



USG Safety Town Hall Forum
U.S. Bank Conference Theater
Ohio Union, first floor

Tuesday, April 12th, 2016
6:30-8:00 pm

This event was held to educate Ohio State students about safety issues around the on- and off-campus area, and to provide resources and firsthand information from featured panelists directly involved in these issues.

I. Opening Remarks

a. *Vern Baisden*, Assistant Vice President, Public Safety, Department of Public Safety, Ohio State Office of Administration and Planning

(baisden.14@osu.edu)

i. This is another great day for students and certainly when you get various officials here that represent law enforcement and fire safety, it's a great day. We're certainly happy that we're here and we're very happy that the student government has been very active in terms of bringing people here. I'm here to sit and listen and learn. Thank you so much for allowing me to be here today.

b. *Acting Chief of Police, Chief Stone*

i. Before we get started, I'd like to bring something to your attention. Director Baisden has been with OSU for 15 years and his last day is this Friday. He's been dedicated to keep the campus community safe for all this time. At this time, could we give a standing ovation to Director Baisden? (Standing ovation)

II. Introduction, Ground Rules & Welcome

a. *Sunder Sai*, Undergraduate Student Government

i. Hi everyone, thank you for coming. Our panelists will introduce themselves and their roles in public safety. Each agenda topic, listed on the sheet you were all given, will be introduced and discussed, and panelists with knowledge on each issue will speak on them from the stage. There will be 5 minutes of questions and discussion after each agenda topic. We ask that there be one question per topic until everyone has had a chance to ask questions. Selected anonymous questions submitted through an anonymous form will also be mixed in. If there are any topics outside of the scope of our conversation and agenda items today, that you email me at sai.5@osu.edu and direct those questions to me. Meeting minutes will be taken by the former Secretary of the General Assembly, Sophie Chang.

III. Featured Panelists

a. *Bob Armstrong*, Director of Emergency Management

(armstrong.349@osu.edu)



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- b. *Thomas Quinlan*, Deputy Chief of Police, Patrol North (tquinlan@columbuspolice.org)
- c. *Mitchell J. Brown*, Columbus Public Safety Chair Councilman (mjbrown@columbus.gov)
- d. *Craig Stone*, Acting Chief of the OSU Police Department (stone.695@osu.edu)
- e. *Ezra Baker*, Office of Off Campus Living (baker.1948s@osu.edu)

IV. **Topic Discussion & Question Session**

Note: Each topic listed below will be followed by questions and discussion for at least five minutes.

a. Safety Notifications: How They Work

- i. *Armstrong:* There are two different types of notifications issued by the university: 1) Buckeye Alerts, and 2) Public Safety Notices. They are distinct and separate notifications. The Public Safety Notices are sent by email and put up on social media—they are from the Clery Act of 1990. There were a series of sexual assaults and rapes at Clery's university and the students were not aware of it. They had heard rumors but it was not readily publicized. Jeanne Clery was raped and murdered in her dorm room and her parents, rightfully, felt that if the university had notified them of the previous incidents, that she could have taken precautions to ensure her own safety. That's the purpose of the Public Safety Notices—to let you know about crimes or series or crimes on campus or immediately adjacent to campus property so you can take precautions to keep yourself safe. Sometimes we'll get a question about something about East of High—why wasn't there a notification? It's hard for us to decide whether we take it beyond that. What are the guidelines? We're trying to stick to the Clery Act. It's not an emergency notification and it's not meant for you to take immediate action. That would be a Buckeye Alert that is sent through text messaging and social media. Occasionally there will be an email, but usually it will be through text message and social media. This is for you to take immediate action. That's why we need that message out as quickly as possible. How many of you are signed up for Buckeye Alerts (<https://dps.osu.edu/alert-notices>)? How many of you follow @OSU_EMFP on Twitter (https://twitter.com/OSU_EMFP?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)? It's not really black and white when we send the emergency notification. There's a specific list of crimes for Public Safety Notices. For the emergency notifications...Buckeye



