SUBJECT: Off Campus – Attempted Strong Armed Robbery
CR# GPD CR# 17-15475
DATE OF INCIDENT: Tuesday, August 22, 2017
DATE OF RELEASE: Wednesday, August 23, 2017
NARRATIVE:

The following information was reported to the Gainesville Police Department (GPD) and is being distributed to the campus community due to the crime’s close proximity to the University of Florida campus:

The GPD is currently investigating an attempted strong armed robbery that took place Tuesday afternoon at approximately 3:30pm in the area of 3301 SW 13th St. (Bivens Cove Apartments). This location is just south of the UF Tanglewood Housing area. According to information provided by the GPD, the victim indicated that she was walking her dog when the suspect came up from behind her and hit her on the head with a bottle. After striking the victim, the suspect demanded money. During this encounter, the victim’s dog bit the suspect and he immediately fled into the nearby woods. The GPD searched the area for the suspect but he was not located. For further updates or details on this incident, please contact the GPD.

The description of the suspect is a Hispanic male, 5’7” to 5’9”. The victim also indicated the suspect “smelled heavily of alcohol” and “appeared to be homeless”.

Anyone with information about the incident or who may know the suspects identity is asked to call the Gainesville Police Department at 352-955-1818 or text keyword GPDFL plus your tip to 274637 (CRIMES). Those who wish to remain anonymous can call Crime Stoppers at 352-372-STOP (7867).

The UFPD firmly believes that crime is never the fault of the victim. These general safety tips are provided in an effort to assist members of the UF community.

Avoid walking alone

Report suspicious activities or individuals immediately to law enforcement by calling 9-1-1

Always be alert and aware of your surroundings. This is particularly true if you are wearing headphones and may not be able to hear someone near or behind you.
If someone bothers you, don't be embarrassed to attract attention to yourself. Yell!

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

Walk on the side of the street facing traffic

If a driver stops to ask directions, avoid getting close to the individual or vehicle

If a vehicle appears to be following you, turn and walk in the opposite direction. You should go to a location where other people are and get assistance.

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

For questions regarding information contained in this release, please contact Major Brad Barber at (352) 273-3309. If after hours, please call (352) 392-1111 (#UFPD (#8373) and ask to speak to a Patrol Supervisor. Major Barber can also be reached via e-mail at: wbarber@ufl.edu or see the UFPD webpage at http://www.police.ufl.edu.

Released by: Major Brad Barber, Assistant Director
Reviewed by: Deputy Chief Darren Baxley, Associate Director
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