



# CRIME ALERT

## On Campus- Southside Residence Halls

Release Date: 02/09/2015

### Incident:

On Saturday, February 7, a **forcible sex offense** was reported to have occurred in a residence hall. The victim is an AU student.

### The following was reported to the Department of Public Safety by an AU Staff member:

While in her residence hall room, an unwanted sexual act occurred between the victim and a male subject known to the victim. No criminal complaint has been filed at this time.

### Suspect Descriptions:

The suspect is known to the victim and no description has been provided to DPS.

### Make a Confidential Tip Through the Department of Public Safety Webpage at:

<http://www.american.edu/finance/publicsafety/tips.cfm>

If you have information relating to this incident, or witness suspicious activity, please call the Department of Public Safety at 202-885-3636 or 911 for the Metropolitan Police Department.

### Resources:

- The sexual assault prevention coordinator (SAPC) serves to develop and implement prevention and education programs for the AU community about sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. The SAPC is also available to provide resources and referrals for survivors of sexual assault and can assist survivors in contacting counselors or a victim advocate when requested. The SAPC can be reached at 202-885-3055 and is a confidential resource.
- For information about resources available to victims/survivors of sexual assault, please visit the Wellness Center website at: <http://www.american.edu/ocl/wellness/sexual-assault-resources.cfm>

### Reduce the Risk of Sexual Assault

- Nine out of 10 sexual assaults are committed by an acquaintance; be aware and don't be overly trusting.
- Perpetrators often use alcohol or other drugs as a tool to commit sexual violence. Be aware of individuals who are pushing drinks on you or pressuring you to get very intoxicated.
- Be aware of red flag behavior: intimidating stares, degrading jokes or language, boundary violations, strong belief in sex/gender role stereotypes, and a history of violent behavior.
- Inform your friends. Make sure you let a friend or family member know where you are going and who you're with.

### Safety Tips

- Walk in groups whenever possible and look out for each other. Avoid isolated and dark areas.
- Carry your cell phone and keep it accessible.
- If you are approached, take note of the person's appearance, clothing and anything unusual that will help identify the suspect.
- Be aware of the emergency telephones (yellow boxes on pillars, blue light phone towers, and red telephones) located on campus, in building lobbies, elevators, and in parking lots.
- Do not let anyone follow you into the building, or admit anyone as a guest unless they are your guest.
- Program AU Public Safety into your cell phone for emergencies: 202-885-3636.
- AU Public Safety provides escorts, twenty-four hours a day/seven days a week, for community members to and from university owned property. To arrange for an escort, call 202-885-2527 or use a blue light or red emergency phone.

The American University Department of Public Safety (AUDPS) notifies the campus community when crimes are reported to AUDPS or the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) which the University believes represent a continuing threat to its students or employees, in a manner consistent with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. The University uses its best efforts to provide information that is both accurate and helpful. **Community members are encouraged to report external incidents to AUDPS to assist in the effective implementation of this program.**

If you would like a copy of this alert, please visit: <http://www.american.edu/finance/publicsafety/crimealerts.cfm>

**Emergency: 202-885-3636**