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Alerts are for when we think there is a potential for immediate danger e.g. Buckeye Village shooter and gun. The way we're doing this—and we've made enhancements over the past couple months—is that we've installed a couple of buttons behind our dispatchers. When a 911 call comes in, the dispatchers are answering the call and take information about the incident. If they are relatively confident that there is something serious occurring in campus community, they're going to hit that button, and a generic message will be texted, and posted on Twitter and Facebook. The message will be something to the effect of Buckeye Alert: "Emergency...Secure in place. Run/hide/fight if necessary. More info soon." Our plan is to have a more detailed follow-up message a few minutes later. We would like to have that message out first, but it takes time to process all of that information.

- ii. *Stone*: Buckeye Village robbery when the call came into our dispatch center, the officers working on the streets and special duty responded quickly. Due to sharing info with CPD and citizens helping us, we were able to make that arrest fairly quickly. Officer Chuck Gierach was involved in the arrest (applause for Officer Gierach). We caught the perpetrator and he's in jail. That was a great example of teamwork with OSU PD and CPD.
- iii. **Questions begin!**
- iv. *Gerard Basalla*: Hi everyone, I was just elected student body president. I want to preface this question with the fact that we do an extraordinary job at Ohio State. I have a question specific to the Columbus Police Department. Where can we point students to for safety notifications if they are well off campus?
- v. *Quinlan*: Because of laws and certain things, we cannot and don't have certain student information. We forward information to Chief Stone and he can forward that information out to relevant departments quickly. If something happens off campus, either through social media or if other students are putting stuff out, if you go to the CPD Twitter account (@ColumbusPolice) https://twitter.com/ColumbusPolice?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor, that's accurate information that's corroborated. You can go to that site. You can contact CPD Radio Room—they can tell you if something's going on as it's occurring. After the fact, you can go to Raids Online



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(<https://www.raidsonline.com>), a crime reporting system for all crimes off campus that CPD uses. You can see exact date ranges, any type of crime e.g. thefts, individual robberies, commercial robberies, car thefts, etc. That can help you decide which areas tend to be safer, where to live off campus, etc.

- vi. *Vincent Liu*: Hi, I'm a student here and I have lived off campus for two years. The first year I lived off campus, there was a dead body stinking for two weeks near my house, but I never received anything from CPD or OSU PD. Same thing with the Wexner Center shooting. What kind of incidents are considered to be worthwhile to be sent message alerts?
- vii. *Armstrong*: For our Buckeye Alert system, any time there is an incident on campus we feel you need to take immediate action. The incident at the Wexner was over extremely quickly and by the time we were typing it up and had it ready, it was not a continuing threat to campus and it was isolated to that one area. As far as the other incident, if you would want to email Sunder with that information, we can see if we can get you information on that, because I am not aware of that.
- viii. *Lauren Todd*: Hi, I'm a fourth year majoring in English, and my question reflects what Gerard said. We appreciate you being here, but I'll be harping on the question just asked about dispatchers that respond to emergencies for Buckeye Alert. Could you go into more detail and specific standards for what constitutes an emergency? And whatever they deem to be an emergency, but are there checkmarks or anything?
- ix. *Armstrong*: That's difficult. If someone calls in and says that there's someone with a gun on campus, do you send out an email or alert right away? We've had incidents with ROTC. The dispatchers need to use their experience and we rely on them to use their experience in talking to the caller and using any other abilities such as cameras and tools that they have to make that determination. If we are receiving multiple calls about someone threatening with a gun or weapon, or some type of shooting, someone shooting up the building, they may have a bit of a question. If you can tell in their voice they're scared or you can hear it in the background, that's when there's more credibility to it. They do a pretty good job of it. They take thousands of calls every year, and they do a pretty good job of judging what's factual and what needs a little more information.



