)

In addition, the Texas DPS is required to notify A&M-Texarkana if a registered sex offender is either enrolled, employed or carrying on some type vocation at A&M-Texarkana.

In the event that a registered offender(s) is working or enrolled in classes at A&M-Texarkana, a list of that person(s) name may be obtained at the UPD office in the Central Plant building or at the Office of the Director of Student Life in the university Center.

**In compliance with the Federal Student Right to Know Act and the Clery Act, information regarding graduation rates can be obtained from the Admission’s Office by calling (903) 223-3069.**
Drugs and Alcohol

All members of the campus community are expected to abide by state and federal laws regarding controlled substances, illegal drugs, and alcoholic beverages. The possession, use, or sale of illegal drugs (as defined by the Texas Penal Code) on campus is a violation of state law. Violations can result in both university disciplinary action and criminal prosecution.

The possession, sale, consumption, manufacture, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages by students on A&M-Texarkana property is strictly prohibited. Alcohol violations can also result in university disciplinary action and criminal prosecution. A&M-Texarkana provides drug and/or substance abuse prevention information and referral counseling services to any A&M-Texarkana officer, employee, or student. Employees should contact the Human Resources Department for more information at 903-223-3113. Students should contact the Office of Student Life on the 1st floor of the University Center at the Main campus or call 903-223-3116. Persons can also call the Alcohol/Drug Abuse Hotline locally, at 903-832-9623. Personal counseling is available through a local counseling firm that has contracted with the university to provide counseling at no charge. Information can be obtained by calling the Office of Student Life at 903-223-3116.

High Risk Alcohol Intake

People who consume large amounts of alcohol over a short period of time can reach very high blood alcohol levels before they pass out. This can lead to decreased breathing and death. Vomiting associated with high levels of alcohol may also cause choking and death.

How to Help an Intoxicated Friend.

Do:

- Keep calm and get lots of help. Individuals with high alcohol-blood levels can be unpredictable and violent.
- Speak in a firm, clear, reassuring manner.
- Stay with a person who is vomiting. If the victim is lying down, turn them on their side, keep the tongue from falling back into the throat and protect them from choking.
- Monitor the person. If they become unconscious or appear to have problems breathing, seek medical help immediately by calling 911.

Don’t:

- Don’t try to walk, run or exercise the person and don’t try to keep them awake.
- Don’t force anything orally – food, liquids or drugs- in an attempt to sober them up.
- Don’t try and give them a cold shower-this can be very dangerous.
- Don’t try to restrain them without a lot of sober assistance.

Health Risks of Alcohol

Health hazards associated with excessive use of alcohol or alcohol dependency include dramatic behavioral changes, retardation of motor skills, and impairment of reasoning and rational thinking. These factors result in a higher incidence of accidents and accidental death for such persons than for nonusers of alcohol.

Nutrition also suffers and vitamins and mineral deficiencies are frequent. Prolonged alcohol abuse causes bleeding from the intestinal tract, damage to nerves and the brain, liver damage, psychotic behavior and loss of memory and coordination. Other risks include impotence, inflammation of the pancreas, and damage to bone marrow, the heart, testes, ovaries and muscles. Damage to nerves and organs can be irreversible.

Health Risks of Other Drugs

Use of illicit drugs may lead to physiological and mental changes similar to those caused by alcohol, although changes are usually more severe and more sudden. Death or coma resulting from overdose of drugs is also more frequent. Illicit drugs are commonly classified in seven categories: Cocaine; Amphetamines; heroin and other opiates; hallucinogens; solvent inhalants, steroids and marijuana.

In addition to adverse effects associated with use of a particular drug, intravenous-drug users who use unsterilized needles or who share needles with other users can develop AIDS, hepatitis, tetanus and infections of the heart. Brain damage is also a real possibility.
Missing Student Notification

If a member of the A&M-Texarkana University campus community has reason to believe that a student who resides on-campus is missing, he or she should notify the campus Police Department (UPD) at 903-334-6611 and the Residence Life Coordinator at 903-223-1355 so they can investigate whether the student is actually missing.

