RELEASE TO MEDIA

University Police Department
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Timely Warning

SUBJECT: Sexual Battery
CR# CR# 20-0470
DATE OF INCIDENT: Friday, April 18, 2020
DATE OF RELEASE: Saturday, April 19, 2020

NARRATIVE:

The UFPD is currently investigating a sexual battery that was reported to have occurred Friday, sometime between 8:15 pm and 10:50 pm on the University of Florida campus. According to the victim, a male suspect approached him near the Bat House on Museum Road, introduced himself and tried to hug him. The sexual battery occurred after the subject got aggressive and pulled him into the bushes. The subject was last seen heading west from the area.

The suspect is described as a black male, 20 to 30 years of age, approximately 6’ in height, and approximately 240bs, with short black hair. The suspect was wearing a blue plaid button-up collared shirt with a dark-colored undershirt before the incident. The suspect was last seen wearing just the dark-colored undershirt. The UFPD will be increasing patrols and are actively working leads toward identifying and apprehending the suspect.

In the interest of public safety, the UFPD is notifying the community of this incident. Additionally, anyone with information about the incident, was in the area at the time, or who may know the man’s identity is asked to call the University of Florida Police Department at 352.392-1111 or use the UFPD Silent Witness link at https://police.ufl.edu/contact/silent-witness/ . Those who wish to remain anonymous can also 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 to assist members of the UF community.

Please report a criminal incident and suspicious activities/individuals immediately to law enforcement by calling 9-1-1.

If at all possible, walk and/or stay with known acquaintances until you arrive safely home.
Avoid walking alone if at all possible.

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.

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 the 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. r see the UFPD webpage at http://www.police.ufl.edu.

Released by: Lieutenant Greg Streukens
Reviewed by: Captain Mitchal Welsh
Number: 20-04