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- x. *Tim Villari*: Hi, I'm a third year, and I have a question about the proximity of incidents we report, and the legal or logistical complications for expanding proximity. If there are not legal barriers, what are the logistical concerns and what can we do to try to alleviate those concerns? Thank you.
- xi. *Armstrong*: Is this regarding Buckeye Alerts or Public Safety Notices?
- xii. *Tim Villari*: Public Safety Notices.
- xiii. *Armstrong*: Well, there are multiple challenges about whether to determine Public Safety Notices for crimes further off campus rather than just on campus property and properties immediately adjacent to on-campus property. There are multiple challenges.
- xiv. *Stone*: For example, this summer, Chief Quinlan dealt with some serious crimes off campus. There were six armed robberies over two days. We felt that was something that rose to the level that we needed to send out information so students could be aware of that. Other times that we haven't put out information because it could jeopardize a CPD investigation e.g. a robbery with someone with dreadlocks with a knife. News outlets reported on it and sent out his photo everywhere, so he shaved his dreadlocks. Fortunately, one of his family members turned him in. We don't want to jeopardize the investigation but also want to keep students safe. If you take anything from this, know that **614-292-2121 is the non-emergency number for OSUPD. Dial 911 for emergencies regardless of if you're on campus or off campus.** It's important that you call us if you see someone who needs help. We had a student email us to our general account that said that there was a suspicious guy in the library who made strange comments to her that made the student feel uncomfortable. If that student had called the non-emergency number, we could have had officers there immediately.
- xv. *Armstrong*: On expanding boundary lines—our legal folks have advised that the Clery Act did that for us so that our reporting and acts are consistent with others in the nation.
- xvi. *Quinlan*: The city of Columbus takes these very seriously. The university is required by law to engage students with notifications, invited legal team from OSU in charge of program to our general staff meeting and they outlined to all of our officials what the university needs to follow in terms of the Clery Act and what we could do that



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would help them. *The standard is ongoing threat to population that student body needs to know about that won't hamper the investigation.*

b. Off-Campus Lighting: Columbus Police Department, City of Columbus

- i. *Brown*: The issue of lighting is interesting. The circumstance is that the Division of Street Lighting and power and water are the ones that determine whether you can have lights. I'm the newest member here and have only been on the Columbus City Council for 3 months. It's expensive and complicated. Residents come together for assessment, then the Division of Power sends people to assess whether or not that will take place, because the residents will be billed for that. We're always dealing with that issue. Lighting is very valuable for us. Another thing is community cameras. We have a lot of those near the campus area. Yield to Kelsey.
- ii. *Kelsey, Legislative Aide to Elizabeth Brown*: Elizabeth Brown is part of the Columbus City Council and she's at Equal Pay Day, so she could not be here. To the lighting question, it is important to note as a former OSU student myself—we forget that it's really easy to interface with city government. There are federal representatives and the Statehouse down the road, but **city government** is taking care of a lot of the core. You can access by Googling our information or dialing **311-645-3411** if you see any issues. In my experience, every one of us is empowered to dial that number or file something online. We look at that. We want to know about it and come out and fix it. In terms of more lighting, that's expensive and that's a policy decision and that's what folks like Councilman Brown are elected to do. Use USG but also don't forget that we're here too and we're ready to hear your concerns.
- iii. *Brown*: The 311 line is for non-emergency concerns. The concerns are then spread to different and relevant divisions. They react to it and we monitor it everyday.
- iv. *Quinlan*: Councilman Brown is being humble. He has been on the Columbus City Council for 3 months, but he served 16 years as Director of Public Safety in the city of Columbus. He and Baisden were responsible for creating the Joint Patrol and MOU program. They also helped with portable lighting off campus from OSU. We've been appreciative of this. Also notice that there's more lighting off campus than ever. Crime off campus is on the decline and that's in part due to community cameras and increase in lighting.



