

University of Arizona Agency Spotlight

The University of Arizona is very fortunate to have a department that is diverse, well trained and committed to excellence and integrity. Our employees are pro-active in helping resolve campus problems and concerns through involvement and contact with the community in which we serve. We believe that to accomplish our mission of, "providing a secure atmosphere conducive to the education, research, employment and daily community lifestyles of the institution", we must work with and have the assistance of everyone on campus. All of our members are committed to serving the campus and fulfilling our mission by being highly skilled and always acting in good faith.

The University of Arizona Police Department is both an IACLEA and CALEA accredited police agency, providing law enforcement and security services to the campus community. UAPD officers are duly sworn peace officers providing the officers with full law enforcement authority within the State of Arizona. Our primary jurisdiction consists of the main university campus and multiple outlying university properties, including the Mount Graham International Observatory (MGIO) located near Safford Arizona. However, through established agreements, we also take action as needed and provide assistance to other law enforcement agencies in the areas adjacent to our jurisdiction.

The University of Arizona Police Department is authorized to employ sixty-eight (68) police officers, twenty (20) unarmed police aides, twenty-nine (29) civilian employees and eight (8) student workers.

The University of Arizona Police Department consists of four (4) major divisions; Field operations, Operations Support, UA Emergency Preparedness and Business Affairs. The department is overseen by the Chief of Police and a Police Commander or Civilian Manager is assigned to oversee each Division. The UAPD Chief of Police reports to the University of Arizona's Senior Vice President of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer.



Division Highlights

Field Operations-

The Field Operations Division is the most visible division within the University of Arizona Police Department and provides patrol operations 24 hours a day. These services include providing the initial police response to 911 emergencies, all calls for service, and investigative follow-up.



Uniformed patrol officers are responsible for the patrolling of the main campus and associated properties. Personnel respond to calls for service twenty-four hours a day. UAPD responded to 30,445 calls for service during 2013.

The Investigations Unit consists of a Detective Sergeant and five (5) Detectives who are responsible for conducting in-depth investigations, background investigations, and assisting with dignitary protection.

The MGIO Unit is located approximately 120 miles northeast of Tucson, in Safford, Arizona and is comprised of four police officers. This unit is responsible for the law enforcement, medical and other emergency services to the Mount Graham International Observatory which is located on Mount Graham in the Pinaleno Mountain Range, at an elevation of 10,700 feet. Officers assigned to the unit are often the initial law enforcement response for the rest of the mountain due to their availability. They are frequently called upon to assist Graham County Sheriff's Department, United States Forest Service and the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Police Aides provide physical security for the many buildings on campus. Police Aides' responsibilities include the locking and unlocking of buildings for everyday University business, providing after-hours escorts, patrolling the campus community on foot, vehicle, or bicycle, and other key services. In the execution of these duties, PA's report unusual and suspicious activity and other public hazards. Police aides may also assist police officers with crowd control, surveillance or traffic control at public events, and take police reports involving larceny, found/lost property, or other reports as assigned.



Operations Support-

The Operations Support Division is responsible for the Communications Center, Records Section, Crime Prevention, Special Events, Traffic Enforcement, Training, Campus Canine Units, Property & Evidence and Accreditation.

The Communications Center is the “heart of the department,” as this is where calls for service are received and dispatched. In addition, the Communications section serves as the University’s 9-1-1 center, monitors alarms throughout the campus, and receives notification of alarm activations. The Communications Center responded to over 42,828 inbound phone calls which included 5,802 9-1-1 calls. UAPD Dispatch is staffed 24 hours a day.

Records section personnel are responsible for the storage and the archives for all police reports generated by the department with the exception of internal investigations, personnel and other administrative reports. Records personnel provide copies of police reports to the courts, prosecutors, victims, insurance companies, and the public. In addition, Records personnel generate a number of reports to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) System in Washington D.C. and provide official crime statistics to the department.

Crime prevention is everyone’s responsibility at UAPD. However, the Crime Prevention Unit provides overall coordination of the department’s crime prevention efforts, providing specialized crime prevention services as well as serving as the Public Information Officers for UAPD. Throughout the year various presentations on a wide variety of topics including alcohol abuse, DUI, sexual assault, personal and property security are provided to the campus community.

The Special Events section is responsible for coordination of events on campus requiring police department support such as sporting events, concerts, workshops, testing, parties etc. Providing safety and security for special events requires a coordinated effort between UAPD and local law enforcement agencies, a major function of this unit. A total of 278 events were coordinated by UAPD during 2013.

The Traffic Enforcement Unit of the Division is responsible for enforcement and education of traffic laws on University maintained streets and is staffed by a sergeant and four (4) police officers who utilize police motorcycles to conduct patrols and traffic enforcement efforts on campus streets and roads and adjacent city streets. In addition to enforcement duties, motorcycle officers also stress traffic education and safety through their public contacts. Periodically officers audit campus streets to ensure proper signage and traffic flow patterns in order to promote traffic safety and awareness.



