

# The Rap Sheet



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Stanford University Department of Public Safety  
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## New Website Launched!

By Webmaster Tricia Bølle



The Stanford University Department of Public Safety (SUDPS) officially launched their new website this week. The new website has a fresh new look that will make resources easier to find and will allow the Stanford community to stay updated on the

latest safety and security issues and community outreach opportunities.

Some of the newer features include an employment page that highlights the positions available. Safety and security tips are also easier to look up, with clearer visual elements to provide more dynamic descriptions of how to be aware and protect yourself. The Outreach Programs page will highlight new programs offered through SUDPS that serve to heighten the community's awareness about personal safety and the work of the officers at SUDPS, such as through our annual community police academy offered during winter quarter.

In addition to improved content and readability on the new website, the integration of Google search capabilities and a dynamic menu layout will also make navigation much easier. It is hoped that this website will help SUDPS better serve the Stanford community by promoting the numerous resources and services that SUDPS provides, streamlining certain administrative services (e.g. online parking ticket appeal forms), and better educating the Stanford community about how to enhance their own personal safety both at Stanford and after they have left the Farm. We welcome any suggestions about the new website to better serve the Stanford community.

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## SCERT Team

There is a new emergency volunteer group in town—The Stanford Community Emergency Response Team (SCERT).

Environmental Health and Safety and SUDPS developed this program to in order to assist the University with a wide range of emergencies. SCERT is designed as a corps of volunteers who have received training and instruction on how to handle emergencies or critical incidents. The SCERT Program provides a standardized methodology and guidelines for responding to emergencies based on the national Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.

The SCERT team will be a core group of staff members who are specially trained in emergency procedures and can effectively assist with the local response to campus-wide emergency events such as: Power Outage, Bomb Threat, Fire or Smoke, Hazardous Materials Spills, Earthquakes or other natural or human-caused disasters /disturbances.

Congratulations to our first group of SCERT members who were certified in August! The next training will be held in January 2008. Contact Kathlyn Miller at EH&S ([kathlynm@stanford.edu](mailto:kathlynm@stanford.edu)) for more information.

## Bicycle Re-Cycle

Bike Abatement Coordinator Carole Lee



Most abandoned bicycles collected on campus are currently being donated to local charities. A limited number of bicycles from the unclaimed abandoned inventory are available for sale by SUDPS as part of the "Bicycle Re-Cycle" Program.

Bicycles are held for a minimum of 90 days before being released, giving the department time to reunite the bicycle with its owner. Select bicycles are then available for purchase only after it has been determined that the original owner cannot be located and that the bicycle has not been reported as lost or stolen.

Bicycles are purchased in an "as is" condition with no warranty from the Department of Public Safety. All bicycles are \$27 including tax. Re-Cycled Bicycles often require repairs due to neglect and prolonged exposure to the elements - Remember, these bicycles were abandoned! Any repairs that you choose to make will be an additional expense for you; there are no discounts on the price marked on each bicycle.

This sale is only open to current Stanford students, faculty and staff with a Stanford ID card (don't forget to bring your card with you!). Each Stanford student/employee is permitted to purchase up to two bicycles per academic year. Bicycles may be paid for with cash or check ONLY - NO debit or credit cards will be accepted! The prospective owner must present proof of purchase of a California bicycle license from Parking & Transportation Services for \$3.50 prior to the bicycle being released. Parking & Transportation Services will have a registration table set up in the Bicycle Lot to assist you.

**The next Bicycle Re-Cycle sale will take place on Thursday, October 25, 2007 at noon at the Public Safety Bicycle Lot adjacent to 351 Bonair Siding. In the event of rain, the sale will take place the following Thursday (November 1, 2007).**

## Top 10

Deputy Harris Kuhn

*The following are the Top 10 Ways to avoid the Stanford Police while riding your bike...With apologies to David Letterman...*

10. Go with the flow! Bike the same direction as the traffic flow.

9. Hello? Can you hear me now? No bicycle riding with both ears covered by sound devices or earbuds.

8. Don't lose your head! There are two types of bicyclists at Stanford: those who have crashed and those who will crash! If under 18, you must wear a helmet. If 18 or over, get a clue! Wear one anyway.

