May 1, 2012

Off Campus Sexual Assault

A non-affiliated female reported to the SMU Police Department she was sexually assaulted off campus in the 3200 block of Rosedale Avenue in University Park by an SMU student during the early morning hours of Tuesday, May 1, 2012.

The suspect is described as a white male about 23 years old, 6 feet 1 inch tall and weighing about 190 lbs. He has blond hair and blue eyes.

The alleged sexual assault is under investigation by the University Park Police Department. Anyone with information about this matter is asked to contact the University Park Police Department at 214-363-3000. Information also may be reported anonymously through the Police Department’s Silent Witness Program by calling 214-SMU-2TIP or online at http://www.smu.edu/2tip

Personal Safety Tips

If you are sexually assaulted:

• Call the police and seek medical attention immediately. Time is critical in such cases. (214-768-3388 or 911).

• Have a Sexual Assault Exam performed at Presbyterian Hospital or Parkland Memorial Hospital. SMU Police are available to take you to the hospital, but you can go without the police.

• A representative from SMU Psychological Services for Women will be available to accompany you (214-768-4795).

• Don't bathe or shower. A medical doctor will need to gather forensic evidence from you.

• Save your clothing, bed sheets, pillow covers, etc. Do not wash them. Police will need these items, too.

• Seek counseling from SMU Psychological Services for Women at 214-768-2277.

Other safety tips:

• When first dating someone you have met online, be cautious of your surroundings and make sure others know where you are.

• Never drink from an open container that has been out of your possession for any length of time.

• If you think you may have been drugged, seek medical attention immediately and contact the police.

• Exercise caution when you are with people you do not know.

• Be responsible with alcohol. If you are intoxicated, you are less alert and become an easy target for an attacker.

# # #