If UPD determines that the student is missing and has been for more than 24 hours, the UPD will notify the student’s emergency contact no later than 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing. If the missing student is under the age of 18 and is not an emancipated (legal independent status) individual, UPD will notify the student's parent or legal guardian immediately after the student has been determined to be missing for more than 24 hours.

In addition to registering an emergency contact, students residing on-campus have the option to identify confidentially an individual to be contacted in the event the student is determined to be missing for more than 24 hours. If a student has identified such an individual, UPD will notify that individual no later than 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing. Students who wish to identify a confidential contact can do so through the Residence Life Coordinator.
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*** There were no Hate Crimes reported in 2011, 2012 or 2013.
Texas A&M University-Texarkana

Campus property extends to the main roads on the west and north side of the above property.
The south and east side of the campus extends to the fence line along the wooded area.
Texas A&M University-Texarkana

at Northeast Texas Community College (NTCC)

September 2014

The A&M Texarkana University Police Department (UPD) prepares this report on an annual basis to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. This report is prepared with the cooperation of the NTCC Security Office and the Campus Security Authorities at NTCC.

The A&M University-Texarkana campus at NTCC consists of the first floor east wing of the University and Health Sciences Building and its lobby area. A&M-Texarkana students also have access to: Learning Resource Center; campus bookstore; cafeteria and other facilities on a space-available basis.

Campus crime arrest and referral statistics include those reported to: Titus County Sheriff’s Department; designated campus officials and campus security authorities; and the NTCC Security Department. Each year, an e-mail notification is made to all enrolled students that provide the web site to access this report. Faculty and staff also receive an e-mail notification. The Admissions Office home page on the A&M-Texarkana web site gives the web site address for this report. Copies of this report can be obtained in person at the University Police Department at the Central Plant Building, 7101 university Ave., Texarkana, Texas, 75503, or by calling UPD at 903-223-3114. Prospective employees are given this information in job application packets.

Texas A&M University- at NTCC is committed to putting the health and safety of our students, employees and visitors above all other priorities. There is nothing more important than a human life. This report is designed to inform students and employees of various policies, procedures and prevention methods employed by the University. This report also informs students and staff of the type and amount of crime that has occurred on the A&M –Texarkana campus at NTCC, as well as the NTCC campus itself.

Campus Security Overview

Texas A&M University-Texarkana does not provide security at out NTCC campus and are exempt from maintaining a Daily Crime Log for that reason. NTCC has their own twenty four hour a day security department and they provide security for our offices/classrooms as well. The security officers are not commissioned officers and do not have arrest powers. A&M-Texarkana is however responsible for preparing an annual Campus Crime Report. The UPD will compile annual crime and arrest statistics, as well as student referrals for campus disciplinary action for non-arrest situations involving drug, alcohol and illegal weapons possession violations. The NTCC Security Dept. keeps a daily crime log of all crimes committed on NTCC property which would include A&M-Texarkana leased offices and classrooms.

Incident Reporting and Response

Any on-campus emergency, criminal offense or suspected criminal activity should be reported immediately. Students are encouraged to report this information to either the NTCC Security Dept. (call 8173 from any on-campus phone or 903-434-8127 from your cell phone.) There are three emergency
phones on the NTCC campus and all calls go directly to the Security Officers cell phone. These emergency phones are located in brightly painted red weatherproof boxes on the outside of the: Administration Bldg.; Math/Science Bldg.; and the Business Technology Bldg. You can also call the Titus County Sheriff’s Department to report any crime at 903-572-6641. In addition, you can report a crime to any of the A&M-Texarkana staff/faculty located at the NTCC campus. Incidents should also be reported to the A&M-Texarkana Program Director at NTCC at 903-434-8355.

If a crime is not reported promptly, evidence may be destroyed, leads could be missed and the potential to apprehend a suspect could be lost. Only by knowing what’s really happening in the campus community can steps be taken to help solve, reduce or prevent crimes from happening in the first place. Crimes that aren’t reported to authorities could give the campus community a false sense of safety so we encourage you to report any and all violations.