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- v. *Baker*: Again, **lighting problems can be reported by calling 311-645-3111**. There is also a mobile application for that: **MyColumbus**. You can download the app here (<https://www.columbus.gov/MyColumbus/>) and it's easy to report street light outages or things like that. It's just another way to report those light outages.
- vi. *Armstrong*: A way to report lighting outages on campus: Service 2 Facilities/2HELP online or on your phone at <https://fml.osu.edu/fs/our-services/service2facilities>.
- vii. *Brown*: If you see something, say something. Make the phone call. Someone will react to it. If you take the responsibility to tweet the info or make the call, then someone will react to it. If you do not.
- viii. *Laura*: Hi, I am the President of the Jones Tower Hall Council. With construction on north campus, it can be really dark at times. Do you know with the new buildings on north campus, whether there will be additional lights?
- ix. *Armstrong*: Yes. I've seen the landscaping plans and it'll be quite bright. There will be quite a few lights. Primarily it's construction, but by next fall when everything is done, I think you'll be pleasantly surprised by how bright it will be.
- x. *Public 1*: My question is regarding additional lighting implementation. You said that it could be expensive—is the dominant cost installation, materials, etc? There could be problems with light pollution if additional lighting is installed and I'm wondering if motion sensing would be an appropriate alternative.
- xi. *Brown*: Light motion would not be a problem. The cost is that it gets referred back to respective community and question is how they will be engaged in that. Usually a community gets together, talks about it, invites people from the city, and we'll tell them about it and assess the situation.
- xii. *Public*: My question is whether there are options other than lighting poles, such as motion-sensing lights on high objects like trees or electricity poles?
- xiii. *Brown*: The problem there would be leaves on trees that would block the lighting. There'd be an assessment, then determination on whether it will or will not work. Then we'd address issue.



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- xiv. *Brown's assistant*: What's something students can do as far as lighting inside apartments and houses? Are there any ideas as to things they can do themselves?
 - xv. *Stone*: Make residences look like somebody's there. Nice to have a pet. Take advantage of lights. Leave lights, music, TV on. Be creative.
 - xvi. *Brown*: Smoke detectors. If you live in a place that does not have a smoke detector, you have a problem. You'd be amazed by how many people don't pay attention to those. Bad guys know how to get around motion detectors. Make sure you have a smoke detector.
 - xvii. *Baker*: We talked about resources from student life: I'm from the Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services (<https://offcampus.osu.edu/commuter-services/>). We have light timers and window and door alarms for free. Light timers—plug in devices like lamps, radios, etc, and set them to go on and off at certain times so it looks like somebody's home. Window and door alarms—criminals don't like loud things so you put half on your door frame and one on door. When they are separated, an alarm goes off. Our office is open from 8am-5pm Monday-Friday on the third floor of the Ohio Union across from BuckID office. (Room 3106 of the Ohio Union) Enough window and door alarms for all on your property. You can get as many as you want and they're free. Did I mention they're free? Grab free safety devices.
 - xviii. *Sai*: The light timers and door alarms are outside by the table in a pack we created. It's a project USG started that had health, safety, wellness items that are free of charge.
 - xix. *Armstrong*: How much are they, Ezra?
 - xx. *Baker*: Free.
- c. Joint Patrol/MOU: How It Works**
- i. *Stone*: We have excellent cooperation with CPD and OSU PD. A vehicle was donated by USG. Joint patrol officers do an excellent job. You may see them or you may not because they may be in plainclothes. They talk to student organizations off campus, find out and address needs, and are concerned about what's going on on both sides of the street. There's no boundary for them because they can go anywhere. They've cleaned up vagrancy on High Street. There are social resources available for the homeless e.g. housing, food, etc. lots of resources. The problem is when you give them money and they use it to buy alcohol,



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etc. We've had problems with neighbors with establishments and when we stepped up joint patrol in those areas.

