It’s been a busy summer for Police Services’ staff! From the debut of Rebel Safe, the official safety app of UNLV, to student capstone projects, to our annual police officer training, our department has taken the university’s downtime as a prime opportunity to prepare for the fall semester!

By Jamie Bichelman

Summer at UNLV means shorter lines at Starbucks, less traffic around campus, scorching-hot temperatures, and a dedicated police department revving up for another new school year. Learn about the debut of UNLV’s new, official safety app for smartphones; how two of UNLV’s finest students — undergraduate Samantha Bivins and master’s student Samantha Ouren — improved Police Services’ operations; and more in this July edition of The Police Blotter.
From Capstone to Grad Cap: How UNLV Grad Student Samantha Ouren Enhanced Emergency Management

By Jamie Bichelman

Multilayered, involving several departments with multiple approving authorities, UNLV’s crisis response and emergency management plans are complex, the result of years’ worth of research, compounded by decades’ worth of communications and law enforcement experience. Determined and passionate, UNLV graduate student Samantha Ouren navigated UNLV’s intricate network of bureaucratic procedures undeterred. The end result: a capstone presentation focused on enhancements to UNLV Police emergency communication systems.

“It was an honor to collaborate with UNLV Police on this capstone project; I could not have picked a better team to work with,” Ouren said. “My hope is that this capstone project will lay a solid foundation for future executive crisis and emergency management and UNLV Police capstone collaborations.”

Police Services began to reap the benefits of Ouren’s diligent efforts even before the conclusion of her capstone project, as the department added a dedicated webpage featuring resources and personal safety tips for natural disaster situations, which can be found at: unlv.edu/police/tips/hazards.

“The skills and knowledge that I have attained from my previous experience in law enforcement and my master’s degree in crisis and emergency management have prepared me to enter this dynamic field. I am excited to see what the future holds, and after having an opportunity to work with an exceptional agency, I look forward to learning of any and all future emergency management opportunities at the UNLV Police department.”

For Police Services’ Assistant Chief Jeff Green, to answer the question: what’s best for the campus?, it’s collaboration between UNLV Police and students with bright ideas. “There’s a lot of resources that we as a police department can be tapping into,” he said. “Case in point, Samantha Ouren going for her master’s in emergency management, we need that type of person here at this department, to make us even better as we strive toward Top Tier.”

LEFT: Police Services’ Office of the Chief staff Jamie Bichelman, left, and Hobreigh Fischer, right, work with Samantha Ouren on outreach materials. RIGHT: Samantha Ouren posed with one of UNLV’s blue-lit emergency telephones in front of UNLV’s Richard Tam Alumni Center. Photos | Jamie Bichelman
Effecting Change From Within: How UNLV CSUN Student Senator Samantha Bivins Made Her Mark

By Jamie Bichelman

With political aspirations as part of her post-grad plans, and with her own daughter serving as a colleague in UNLV’s CSUN Student Government, Samantha Bivins was determined to leave a lasting legacy at UNLV before the conclusion of her undergraduate career.

While many CSUN senators have noble intentions that match their ambitious goals to change the university, oftentimes their undergraduate careers come to an end before policies can take effect. The tireless Bivins, however, remained persistent and graduated UNLV having made an indelible mark on the university.

Though active assailant educational videos exist, there had yet to be a UNLV-specific video with personal information for students and employees alike. Bivins’s plan to film an active shooter safety video in conjunction with UNLV’s Department of Police Services was approached to the Office of the Chief in January 2016. After clearing hurdles and securing funding for the production of the video, it will be filmed later this summer.

In the meantime, she was able to work cooperatively with staff from Police Services, General Counsel, Risk Management, the Registrar’s Office, and the Office of Information Technology to have a Shots Fired safety video added to both the MyUNLV and Emergency Notification System websites in June 2016.