If you are a victim of a crime and do not want to pursue action within the University System or the Criminal Justice System, you may still file a confidential report. You can contact the NTCC Security Dept. or any of the A&M-Texarkana staff/faculty and report a crime without revealing your identity. The University can keep an accurate record of the number of crimes, reveal crime patterns and be able to alert the campus community to potential dangers. Felony Crimes on campus can also be reported anonymously by calling the Titus County Crime Stoppers at 903-577-8477.

**Reporting Criminal Offenses to Campus Security Authorities**

- The UPD encourages anyone who is a victim or witness to any crime to promptly report the incident to the police. As an option, criminal offenses may also be reported to designated campus security authorities (CSA) (including, but not limited to) any A&M-Texarkana official at the NTCC campus. An official is defined as any person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution. This includes all A&M-Texarkana staff and faculty at NTCC.

If a crime is reported to a CSA, they must in turn notify NTCC Security who will then contact the Titus County Sheriff’s Dept. with this information. Even if the reporting person does not want a police investigation, the CSA must still report the information to NTCC Security and that crime will be reported in the annual crime statistics report. Crimes may be reported to the following offices/individuals: Professor of Management - 903-434-8365; Recruitment Specialist -903-434-8364; Asst. Professor of Education-903-434-8322; A&M Secretary-434-8357 and the A&M-Texarkana Program Director- 903-434-8322.

**Crime Alert (Timely Warning) Policy**

In the event that a Clery reportable crime happens on A&M-Texarkana campus at NTCC and the Director of Plant Services (or his designee) judges to be an ongoing or continuing threat to the campus community, a campus-wide “timely warning” will be issued. The warning will be issued through the campus Regroup Emergency Notification system which will send emergency phone messages and e-mails to all students and employees. The “Timely Warning” message that goes out will be the product of discussions of the NTCC President, the Director of Plant Services and other Cabinet members as necessary. Anyone having knowledge of an ongoing or continuing threat to the campus community that may warrant a timely warning to be issued should immediately report this information to the NTCC Security Department.
Crime Prevention

✓ Safety Check Points

✓ Walk with friends in lighted areas.
✓ Always lock your car.
✓ Park in well-lighted areas.
✓ Before entering your vehicle, have your keys out and check the interior of the vehicle.
✓ Never leave personal property unattended.
✓ Carry personal items in a backpack or similar device to keep your hands free at all times.
✓ Report any suspicious activity or person to the Security Office at 903-434-8127.
✓ Alter your route of travel between home and campus. Whether walking, jogging, biking, etc., vary your routine.
✓ Engrave valuables with your driver’s license number.

Providing a secure campus is of the utmost importance to the university. The university has made every attempt to provide a safe, secure environment for students and staff. Students and staff must also assist the university, being responsible for their own safety and the safety of others.

Campus safety is promoted through regular maintenance of buildings and grounds, including the prompt replacement of non-operating lights and the trimming of bushes and hedges from building entrances and walkways.

Fire alarm/evacuation drills will be conducted annually by NTCC staff. A security officer is on duty 24 hours a day and will assist any student or staff in getting to their vehicle safely.

Throughout the academic year the A&M-Texarkana Student Services Office provides educational workshops and programs on topics ranging from anxiety/depression to domestic/dating violence and numerous other subjects. For a complete schedule of workshops/programs, contact student services at 903-223-3116
Campus Access and Security

A&M-Texarkana at NTCC is a public and open campus. For that reason, no effort is made to restrict the general public from entering the campus. However, the NTCC Security Department reserves the right to ban individuals from the campus if they are considered a threat to the well-being of the campus community. The campus is routinely inspected for environmental safety hazards such as insufficient lighting; overgrown shrubbery; cracked sidewalks or parking lots and anything that could pose a hazard to members of the campus community.

Sexual Assault

Sexual Assault and Aggravated Sexual Assault are serious felony crimes. A&M-Texarkana at NTCC considers it essential to provide Sexual Assault Awareness Programs for students and employees, aimed at the prevention of such crimes. The Student and Academic Support Service Office, offer brochures and other literature aimed at promoting awareness of rape, date rape, and other sex offenses. Starting in the Academic year 201415 A&M-Texarkana UPD, Student Services offices and NTCC will jointly provide these programs in-house to A&M-Texarkana and NTCC students.