- ii. *Quinlan*: I can speak to the success of the joint patrol program. Back in 2007, I had an opportunity to attend the Major City Chiefs conference with the 25 largest police departments. Every Police Chief (who operates in a city with over 1,000 people) in the country goes to this. I was invited in 2007 to participate in a plan for campus security guidelines. The Police Chief at the time was requested to go from OSU and I represented the city of Columbus and there were people from every major city in the country with a major university in them. We decided on lots of best practices for campus security and off-campus areas with joint patrol. We discussed solutions e.g. having an MOU with joint patrol where an officer worked in tandem and shared resources and knowledge and developed positive interaction with community. Sometimes in police world we have negative interactions in dealing with the community. Someone you see, trust, can have and share information with, and have report. Give safety tips and do evaluations on what is safe as far as their living environment. After some time, they put this report out one of the ideas we contribute to report (we lobbied too) was the a cruiser marked invisible that people can have recognition that is more the positive side. They're not there to catch underage drinkers. They're there to be your resource. Officers in those are community-minded and want to be that driving force for safety off campus. It's worked out very well. CPD, every other week, has a crime strategy meeting. Crime analysts look at crime happening on and off campus that we know of: what day of the week, time of day, and who we're looking for. Because of OSU's involvement with us, they have immediate access to that info as well. That info is also shared. Their time is put to good use. They can be predictive of when is the best time to go out, in what format and patrol method. It can be productive. Also, OSU is very respectful of student privacy under FERPA. The university may have info that they can't share with CPD. With joint patrol, someone off campus can have that info and can take steps with student judicial affairs and off-campus resources to drive things that CPD cannot do. There are lots of things that could not happen if we did not have an MOU or Joint Patrol.

d. Operation Safeguard/Community Crime Patrol



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- i. *Stone*: Operation Safeguard is operated by students who work for OSU PD. These students are the eyes and ears of the department. They work on and off campus, and support is coordinated by the University. Now I will yield to Sean Bolender, Student Safety Services Coordinator.
 - ii. *Bolender*: I am a Coordinator for Student Safety Service (<https://dps.osu.edu/student-safety-service>). Students part of Operation Safeguard drive up and down alleyways at night to keep you safe. They drive around in a white minivan with obnoxiously loud red and yellow stripes—we want you to see it but more importantly want criminals to see it. We’re providing extra opportunities for public safety people to see it. They cannot go out and take direct action, but they have training to talk directly to police officers to report things. We also have mobile substation on 12th and College—it’s a black RV with free coffee—BuckID required. We want that on a nightly basis as well. These are student officers who have extra safety information. They have a good sense of what’s going on on campus, and can point you to the city or other resources and info that you need.
 - iii. *Stone*: The Community Crime Patrol is another tool utilized by citizens to protect citizens. It’s funded by the University and the city of Columbus.
 - iv. *Brown*: They are the eyes and ears for law enforcement when they can’t be everywhere. When they see a potential problem, they call in and inform law enforcement. Again, the response is to be deterrent and get to know folks. They know the neighborhoods and when they know the neighborhoods, there’s value to that. Some people have been there for 20+ years. They see things that are unusual and react to that. When notices go out, they are also made aware so they can be attuned to any potential problems. Funded by the university and the city of Columbus.
- e. Student Safety Services—Safe Rides & Wait Times**
- i. *Stone*: Student Safety Service is important for operations. Students are required to schedule in advance—for 96% of the calls that come in, we’re able to meet those. They provide rides and keep you safe, and also for special events. Home football games, on occasion, have used AEDs and helped people that were going through cardiac arrest. They got them to the hospital and kept them alive. Joey Eringman, Student



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Safety Services Manager, helped save a gentleman this football season.
(Applause for Joey.)

