

# THE CHIEF'S *Brief*

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER  
2022



Welcome to this month's Chief's Brief. This is a monthly feature to let you, the Lion community, know what has been happening on campus, where you can meet an officer, answer any questions you have about your University Police Department (UPD), and to offer a monthly safety tip.

Campus has been very active this first full month with events across campus. The Mane Experience included events like the Block Party and Mocktails. I served as a judge for Mocktails and let me say, the concoctions put together were an experience to say the least! I was elated to see such a great student turnout at UPD sponsored events including Coffee with a Cop, Cool-off with Cops, and Mental Health Awareness programming co-sponsored by NAMI and the University Counseling Center. The Lion Safe app contest concluded with 10 winners receiving some really cool prizes. On the final day, our computers went crazy when I sent the word of the day out. This was really impressive! Thanks for participating. Hopefully we will do it again soon.

Speaking of Lion Safe! The app has been downloaded almost 3000 times since the start of the year and there have been 375 virtual and friend walks initiated by the current users. That's a good start, but that's way less than our number of enrolled students, staff, and faculty. The Lion Safe app is a safety tool everyone should have on their phone, and it's free! Links to download: <https://linktr.ee/SoutheasternUPD>

I want to bring to the attention of our community the uptick in motor vehicle accidents and hit and runs. We have a lot of vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists navigating our streets daily so it is imperative that you stay alert and exercise safety as you drive around campus. If you are involved in a crash, you must call the police regardless of whether you hit a car or a stationary object; or, the accident involves an occupied or unoccupied vehicle. If you leave the scene of the accident, it is a crime under Louisiana Revised Statute 14:100. Cameras are strategically placed throughout campus and are utilized to help solve these types of crimes. Don't take a chance at receiving a summons and large penalties. Instead, stay on scene and call 985-549-2222 if you're on campus. If you're off campus, contact the local police for that area.

## Upcoming UPD Events:

On September 20th from 7:00AM-9:30AM, we will be at Meade Hall for Coffee with a Cop. Stop by for free coffee and speak with our officers.

On September 28th at 5:30 PM in the Student Union Theater, UPD will be holding an Active Assailant presentation. The information will be informative and worth your while so let's pack the theater. This is open to all students, staff, and faculty. I hope to see you there.

On October 6th from 11AM-2PM, we will be serving free jambalaya as part of Homecoming for Roomie's Jungle Jam...balaya! Stop by the Memorial Fountain to grab a bite!

We will be introducing a podcast soon with Officer Madison and Lieutenant Gipson called "Lions on the Beat." This will be very informative and fun, so stay tuned to our social media for more information.

Football season is upon the Lion Nation and UPD will be all around campus on Saturdays, as we have 4 home games in a row. If you have a question or need some assistance, let us know. All of your gameday information can be found on the Lion Safe app – just tap on the Game Day banner.

#### Safety Tips:

This month, I'd like to discuss the dangers of taking known and unknown illegal substances. When someone offers you a drink, substance, or pill, keep in mind that consuming it could have life altering consequences. You never know what you are taking! In today's world, fentanyl is being put into everything, and just one dose the size of an ink pen tip can kill you. News coverage of overdoses and related deaths are at an all-time high. This is not because drug use has exploded, it's because of the types of drugs and the chemicals added to them. Please be mindful!

Hammond and Southeastern are not immune from the fentanyl issue. Drugs are illegal and you should not do them or experiment with them, but I am a realist and want to keep you all informed and safe. So, be aware of what you are taking or experimenting with. If you feel like something is wrong and you need help, call us immediately. Don't be afraid that you are going to get in trouble or be arrested. The top priority is making sure you are safe and not in danger of overdose and death.

The best way to not have to worry about this is by not doing it at all.

If you see something, say something! If you see suspicious persons or activity, call your University Police Department immediately at 985-549-2222. We are available 24/7/365. We are physically located on the 1st floor of Pride Hall.

Send any questions or comments to [police@southeastern.edu](mailto:police@southeastern.edu).

We will see you around campus. LION UP!

*Chief Beckner*

Southeastern Louisiana University Police Department



**POLICE**