If a sex-related offense does occur on campus, the victim is encouraged to report the incident to the Titus County Sheriff’s Department at 903-572-664 and NTCC Security Department. If a sexual assault is reported to any A&M-Texarkana employee, that employee will assist the subject in notifying the Titus County Sheriff’s Department at 903-572-664. It is extremely important for the victim to receive immediate medical treatment, while preserving any physical evidence related to the crime. For this reason, the victim should not bathe, douche, or change clothes prior to a medical exam. A representative from the Rape Crisis Center will be contacted to meet with the victim at the hospital. A&M-Texarkana has an in-house counselor that will provide counseling to students at no cost. This counseling can be obtained by contacting the Director of Student Life at 903-223-3062.

Victims of sexual crimes must decide whether to call the police and press charges in these cases. Most rapists are repeat offenders and your report may prevent future acts from occurring.

Sexual assault can be handled in accordance with the Policy on Sexual Harassment in the University Policy and Procedures Manual. Both the accuser and the accused have the same opportunity to have witnesses present during a campus disciplinary proceeding. Both the accuser and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of any campus disciplinary proceeding brought, alleging sexual assault. If the accused is a student at A&M-Texarkana at NTCC, the Vice President for Student Engagement and Success shall appoint a Hearing Committee who shall hear the facts of the case. If the Hearing Committee determines the student’s behavior violates acceptable University conduct, the VPSES may suspend or expel the student from the university. Victims of sexual assault will be notified of various options for changing academic schedules and living situations upon their request.

Date Rape Prevention Checklist

- Set sexual limits. You don’t “owe” anyone sex. Communicate those limits. People can’t read your mind.
- Trust your feelings. If you feel pressured, you probably are.
- Pay attention to behavior that doesn’t seem right. Power stares, someone who grabs or pushes, someone who doesn’t listen or disregards what you’re saying, someone who blocks your way, or someone sitting or standing uncomfortably close are all clues that you should stay alert.
- Be assertive. Get angry and act immediately with a negative response if things seem out of control. Stand up for yourself. It’s ok to make a scene or be rude in public if someone is pressuring you which may help you to get away from that person.
Disclosures to Victims of Crimes of Violence or Non-forcible Sex Offenses

A&M University-Texarkana at NTCC will, upon written request, disclose to the alleged victim of a crime of violence, or a non-forcible sex offense, the result of any disciplinary hearing conducted by the University against the student who is the alleged perpetrator of the crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of the crime or offense, the university will provide the results of the disciplinary hearing to the victim's next of kin, if so requested.

Sex Offender Registration Information

The Federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act requires institutions of higher education to advise the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by a State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained.

In the State of Texas, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is the statewide source of information on sex offenders required by law to register. The DPS Sex Offender Registration open record information may be obtained at the internet location: https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/DpsWebsite/index.aspx

In addition, the Texas DPS is required to notify NTCC Security Dept. if a registered sex offender is enrolled, employed or carrying on some type vocation at A&M-Texarkana at NTCC.

In the event that a registered offender(s) is working or enrolled in classes at NTCC and/or A&M-Texarkana at NTCC, a list with that person(s) name may be obtained at the NTCC Security Dept.

Drugs and Alcohol

All members of the campus community are expected to abide by state and federal laws regarding controlled substances, illegal drugs, and alcoholic beverages. The possession, use, or sale of illegal drugs (as defined by the Texas Penal Code) on campus is a violation of state law. Violations can result in both university disciplinary action and criminal prosecution.

The possession, sale, consumption, manufacture, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages by students on NTCC property and property leased to A&M-Texarkana at NTCC is strictly prohibited. Alcohol violations can also result in university disciplinary action and criminal prosecution. A&M-Texarkana provides drug and/or substance abuse prevention information and referral counseling services to any A&M-Texarkana officer, employee, or student. Employees should contact the Human Resources Department for more information at 903-223-3113. Students should contact the Office of Student Life on the 1st floor of the University Center at the Main campus or call 903-223-3116. Persons can also call the Alcohol/Drug Abuse Hotline locally, at 903- 832-9623. Personal counseling is available with an on-campus counselor who will provide counseling at no charge. Information can be obtained by calling the Office of Student Life at 903-223-3116.
High Risk Alcohol Intake

People who consume large amounts of alcohol over a short period of time can reach very high blood alcohol levels before they pass out. This can lead to decreased breathing and death. Vomiting associated with high levels of alcohol may also cause choking and death.

