

A Message from R. Gerald Turner, SMU President

Transcription of Video Message

Every year thousands of children come to SMU for activities ranging from camps, to classes, to sporting events. It is our responsibility to make sure they are safe and protected while they are here. Like all universities, we have the moral and ethical duty to ensure the protection of minors and to prevent child abuse.

We also have a legal duty to report abuse when we observe it. The state of Texas has passed a law that addresses the standards and qualifications of the institutions and individuals who participate in programs involving minors. Many of us at SMU are often in such a role.

A University task force has studied the protection of minors on our campus and we are committed to exceeding the state standards. I, along with the President's Executive Council, have already completed this training and I ask that every administrator, faculty member, and staff member take this short on line training course to learn how to recognize, prevent, and safely report incidents that put children at risk. It will take less than an hour of your time.

To ensure that all participate, I am asking every Dean and Vice President to verify that everyone in their area takes this important training. It is our obligation to protect the well-being of children who come to our community. You can make a positive impact in the life of a child by participating in this important program. So please follow the instructions included with this message.

I urge you to complete the training as soon as possible. Thank you.