After that, she set her sights on securing $250,000 to modify some of UNLV’s emergency phones to be outfitted with a public address (PA) system in the case of an emergency on campus. “Senator Bivins has been an ardent supporter of increasing the public safety of our campus,” said Police Services’ Director of Technology, Ryan Doyle. “Ms. Bivins was instrumental in helping Police Services secure the funding to install 18 new emergency phone towers with enhanced capabilities, which include the addition of surveillance cameras and public address speakers. Once completed, the new towers will provide Police Services with increased situational awareness to provide a greater level of first response services in addition to broadcasting emergency notification announcements to the campus.”

She also served on UNLV’s Committee on Video Surveillance, which delivered an official video and audio recording policy for the university in 2016.
Virtual Ride-Along Makes First Stop at UNLV

As UNLV students shuffled to and from class, future Rebels in the form of elementary students reveled in the awe-inspiring atmosphere. Officer Gus Istefan mingled with students, faculty, and staff while waiting in line at Steak ‘n Shake. Police Services’ first-ever virtual ride-along at UNLV was underway.

Tweets from aspiring law enforcement officers and fascinated students probed Officer Istefan about his experiences as an award-winning officer in Detroit and what drew him to the profession: “The community engagement. Talking to people, helping them. First and foremost, protecting people. #AskUNLVPD”

While our officers are always willing to share their thoughts on the best lunch spots around town, they’re also available 24/7 to assist you in any way possible. Be on the lookout for the department’s next virtual ride-along at UNLV!

Got a Question?

Use the hashtag #AskUNLVPD to send our officers a question! Ever wondered what a typical day in the life of a patrol officer is like? Wondering what our lieutenants’ favorite flavor of donut is? Considering a career in law enforcement and can’t quite decide on the right major? This is your opportunity to get connected with the experts at Police Services!

Photos | Jamie Bichelman

Want to get connected in other ways? Follow Police Services on Facebook at: facebook.com/UNLVPoliceServices. You can also visit the Police Services website at: www.unlv.edu/police.
Standing tall and confident, with lightning-quick speed and charisma, Officer Courtland Smith is well-known to the entire campus community. That’s because Officer Smith has enough energy to power the electricity in the Student Union, and he won’t stop until he meets every student, faculty member, and employee on campus.

Seventh floor of FDH? He’ll take the stairs (he might meet someone on the way up!) Getting your lift on at the Student Recreation & Wellness Center? Don’t be surprised to see Officer Smith patrolling the gym, offering advice to those who need it (just don’t challenge him to a footrace; he’ll sprint a whole lap before you even cross the starting line.)

Affectionately nicknamed Batman by his colleagues, Officer Smith is always the first to provide backup on any call. Never one to complain, Officer Smith treats every moment on campus with excitement and passion, and every suspect receives the respect necessary to turn unwelcome moments to learning opportunities.

Connect with Officer Courtland Smith and the UNLV Police Department at our next virtual ride-along this summer. Use the hashtag #AskUNLVPD and tag us in your photos if you can catch Officer Courtland Smith on campus!
Police Services Debuts Rebel Safe App

UNLV’s Official Safety App Is Now Available For Free For Smartphones

By Jamie Bichelman

It’s been a source of pride for the department, boasting a campus environment bereft of heavy crime. Bolstered by dedicated and experienced officers at-the-ready to provide security escort services for students studying late into the night, there’s a sense of security on campus at any hour.

Yet, despite the ubiquity of smartphones and tablets permeating classrooms across campus, UNLV students and employees were left without an all-in-one safety app — until now.

Police Services listened to feedback from students, employees, and their families to develop an app that is more than just merely decoration. Functionality was the goal; a student in need of immediate assistance in the face of an emergency has no time to sift through unnecessary content. Instead, users are met with high-priority options on the home screen of the app: Report a Tip, Friend Walk, and Chat With Dispatch.