- ii. *Bolender*: Student Safety Service, like I said before, is staffed entirely by students. We provide 18,000+ rides a year. Some concerns are wait times, which I will address. I will also address what Student Safety Service is and isn't. The safe ride program is exactly that—a safe ride program. We find opportunities to give you a way to get home safely but we are not a taxi-cab service. The safe ride program works by trying to get most number of rides in. Each time we have a ride, that's a time we can prevent a crime that would have or could have happened. We can also stack rides. For example, if a student is trying to get from the library library to somewhere northeast of campus, and another student wants to be picked up around time nearby, we'll put both in the vehicle and have two rides in one time slot. We've been asked why we don't work like Uber, but that would prevent us from stacking or preventing crime. We also make sure to maintain the safety of everyone on campus even when out doing a ride on campus, such as when they see someone collapsed on the street. We'll stop and provide first aid and get CPD or the fire department out there. We're providing 96% of callers with the requested rides. Something else is the wait times. Looking at increasing info out to you. The draw to Uber is access information on smartphone, and we're looking at an app and there will be a time lag before we can do something like that, but we still want to maintain as many rides as possible per year.
- iii. *Public 1*: You said that there are 4% of students who have called and who could not get rides. That may be an underestimate based on the fact that some students may have stopped calling. I've called on a few occasions—it's late, I'm very tired—and I've gotten responses of 1-2 hour wait times. I've stopped calling due to my requests never being met, but I don't necessarily need a ride home. Is there anything you can do to not just have a car, but to hook people up with other people to walk home with others? Kind of like something on foot rather than a ride system?
- iv. *Shawn B*: Yeah, so what you're talking about is a foot escort, and we've tried that in the past. Not surprisingly, most people didn't want it. A lot of people don't like a lot of Student Safety Service officers flanking them because sometimes it's a pride thing or convenience factor because it might take a really long time to walk with our students. If



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we start to see more demand for that, we'd explore it again. We have foot and bike officers. We're maximizing the number of vehicles and students we can pick up at this time. As far as the other part, which is the wait being too long, that's a problem we know exists and we're not thrilled but because we want to maximize the number of rides offered to students, we allow people to call on a first-come-first-served basis. If you call earlier, you're increasing your chances of getting a ride at your desired time. I hope you'll give us another try.

- v. *Sai*: Anonymous question. How heavily staffed is Student Safety Service and how heavily are they being trained?
- vi. *Bolender*: There's an initial period with lots of info about how campus police operates. They train with an OSU police officer. They also have radio training so they know how to talk to police on radio. Then after they get classroom time, we put them in a vehicle with student training and field officers to keep them under close watch. There's a checklist to make sure they meet all requirements and to ensure that they have comprehensive knowledge.
- vii. *Sai*: How can someone become a Student Safety Service officer?
- viii. *Bolender*: <http://www.dps.osu.edu> is our main website. SSS tab—employment section and you can apply directly with us. We have 30-40 student officers at a given time. It depends on the availability of resources and special events such as football games and other large events.
- ix. *Nick*: This question is not directly related to Student Safety Service. Can the university and CPD possibly organize rape prevention programs that are open to guys as well? Are there resources that we could look for if residents are looking for self-defense programs?
- x. *Stone*: There's a program in the fall and spring for females. There are clubs and organizations and classes at OSU that you could take—self defense classes. Our focus is making sure that we're trying to make sure young ladies are safe and that there are classes for females to empower and defend themselves. Male students: we don't have staffing to provide it. I would love to, but I don't have the staffing. There are resources on campus, though.
- xi. *Quinlan*: The city of Columbus division of police. We've started a civilian self-defense course with 30 students at the police academy. There's a nominal fee of \$20. We can offer some things on duty if there's a group demand for it, so you can contact us about that.