How to Help an Intoxicated Friend.

Do:

- Keep calm and get lots of help. Individuals with high alcohol-blood levels can be unpredictable and violent.
- Speak in a firm, clear, reassuring manner.
- Stay with a person who is vomiting. If the victim is lying down, turn them on their side, keep the tongue from falling back into the throat and protect them from choking.
- Monitor the person. If they become unconscious or appear to have problems breathing, seek medical help immediately by calling 911.

Don’t:

- Don’t try to walk, run or exercise the person and don’t try to keep them awake.
- Don’t force anything orally – food, liquids or drugs- in an attempt to sober them up.
- Don’t try and give them a cold shower-this can be very dangerous.
- Don’t try to restrain them without a lot of sober assistance.

Health Risks of Alcohol

Health hazards associated with excessive use of alcohol or alcohol dependency include dramatic behavioral changes, retardation of motor skills, and impairment of reasoning and rational thinking. These factors result in a higher incidence of accidents and accidental death for such persons than for nonusers of alcohol.

Nutrition also suffers and vitamins and mineral deficiencies are frequent. Prolonged alcohol abuse causes bleeding from the intestinal tract, damage to nerves and the brain, liver damage, psychotic behavior and loss of memory and coordination. Other risks include impotence, inflammation of the pancreas, and damage to bone marrow, the heart, testes, ovaries and muscles. Damage to nerves and organs can be irreversible.

Health Risks of Other Drugs

Use of illicit drugs may lead to physiological and mental changes similar to those caused by alcohol, although changes are usually more severe and more sudden. Death or coma resulting from overdose of drugs is also more frequent. Illicit drugs are commonly classified in seven categories: Cocaine; Amphetamines; heroin and other opiates; hallucinogens; solvent inhalants, steroids and marijuana.

In addition to adverse effects associated with use of a particular drug, intravenous-drug users who use unsterilized needles or who share needles with other users can develop AIDS, hepatitis, tetanus and infections of the heart. Brain damage is also a real possibility.
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BRINGLE LAKE VILLAGE

DORMITORY

FIRE SAFETY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2014
Bringle Lake Village Dormitory
Fire Safety Report
September 2013

I. Introduction

In August of 2011, A&M-Texarkana opened its first student housing building at the Bringle Lake campus. The Bringle Lake Village (BLV) dormitory is a modern brick and wood structure that will house over 290 students.

II. Fire Safety System

The A&M-Texarkana campus has an integrated fire alarm system. As additional buildings are built they'll be tied into the existing buildings through one main panel at the university's Central Plant building. Each building has its own fire alarm panel.

All buildings, including the BLV dorm, are equipped with smoke detectors in each dorm room; hallways; stairwells and common areas. Fire extinguishers are located on each floor of the building. Evacuation maps that show evacuation routes, fire pull stations and fire extinguishers are on the inside main door of all dorm rooms.

The fire alarm system is monitored 24 hours a day by Siemen's Fire Protection service. Should the alarm go off, Siemen's monitoring will notify the local fire department and then the UPD.

All A&M-Texarkana buildings are protected by a fire sprinkler system. Should a fire ever occur in the BLV dorm, the sprinkler system will go off and should put out any fire in the building.