Report a Tip

Police Services recognizes that anonymity is necessary for some to come forward and divulge information that could lead to an important discovery — or the prevention of future crimes. That’s why this non-emergency feature allows the user the space to submit a crime tip to Police Services’ Office of Investigations for further review.

Friend Walk

Recently, GPS-based smartphone apps that allow the user to share their location with a trusted friend have become frequent mainstays on users’ phones. Yet, that’s typically the only function of those apps.

Among the many features of Rebel Safe, users can send their location to a friend and have their movements tracked in real time. Then, when the user reaches their destination, the friend is notified that the user has made it safely to their intended location. At any point, law enforcement can be notified if something suspicious appears, and the user’s chances of getting to safety are increased.

Chat With Dispatch

For information requests, the Chat With Dispatch feature provides the campus community with another means for resolving uncertainties quickly. This function is intended as a non-emergency feature due to uncertain availability of dispatch personnel at any given moment.

As well, this feature serves a dual purpose, allowing the user to request security escort services if the user is unable to use the Call for Safety Escort feature on the app.

Crisis Services - Call 9-1-1

For immediate assistance in emergency situations on campus, users can simply tap the Crisis Services icon on the home screen of the app and select Call 9-1-1 to be connected with UNLV Police dispatchers. Calling 9-1-1 from your cellphone connects you with Las Vegas Metropolitan Police dispatchers, who would then need to re-route your call. This feature, however, will connect you directly to UNLV Police personnel, who will be able to help you on campus immediately.

Escort Services

The Call for Safety Escort feature provides immediate access to police personnel over the phone. Police Services’ dispatchers are prepared to send an officer to any location on campus to meet you and walk with you to your dormitory or vehicle. This service is available 24/7, and the ease of use thanks to the Rebel Safe app adds yet another sense of security whether you’re coming back from a late-night study session at the Lied Library or an evening workout at the Student Recreation and Wellness Center.
UNLV Police Undergoing Annual Training

Police Services’ officers will be back in the classroom this summer as they undergo annual Nevada Peace Officer Standards and Training certification. Every squad in the department will be rotating each week to ensure their tactical, firearm, and other skills are at the high standard the university community has come to expect.

UNLV holds emergency preparedness in the highest regard. In addition to scheduled tests of the university’s emergency notification system throughout the year, UNLV Police personnel receive active shooter training to remain prepared for worst case scenarios. In these training scenarios, officers enter a building after receiving a simulated call from police dispatchers that a gunman is on campus. Designated police personnel, acting as mock active shooters, hide in the rooms of the building. Officers quickly enter and clear each room in the building. The scenario ends after the shooter(s) attempt to fire at officers using disabled firearms with nonprojectile blanks before being apprehended.

Police Services’ active shooter training on campus will occur on: July 20, July 27, August 3, and August 10. More information will be sent to the campus via social media, Rebelmail, and UNLV Today.
### Get to Know Us: Summer Edition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Where is your favorite summer vacation spot?</th>
<th>What is your favorite way to beat the Las Vegas heat?</th>
<th>What is your favorite show on Netflix?</th>
<th>What is your favorite food to eat at a summer BBQ?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stan Berry, Sergeant</td>
<td>My wife and I love to visit Laguna Beach</td>
<td>Relaxing in the pool</td>
<td>I don’t use Netflix, but my favorite show on TV is The First 48</td>
<td>Steak, chicken, and ribs — I love variety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Pollard, Budget Manager</td>
<td>Dominican Republic or anywhere tropical</td>
<td>Eating a cherry popsicle</td>
<td>Orange is the New Black</td>
<td>Hot dogs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courtland Smith, Police Officer</td>
<td>Cancun</td>
<td>On my couch with the air conditioning on</td>
<td>Shaolin Soccer</td>
<td>Brisket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shayna Davis, Student Worker</td>
<td>South Florida to go snorkeling</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Master of None</td>
<td>Macaroni and cheese</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Officer Joe Alliyani with UNLV Associate Vice President for University Marketing & Communications, Nikki Traxclair, at the unveiling of The Intersection

