At about 3:45 p.m. today, Oct. 15, the University of Missouri Police Department received a report that a female was the victim of a sexual assault by a male acquaintance. The assault occurred over the weekend at a house in the 400 block of Burnam Avenue.

Individuals who have information regarding this sexual offense, please contact MU police Department at (573) 882-7201, or call CrimeStoppers at (573) 875-TIPS (8477) to remain anonymous.

This information is provided to the community in an effort to keep the community informed of crimes on campus. MUPD encourages all victims of crime to report the incident so they may receive assistance, counseling, and help with the incident in addition to apprehending the suspect and providing accurate crime statistics to the community. While you can do everything correctly and still be the victim of a crime, MUPD has posted several documents, covering various safety topics to reduce your chances of becoming a victim of crime that can be reviewed and printed at: http://mupolice.com/mupd/safetytips

The MU Police Department offers the following general safety tips:

- Sexual Assault is never the fault of the victim. Only the perpetrators can completely prevent rape and sexual assault.
- Always trust your instincts. If you feel uneasy or sense something is wrong, do what you can to get out of that situation.
- If you engage in sex, be sure you understand your partner’s limits, and communicate your own limits clearly. Don't engage in sexual activities without affirmative consent from your partner.
- Have a companion or a safe means of getting home, i.e., a trusted friend, taxi or STRIPES if available. The MU Police Department is available to provide safety escorts on campus 24 hours a day. Call (573) 882-7201. These escorts are not vehicle escorts and are provided by an unarmed Security Officer who will walk with you to your destination.
- If you are sexually assaulted, you have several options and resources from the RSVP Center and Office for Civil Rights and Title IX. If you choose a police investigation of this crime, MUPD will investigate, provide support and offer related services.
- Sex offenses are treated with the greatest seriousness on our campus; criminal and/or severe disciplinary action can be taken. If a criminal case is brought, we will support you as much as possible as you pursue it.
- Walk with others or make arrangements to leave your destination with others.
• Check in with a friend or family member and let them know that you are leaving/arriving so they are aware of your plans.
• Walk to your vehicle with your keys in hand. If you use a remote, unlock the driver's side door (generally pushing unlock only once on your remote). While approaching your vehicle, keep in mind any vehicle alarms that can be activated by remote.
• When walking to your vehicle in the garage—walk with the flow of traffic. This allows you to see between vehicles as you approach, providing less opportunity for others to remain hidden.
• Check the interior of your vehicle before getting in by glancing in the windows.
• Know the location of the nearest exit and emergency phone. Emergency phones are located at the stairwells of each garage level.
• If you carry mace or other personal protection devices make sure that you have used them before and can use them quickly under stress. Make sure they are readily available and not buried in your purse or pocket.
• If you see someone acting suspiciously, report that information to the MU Police Department. You can contact police through an emergency phone, 911 or (573) 882-7201.
• Consider taking a R.A.D. Basic Self Defense class through MUPD.
• Other crime prevention tips can be found on the MUPD website.


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