III. Emergency Fire Evacuation Procedures

- When you hear a fire alarm – LEAVE the building immediately closing all doors behind you.
- Follow the main evacuation route but be prepared to use an alternate route.
- If you must evacuate through smoke, get low to the floor and crawl. Heat and deadly smoke rise and cleaner air will be 12-24 inches above the floor.
- If you must open doors while evacuating, test the door before opening. Use the back of your hand to touch the door, the doorknob and door frame. If they are hot, do not open the door. If they are cool, brace yourself against the door and slowly open it. If smoke and heat are present, close the door and use an alternate route.
- Use stairways, never an elevator. In a fire, elevator shafts may fill with smoke or the power may go out leaving you trapped.
- Once outside, assemble at your designated area and do not return to the building until the Fire Department has indicated the building is safe to re-enter.
- If you are trapped, try to stay as calm as possible. Try to get to a room with an outside window and a telephone. Call 911 and give them your exact location. If there is no phone, wave an object out the window to signal for help. Keep all doors between you and the fire closed. Cover all vents and seal cracks around the door to keep out smoke. Be as calm and patient as possible. Rescue personnel will arrive to assist you.
**Evacuation Assistance**
Any person who cannot walk down stairs will be directed to the east or west stairwells in the BLV dorm. The BLV resident assistants will serve as floor monitors in the dorm and provide this assistance for dorm students and/or visitors. Once in the interior stairwell the RA will call or radio the University Police Department and give their location and how many persons are in the stairwell with them. They will stay there until emergency responders arrive and assist them out of the building. The interior stairwells have sprinklers and should be safe until emergency assistance arrives.

**IV. Dormitory Rules**

**Appliances**
Electrical appliances not allowed include, but are not limited to: Air conditioning units, room water coolers, camping stoves, ceiling fans, electric skillets or woks, griddles, halogen touchier lamps, potpourri pots, hot oil popcorn poppers, hot plates, oven broilers, power tools, any appliance with an open coil, space heaters, toasters, or toaster ovens. The hall staff will confiscate unauthorized or misused appliances, and the individuals responsible will be subject to disciplinary action. Allowed appliances include: Coffee pots, hot pots, microwave/refrigerator (University issued), rice cookers, and blenders. Staff reserves the right to require any cooking appliances to be removed if the appliance is deemed to be unsafe or otherwise damages or could potentially damage the hall or the hall community.

**Candles and Incense**
Candles and incense are prohibited in the residence hall rooms, lobbies, and storerooms due to possible fire hazards. This rule includes decorative candles with burned or unburned wicks. Residents found with candles will be assessed a $25.00 fine and these objects will be confiscated. Confiscated items will be disposed of at the end of each semester. Candle warmers and potpourri pots are not allowed.

**Cooking**
Cooking in the residence halls is allowed with approved cooking appliances only and approval of use of kitchen by Director of Residence Life. Residents are responsible for ensuring that proper sanitation, ventilation, and fire safety precautions are taken. Any damage resulting from improper food disposal will be billed to the individuals responsible. No food or waste should be disposed of in sinks. Residents are responsible for cleaning the kitchen when cooking is completed.

**Extension Cords/Surge Protectors**
Extension cords may not be used while living in the halls. Power strips/Surge protectors should never be placed above the ceiling tiles, underneath carpet or stapled or pinched in anyway. Only power strips and multi-plugs with built in circuit breakers (surge protectors) may be used in rooms. Improper use of multi-plugs may result in a write up with a fine or Texarkana City Community Service.

**Fire Doors**
It is absolutely essential that corridor and stairwell doors be kept closed at all times. Closed doors retard the travel of smoke, heat, toxic gases, and fire from the area of origin. Propping of doors may result in disciplinary and fines. Nothing should be attached to a fire door.
Fire Drills/Equipment

The University will hold fire drills at least once a semester to acquaint the residents with fire evacuation procedures. All residents and guests should follow directions during the drills. Failure to evacuate the building may result in disciplinary action, a monetary fine, and possibly suspension. Because it is imperative that fire and safety equipment functions properly when it is needed, the following acts are prohibited:

- Tampering or playing with fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, exit lights, or emergency lights
- Tampering with or pulling a fire alarm under false pretense
- Removing smoke detector batteries or otherwise rendering a smoke detector inoperable
- Propping open fire doors
- Obstructing halls and stairwells with furniture, debris and other materials
- Hanging objects from smoke detectors
- Presence on fire escapes in non-emergency situations
- Residents who jeopardize the security or safety of any resident will be subject to severe disciplinary action. Tampering with fire equipment or acts of arson can result in civil prosecution, disciplinary measures, and/or possible fines.

