

To the Campus Community:

My name is Gary D. Lewis Jr., and I'm the Chief of Police at UofL. I wanted to take a moment to share some information about our department and our recent safety efforts. We are a fully state-accredited law enforcement agency that serves UofL's three campuses 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The department consists of about 39 sworn officers and 27 security guards. ULPD patrols all UofL campuses on foot, bicycles and ATVs, as well as patrol vehicles. ULPD's communication system is a part of MetroSafe, the city's communication center for all emergency services. As such, ULPD works closely with the Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD).



Gary D. Lewis Jr.
Chief of Police, University of Louisville

Recent Crime Data

As many of you are aware, there has been an increase in the number of criminal incidents, e.g. sexual assault, armed robberies and burglary, over the past 10 weeks that has impacted both the Belknap and Health Sciences Center campus areas. Officers have linked several of the crimes to one suspect who is now in custody, and we continue to follow up on leads in other unrelated incidents.

Law Enforcement Initiatives

To address the recent crime, ULPD has taken the following steps. First, additional police and security officers have been assigned to the HSC to provide safety and security in a proactive approach during identified peak hours from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Officers will perform foot patrols, conduct building checks, provide escorts and attempt to remove criminal elements in the area. Next, we have partnered with LMPD's 4th Division, the area that encompasses our campus community, with a strong emphasis on increasing visibility and taking enforcement action when necessary. More specifically, Cardinal Towne and student-affiliated housing facilities will experience an increased officer presence.

Finally, we encourage students to take part in our campus safety and to say something if you see something. All of us have an important role to play when it comes to campus safety.

Sincerely,

Gary D. Lewis Jr.

UofL Campus Safety and Security Escorts

The Student Government Association and UofL partnered with an outside vendor, the Gotcha Group, to improve safety escort services. However, a number of complaints and concerns have been raised. Subsequently, the Gotcha Group has taken corrective actions to improve their service. They added a third vehicle and replaced batteries in all vehicles to improve their ability to quickly respond to calls. They are coordinating with police dispatch to service requests made to that number and improve response times. They also are upgrading their app. This last measure promises to provide the greatest improvement to responsiveness by improving your ability to communicate with the service and receive feedback.

Social Media

We recently launched our **#SafetyIsOurCardinalRule** safety campaign through Facebook and Twitter so students can stay safe and be informed. The campaign can be found on the UofL social media channels, where you can get tips on services from our safety escort service to new initiatives impacting our campus community.