

# THE CHIEF'S *Brief*

APRIL 2021



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

As we return from Spring Break and make that final push to the end of the semester, now is not the time to slow down! Let's make that big push to the end. To the graduating class, CONGRATS! We look forward to the ceremonies in May and really look forward to seeing you take the world by storm with the knowledge you have gained at Southeastern.

UPD continues to support our ongoing Athletics events and the upcoming Commencement ceremonies, in addition to their regular duties. It's truly been a busy year for our Officers and they have done a tremendous job.

Some exciting UPD news: Investigator George Giron has been promoted to the Police Lieutenant over our Patrol and Communication's Divisions. His new duties will be to oversee our most visible division within UPD, Patrol. Congrats, Lieutenant Giron!

Lt. Patrick Gipson will now transition to the Police Lieutenant over our Community Engagement Division, handling community programming, events, and overall community engagement. With this addition, lots of new programs will be taking shape for the Southeastern community soon.

With Lt. Giron being promoted from Investigations, we will be working to fill his vacant Investigations position. This will give someone within our department an opportunity to get some exceptional new experience. All of these changes are part of a Department reorganization to further our community policing philosophy.

## Upcoming UPD Events:

Through a partnership with the Black Student Union, we will be conducting an open forum called "Real Talk with BSU and UPD" on April 20th at 6pm.

April 28th is Denim Day. This is the day we show support for survivors and educate others about all forms of sexual assault. UPD Officers will be wearing jeans as their daily uniform for this day. I encourage our Lion Nation to join in, and I challenge all students, faculty, and staff to share your photos of you wearing your denim to your social media accounts.

If you or your organization would like UPD to present on a topic, please reach out to us and we will make it happen.

## Safety Tips:

As you stay up late cramming for finals and working on final projects, remember to be mindful about not getting enough rest. Lack of proper rest lowers your reaction time, attention span, and affects your ability to make good decisions.

Being awake for long periods of time and extreme exhaustion causes your body to emulate an impaired driver and can cause you to have impairment just as if you were under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs with a blood alcohol level of .10%.

So even as we press to get through finals and end of semester projects, get plenty of rest! Prescription medication, which is not yours, to help stay awake is never the answer and it is also illegal. Make check-lists and give yourself deadlines that allow for unforeseen events.

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.

Remember to mask up and practice social distancing to keep our Lion Nation strong.

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