Halogen Lamps

Due to fire safety, halogen torch lamps or other lamps using halogen bulbs are prohibited in the residence halls.

Health and Safety Checks

The University recognizes residents’ desire for privacy, particularly in the context of their group living situation, and will do what it can to protect and guarantee their privacy. However, University Personnel, through a residence hall staff member, reserves the right to enter a resident’s room to determine compliance with health and safety regulations. Health and Safety Checks will occur a minimum of two times each semester and residents will receive posted notification of the check 48 hours in advance of the check.

Heaters

For safety reasons, no portable heating units may be used in a residence hall.

Holiday Decorations

- If students decorate their rooms for the holidays, these guidelines must be followed:
- Trees and other greenery must be artificial and must have proof of flame resistance
- Lights must be UL-approved and of low wattage – only miniatures – Lights may not be used until after Thanksgiving (Christmas holiday use only)
- All decorations are to be removed within two days following the holiday
- Holiday lights and rope lights must be taken down in the time period mentioned above
- Fire alarm pull stations, fire extinguisher cabinets, smoke detectors, sprinkler heads and exit signs must not be covered and exits must not be blocked
- No candles, or any open flame may be used

Open Flame

No items that have open flames, flammable fuels or open coils may be used in a residence hall. This includes, but is not limited to candles, lanterns, heaters, and incense. Violation of this rule may result in immediate relocation and disciplinary action. These items will be confiscated immediately.
Smoke Detectors

All student rooms are equipped with smoke detectors. Detectors will be checked prior to the start of each semester and during Health and Safety Checks by the hall staff. Residents that detect a problem with their smoke detector should contact the hall staff immediately. Disciplinary action will result if a student removes or otherwise renders the detector inoperative and a $100.00 fine or community service may be assessed. Disciplinary action could also result for residents who cause potential fire hazards through unsafe practices (i.e. overloading circuits, use of inappropriate extension cords, use of unauthorized cooking appliances, etc.).

Smoking

All residence hall common areas and rooms are smoke free. Please smoke outside the buildings at the designated areas and be responsible for your cigarette remains. Smoking in a room will result in a $100.00 fine and/or community service. The following items are also prohibited within the residence halls: hookahs, pipes, bongs, or any paraphernalia which may be used to inhale or ingest prohibited drugs. One must be in the parking lot or further to be able to smoke.

V. Training

Before the start of each semester, all Resident Advisors (RA's) go through two weeks of intensive training on all dorm rules and procedures. Local Fire Department firefighters conduct a training session with the RA's and Residence Life Director which also includes hands on training in how to use a fire extinguisher. Once students move into the dorm, the RA's will meet with their dorm students during the first week and will conduct a training session with them, going over all the rules and procedures in this program.

VI. Reporting Fires

Per Federal Law, A&M-Texarkana is required to report statistical data on all fires that occur in on-campus student housing facilities. The Bringle Lake Village dorm is equipped with smoke detectors and a sprinkler system. If there is ever a fire in the dorm, the alarm should go off and the city fire department and the UPD should be automatically notified. If for some reason, a small fire occurs and it's put out before setting the fire alarm off, it should still be reported to campus authorities. Please call one of the numbers listed below and report the fire:

Director of Residence Life - 903-223-1355
Director of Student Life - 903-223-3062
University Police Department - 903-334-6611
Coordinator of Student Engagement - 903-223-1351

VII. Future Improvements in Fire Safety

The A&M -Texarkana Bringle Lake campus is a new campus that opened in 2008. The University Center and Central Plant buildings were completed in 2010. The Bringle Lake Village dormitory opened in August, 2011. The fire alarm system is a modern, integrated system, connecting all the buildings together. All buildings are monitored 24 hours a day by Siemens monitoring service. Every floor in every building is protected by a sprinkler system. There are no fire safety improvements planned for the next few years.

VIII. 2013 Fire Statistics

The Bringle Lake Village dorm opened in August of 2011. There were no fires reported in the BLV dorm in 2013.

2 Fire Alarm Drills were held during the year, one in the Spring and one during the Fall semester.