Police Services’ detectives and K-9 officers work together behind the scenes at events to keep the campus community — and special guests like Governor Brian Sandoval — safe. Have you ever spotted Buster and Simba, and their handlers, Officers Darrell Johnson and Bruce Taylor, inside a building before an event? They’re securing the premises to ensure no explosives were planted in the area. Have you run into Detective Paul Velez at special events? Making sure attendees are safe is his top priority. Got questions? Visit www.unlv.edu/police/units/k9 for information about our special events security.
Jeff Green
Promoted to
Assistant Chief

By Jamie Bichelman

Police Services’ veteran Jeff Green has been
promoted to the rank of Assistant Chief, effective
April 14, 2017. Previously the Acting Assistant
Chief since September 13, 2016, he will continue
to oversee patrol and police investigations.

Assistant Chief Green served for 18 years in
the U.S. Air Force as a technical sergeant. After
retiring from the Air Force, he worked for the
Salvation Army as a counselor and as a CAT bus
driver. In December 2012, he graduated from
the 251st class of the national FBI Academy
in Quantico, Virginia. He holds an associate’s
degree in social science and is a certified
substance abuse counselor.

UNLV Police Upcoming Events

Active Shooter Training
Note: This training is for
UNLV Police only. You may
see UNLV police officers
on campus engaged in
realistic training scenarios.

July 20 – EPA Complex
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

July 27 – EPA Complex
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

August 3 – EPA Complex
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

August 10 – EPA Complex
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Rebel Roundtable

Sep. 13 – Student Union
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sep. 27 – Student Union
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Oct. 11 – Student Union
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Oct. 25 – Student Union
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Nov. 8 – Student Union
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Rebel Roundtable

Nov. 29 – Student Union
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Property Registration
Lied Library
Dates TBA

Girls on Guard
Police Headquarters
Dates TBA

To view Police Services’ calendar of events, visit:
www.unlv.edu/police/events
Staff News

Police Personnel Participate in Corporate Challenge

Police Services' officers and civilian staff bolstered the rosters of various teams to represent UNLV in this year's city-wide Corporate Challenge events. Publications Writer Jamie Bichelman captained the softball squad while also participating in the flag football and kickball events; Officers Courtland Smith, Darrell Johnson, and Jon Culver lent their talents to the softball team; and Officer Stephani Loffredo captained the Biggest Winner, bike race, and 5K run events.

Photo Illustrations | Jamie Bichelman

Police Services Receives New Funding July 1

In addition to the promotion of Jeff Green to the position of Assistant Chief, Police Services' personnel is poised to continue to grow. On July 1, the department received funding from UNLV's Division of Student Affairs to hire a new patrol lieutenant, create a new emergency preparedness manager position, and purchase new police fleet vehicles and body cameras.

Police Services debuted its pilot program of body cameras to improve officer-suspect interactions shortly after December 2015, to great success.

To stay abreast of the employment search, visit: unlv.edu/police/employment.
UNLV Police safety presentation at The Mob Museum featuring Sergeant Denise Lutey
https://livestream.com/accounts/6847704/events/7319112

New Face: Linda Pollard by Jennifer Gray

Still Want to Learn More?

Just take a look at some of the people talking about UNLV’s finest in the media!

The Police Blotter
July 2017 • Volume XIII, Issue II

The University of Nevada Las Vegas Department of Police Services is dedicated to providing excellence in protection and service to the university community. As law enforcement officers, we shall continuously endeavor to ensure a safe and secure environment conducive to a positive social and educational process.

The Police Blotter is a newsletter published by the UNLV Department of Police Services’ Office of the Chief in order to assist the department in achieving this mission.

UNLV Police Chief
Jose A. Elique

Assistant Chief
Sandy Seda

Assistant Chief
Jeff Green

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