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

A woman reported to GPD that at approximately 6:20 pm, Wednesday, November 15, 2017 she was working out in the apartment gym of the Tivoli Apartment located at 2841 SW 13th Street when the suspect knocked on the door. She then let him in the facility and he grabbed her, pulling her into the bathroom. In the bathroom he physically attacked her to include punching her in the face and grabbing her throat all while trying to pull her pants off of her. The suspect then exposed himself and sexually battered the victim. A search of the area with K-9 Officers was conducted with negative results. GPD Detectives are continuing their investigation into this incident.

The suspect is described as a black male, 18-21 years old, 180-210 lbs and clean shaven. He was wearing a red/white/blue striped polo shirt and khaki shorts. GPD will be increasing patrols in an effort to identify/apprehend the suspect.

Anyone with information about the incident or who may know the man’s 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.

If you become a victim of crime, please contact law enforcement immediately by calling 9-1-1.

Immediately report any suspicious person or activity to law enforcement.

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!

Do not allow anyone to follow you in your residence as you enter.

If you believe you are being followed, try to find the nearest populated location to get assistance and call 9-1-1.

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. I 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
Number: 17-09