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- xii. *Armstrong*: Email Sunder and I can research what I can find for you for the clubs and organizations on campus. (Some include <https://dps.osu.edu/rad-classes> and <https://www.facebook.com/osusefense/>).
- xiii. *Public 2*: Can Student Safety Service contact students when they arrive at the location? I've called and I've missed them because no one notified me. There are some places outside where I would not want to wait.
- xiv. *Bolender*: The short answer is that we lack the technology to be able to do a callback from the vehicle operator. We're doing a feasibility study on the app—that would address that and would enable us to do push notifications. You would see the vehicle approaching from a certain radius. Currently, the dispatcher is the only one taking calls and they oversee 100+ calls a night. They're taking in calls, dispatching 4-5 vehicles at the same time, and dispatching others to do building and lot checks. They don't have time to make those calls. But if you're concerned about missing your ride, or if they missed you, call us and the dispatcher can tell you where your ride is.
- xv. *Public 2*: Could the dispatcher call or text the driver with our phone numbers to call us?
- xvi. *Bolender*: Well, the airwaves are public, so we wouldn't want to broadcast your phone numbers. We are not there with the technology but we would like to do that.

f. Bike Safety

- i. *Stone*: COTA and the city of Columbus have teamed up for the Bug Your Bike Program, which is a free program where they put a radio frequency chip on your bike. It's important for any important property you have to write down serial numbers or put down identification numbers or something. Earlier this year, we took a photo of some bikes we recovered on campus, which were taken from suspects who stated that the bikes were not theirs. We placed the photos on our Twitter page, but no one claimed their bicycles. The city of Columbus regularly has auctions for property we cannot get back to the rightful owners, but if you don't write down your serial numbers or write down the information, we can't get it back to you. U-locks are great but they won't prevent thefts. Bikeshare is also a great program. I wouldn't buy an expensive bike to have on campus.



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- ii. *Brown*: [*Sarcastically*] Expensive bikes are good if you don't take advantage of the things Stone said, because then we can auction it off for a nice price. The city of Columbus appreciates it. We need the money.
- iii. *Nick*: I have a quick question about something. Where are the bikes impounded? And could you give a quick overview of where we can and can't put our bikes to keep them safe?
- iv. *Stone*: On campus?
- v. *Nick*: I saw big signs that said park your bike safely or it can be impounded by OSU. Where actually get impounded?
- vi. *Stone*: OSU PD office is at 901 Woody Hayes Drive at Blankenship Hall, West Campus.
- vii. *Armstrong*: By fire hydrants, trash cans, in the public way of walking on the sidewalk or for facilities folks doing what they have to do, on trees for landscaping folks, etc. If it's going to damage the tree, it's probably going to be impounded.
- viii. *Basalla*: How can students help both CPD and OSU PD? We have students coming to us saying that they saw someone stealing a bike but didn't want to deal with repercussions or didn't think that what they saw warranted 911 call. What are the best ways we can help CPD and OSU PD?
- ix. *Stone*: If you see something, say something. Students—you're busy. But how about this guy hanging around the bike rack? Call us. You don't have to stay there, but call and let us know what's going on. E.g. we had a young lady who called us about someone stealing a bike by removing the seat and then riding off without the seat attached. We were able to respond and arrest the suspect. Also, as a reminder, do not let people piggyback behind you into your residence hall.
- x. *Quinlan*: **614-645-4545 is the nonemergency line.** Everyone has a smart phone with them. Take a snapshot of who it is that's committing the crime. That gives us more info on who it is. If they're stealing bikes, they're going to be going to retagging or pawn shops and probably sell a \$400 bike for \$20. If we have a picture, we can put it together. For example, you'll probably see one person taking a bike, but we have police officers on and off campus who know and who've arrested the same people over a dozen times. They just steal bikes. With the courts and incarceration rates, that's unfortunately not something that warrants incarcerations. We may already have info by



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looking at that person and we could get that property back before it gets permanently lost if you take that picture and send it to us.

