

TIMELY WARNING: Sexual Assault and Robbery

Content warning: this warning addresses a report of sexual assault. Resources are available on and off campus to provide assistance. On campus resources and information can be found at <https://www.atu.edu/titleix/resources.php>.

Arkansas Tech University issues timely warnings in accordance with the federal Jeanne Clery Act. The Clery Act requires all colleges and universities to keep and disclose information about reported crimes on and near their respective campuses, including timely warnings of crimes that may represent a continuing threat to the safety of students or employees.

INCIDENT: Sexual Assault and Robbery

On Saturday, August 19, 2023 the Arkansas Tech University Department of Public Safety received a report of sexual assault and robbery that occurred in a residence hall on the afternoon of August 18, 2023. A male student was contacted by another male subject on a dating app and they met in the student's residence hall room where he was sexually assaulted and robbed. The male student reported the male suspect had a knife.

The suspect is described as a white male, slender build, with brown hair.

This case is under investigation by the Arkansas Tech Department of Public Safety.

If you are in immediate DANGER, call 911.

Please note that race, ethnicity, gender and/or religious affiliation are NOT considered the basis for suspicion; only behaviors are considered suspicious.

If you have information relevant to the crime(s) reflected in this alert, immediately call DPS at (479) 968-0222.

The purpose of this warning is to aid in the prevention of similar crimes by alerting the community about the incident and to provide information which allows individuals to make informed decisions about their personal safety.

No action or inaction by a sexual assault survivor makes that person responsible for another person's abusive or criminal conduct. The following suggestions may help reduce the possibility of experiencing a crime or may improve opportunities to receive prompt assistance.

If you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted, there are time-sensitive decisions to make about preventing sexually transmitted infections, preventing pregnancy, and collecting physical evidence.

Individuals who have been sexually assaulted should immediately go to a safe location and call a trusted friend or 911. Preserve all physical evidence of the assault, even if you are unsure whether you want to report the crime to law enforcement. Seek medical care as soon as possible.

If you believe you are the victim of Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault it is important for you to have blood and urine tests as soon as possible to determine the presence of drugs. Delayed reporting and the passage of time can significantly impact the ability of testing to detect the presence of drugs.

Symptoms of Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault may include drowsiness, confusion, sudden physical weakness especially in the limbs, impaired motor skills, inability to walk or talk, weakness, impaired memory, reduced inhibitions, unconsciousness and or a strange sensation of being paralyzed.

ATU Department of Public Safety Recommendations – Sexual Assault

- **If you are assaulted, immediately go to a safe location and report the crime to law enforcement.** Call 911 for emergencies or ATU Public Safety at (479 968-0222).
- **If you observe an assault in progress, STAY CALM AND CALL 911.** Do not attempt to apprehend any suspects or perpetrators of crime. Your personal safety and the safety of others around you should be your primary concern.
- **Not every person you meet has good intentions. Be cautious of strangers and keep a safe distance. There is safety in numbers, so travel with friends.**
- Avoid using cell phones or other technology while walking as criminals target distracted, inattentive individuals using them.
- Be a good witness: It is important to recall what you observed and provide as many details as possible to law enforcement such as: the sex, race, age, height, hair color, clothing, tattoos, scars of any suspects and a description of the make and model of any vehicle used in the crime and its license plate if possible.
- Do not attempt to apprehend any suspects or perpetrators of crime.