The Training Unit coordinates training of department personnel. Each year hundreds of hours of training are scheduled for department personnel including civilians and police officers. Training for Police Officers consists of legal updates, firearms, defensive tactics, investigation techniques, active shooter response, first aid, bicycle training, Incident Command, driving and traffic investigation and reconstruction along with a variety of other specialty training.

The Campus Canine Units are assigned to the Operations Support Division and consist of two (2) certified canines. One canine is assigned to main campus and specializes in explosive detection. The other unit is assigned to the area narcotics task force and specializes in narcotic detection. Both canine units provide extensive support to all aspects of the department, University and the Tucson communities.



The Property & Evidence section is responsible for control and oversight of all evidence and other property of the department. During 2013 Property & Evidence Technicians accounted for 5168 pieces of property either entered as evidence, found safekeeping or confiscated property. Each week on Tuesday and Thursday, the Property & Evidence Technicians provide fingerprint services to the public needing their fingerprints taken for a variety of reasons.

Accreditation management for the department is handled by the Accreditation Manager and Division Commander to promote compliance with the standards established by IACLEA and CALEA.

Emergency Preparedness-

This position is responsible for coordinating, planning and communicating all activities related to the University's Campus Emergency Response Plan. The Commander responsible for the management of campus emergency preparedness is responsible for the training and assistance to University personnel in emergency response planning.

Business Affairs-

The Business Affairs Division is responsible for the administrative functions of the department including budgeting, human resources, information technology, and clerical support.

The annual budget for the department is approximately \$5,800,000.00, and is managed by the Chief of Police supported by the Director, Finance & Administration and her staff of six (6).



Technology advances in the law enforcement community continue to impact how UAPD provides service to the community both in initial calls for service and follow up investigations. With the implementation of in-car computers, video systems, wireless data transfer and communication capabilities, the need for system support is imperative. Two System Support Analysts are assigned to meet these needs by providing technical support, programming, updating and maintenance of department computers and other data systems imperative to the provision of law enforcement services and overall management of department assets.

Some Programs of Note

Community Service Officer Program-

A unique venture the UAPD offers for University students is the Community Service Officer program. University students are employed by the police department, trained, and then deployed into field patrol on foot or bicycle. CSOs act as the eyes and ears for the police department. CSOs also assist officers by taking certain criminal reports such as bicycle thefts and other larcenies. In addition, they provide assistance to the University community by responding to requests for escorts, public assists, and non-criminal alarms. Students may also assist in other facets of the department such as Property & Evidence, Special Events, Dispatching, and Investigations.

Residence Hall & Greek Life Liaison Program-

The department has a very successful UA Residence Halls Liaisons Program. This program assigns a specific officer to each residence hall. This unique concept allows for a community oriented/problem oriented policing approach and for the residences to get to know members of UAPD. Liaison officers provide presentations to residents or assist in solving problems common to the entire residence hall

Campus Watch Program-

Campus Watch is modeled after the Neighborhood Watch program. The concept of community watch programs is to encourage its members to take an active role in safety and security. Campus Watch is designed to educate community members through presentations on issues of safety and security, offering security surveys, recommending changes or additions to buildings that would make the work place safer, providing statistics and crime trend information and insuring timely distributions of campus alerts. In creating this network, Campus Watch hopes to encourage all UA departments to exchange information and share their concerns with one another, in turn, creating a greater sense of personal ownership in campus safety and security.

VIN Etching Program-



The VIN Etching Program allows the VIN number of your vehicle to be etched on all glass surfaces. In the event that your vehicle is stolen and recovered, it is usually easier to identify your car by the glass etching as thieves may scratch out or remove VIN numbers from other areas on your car. This is a free service provided by the University of Arizona Police Department.

Wildcat Welcome-

Every year, before the Fall semester begins, the UAPD staff extends a helping hand to our newest Wildcats! Throughout the course of two days they are moving boxes, answering questions about the U of A, and encouraging students and parents to be proactive in regards to their own safety on campus.

Spring Safety Fair-

The Spring Safety Fair is a source of information for University students and employees to learn about the various safety resources available on campus. Everyone is especially encouraged to be proactive in their safety by utilizing these different programs.



Dispose-a-Med Program-

The University of Arizona Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their residence of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. This service will be provided free of charge and is completely anonymous, no questions asked.

Bicycle Safety and Education Campaign-

There are several thousand bicyclists on The University of Arizona campus during any given weekday. Understanding and complying with traffic laws as they apply to bicyclists is crucial in promoting a safe travel environment for everyone. The Bicycle Safety and Education Campaign is designed to educate community members on University regulations and Arizona State laws relating to bicycle traffic while providing important tips for safeguarding bicycles against theft.