- xi. *Brown*: If they did that, they probably did something else or are in the process of doing something else. Chances are, they are probably doing something else. Give us something we can work with and you'd be amazed at how successful we can be.
- xii. *Dan*: I work in Communications for Public Safety and Transportation and Facilities on campus. If anyone needs more info, the website totally refreshed right now. It used to be really hard to use, but within the last 3-4 months we've refreshed that. If you go to <http://www.ttm.osu.edu>, there are online resources for biking. <http://www.dps.osu.edu> resources and services & programs tab. More info on there. We are trying to do more with social media and video. If you need resources, those are two places you can look for them.
- xiii. *Brown*: Be conscientious of bike safety and how you operate your bike. Recognize that pedestrians are walking. We don't want to disrupt them. Be respectful. Last night as I was driving home, some individual drove past the red light. You can't disobey the traffic laws because you're riding a bike. Rules apply to you as well.

g. Share the Road

- i. *Stone*: Mayor Coleman helped create bike lanes, etc. Lots of students use bikes especially when the weather gets warm. Be conscious and give them their space. When they're coming through the university and especially the Oval. Be careful with bikes, especially this time of year.
- ii. *Jeb Thomas*: Share the Road webpage online that talks about areas on campus where you should be walking your bikes and skateboards, etc.
- iii. *Rachel*: I am the President-Elect of Baker West Arts Council for next year. Is the walk zone on the Oval enforced by anyone? I've been hit several times and have seen people get in really nasty accidents.
- iv. *Stone*: We'll have five officers trained this semester and 5 more trained for next fall. We'll have twenty trained bike officers by autumn semester (AU16), which will help us interact with students and enforce those policies. They'll be looking for people who violate those rules. The first course of action is to give them a warning. Our goal is to build relationships with students.

h. Off Campus Community Ambassadors



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- i. *Baker*: The Off Campus Community Ambassadors program is made up of undergraduates who are employees of Student Life. They are assigned to streets in the off-campus area. The goal is to bridge the gap between the university and off-campus area. If you live on a street off campus, you'll see them going off-campus going door-to-door talking to residents about resources on campus. Be proactive and aware. Realize that we as students play a huge role in our own safety. While there are so many resources available to us, we can increase our own safety by being vigilant. Lock windows and doors-that can go a long way. Keep valuables out of sight. Don't leave blinds open and comp sitting right there by the window. It's important to be keeping yourself out of risk in those situations. Lock your doors and windows but also use safety devices so that if people do try to break in, alarms will go off (available on third floor of Union). Being proactive about home security. Knowing neighbors and looking out for each other are good because you really are the eyes and ears for off-campus safety. If you see something, say something. **Dial 614-645-4545 if you see something suspicious off campus.** If you see something, say something. We also have Buckeye Block Watch signs here tonight. Please put these up in your windows. This is another way of saying that you're engaged in your community and watching out for your community. Be aware, vigilant, proactive. We play a huge role in our own safety. It's important to do everything we can to protect ourselves and others.
 - ii. *Sophie Chang*: How do you become an Off Campus Community Ambassador?
 - iii. *Baker*: Students can apply in the spring for the fall academic year. Apply at <http://www.offcampus.osu.edu> every spring semester.
- i. Driving Simulator**
- i. *Stone*: The driving simulator's goal is to educate you on the dangers of distracted driving. The simulator will be outside if you'd like to test drive it. It's very important that you understand what those dangers are so you don't become a victim. There's also a police exam in June. If you're interested in becoming a police officer for OSU, I have flyers with me and I'd be glad to talk to you about it. Test out the simulator!
 - ii. *Kevin O'Conner, Columbus Fire Chief*: Brown smoke detectors are the number one thing you can do in your house from a fire safety standpoint. If landlords are not providing them, we'll take



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enforcement action against landlord and we'll get you a fire detector. Please call the fire department. The fire department is sole provider of EMS care on and off campus. We don't want you to be scared to call us. We are not enforcement action. We use fire engines for EMS prevention as well. Whatever it is, don't worry about the size of the truck. We're going to use the vehicle closest to you. 614-221-3132. More info at

<https://www.columbus.gov/Templates/Detail.aspx?id=65450>.

V. Closing

- a. Thank you for coming!