7. Dude! Where's my bike? Sleep with it, if you must. Otherwise, lock your bike to a fixed object. Lock it with a U-lock, not a cable.

6. Dude! There it goes now! Only one way the cop shop can get your bike back if stolen: it must be licensed. It's not only a good idea, it's the law

5. Urban myth: bicyclists and pedestrians always have the right-of-way. No way! bicyclists have the same rights as well as the same responsibilities as the driver of a vehicle. Stop! Yield! Good!

4. BUI ? It could happen! Bicycling under the influence is the same as driving under the influence! Friends don't let friends bike drunk.

3. Got a light? One-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise bicycles must have a white light to the front visible for 300 ft.

2. Stop! Stop Breaking Down, Stop in the Name of Love, Stop in the Name of the Law! Just stop at stop signs and signals! Nothing will get you a ticket faster than running the stop signs at Stanford.

1. 800 SAT's? Prove it! Use good common sense and judgment when riding at Stanford. Do what's right, not just what's legal. Mass x Velocity=Energy. Don't get vaporized because you assumed you had the right-of-way. Can't we all just get along? Share the road. Play nice. Be of good cheer. It's a beautiful day on the Farm! Ride safe.

## Welcome to the Ped Zone

Ped Zone Supervisor, Bill Larson



Welcome Back to the Ped Zone! I am happy to report that you all have returned to an even safer Pedestrian Zone ("PZ")

"Do's and Don'ts" under the PZ policy. Please remember that the pedestrians and bicyclists have the right-of-way when in the PZ.

To ensure the PZ remains safe, and to assist with the enforcement of parking rules and regulations on campus, we have now launched a program known as the Student Special Events Patrol (SSEP) which invites students (undergraduate and graduate) to join our PZ and parking enforcement teams in a paid, hourly position as a part-time SSEP. This opportunity will be an exciting challenge for those students who wish to build upon their education and experience at Stanford in a role that will expose them to the public in a community service capacity.

In closing, the Department of Public Safety, Parking & Transportation Services, and the University Administration **THANK YOU** for your continued cooperation and contribution to the success of the PZ policy now in its second year.

If you are interested in becoming an SSEP, or have any questions, comments, or suggestions with the PZ policy, please email Bill Larson at: [william.larson@stanford.edu](mailto:william.larson@stanford.edu)

Have a GREAT and SAFE year!

## The Recruiting Corner

Scarlette Blomquist

Exciting news! DPS has hired another deputy sheriff, Kurt Ledesma. Kurt came from Evergreen Valley College, DPS. He is currently in our Field Training Program on night shift.

If you know anyone that would like to join our team, please have them give me a call at 650-265-0588. That's all for now...

with the addition of the two traffic circles and sidewalks on Lasuen Mall and White Plaza. We ask that bicycles, vehicles, and carts follow the correct route around these circles, and pedestrians use the sidewalks, to avoid accidents and ensure the safety of all who share this pedestrian mall.

We also would like to remind bicyclists to NOT ride or park their bicycles in the arcades such as those located at the Main Quad, Old Union, and Green Library. The Department of Public Safety ("DPS") may soon begin removing or locking bicycles in place that are in violation of this rule. If and when this enforcement begins, the bicycle owner will be required to pay a fee to recover a bicycle that has been removed or locked by the DPS. In addition to the fee, the bicycle will need to be licensed before it can be released in accordance with Santa Clara County Ordinance Section B5-19. With your cooperation, we have nearly achieved the goal of keeping the arcades clear of bicycles for the safety of pedestrians, especially those who are visually or physically impaired. With the prohibition of bicycles from the arcades, and to meet the demand of for additional bicycle parking, we added bicycle racks and new bicycle parking areas around the Main Quad. Rest assured, we continue to evaluate and identify other areas for bicycle parking close to your destination buildings.

We have also achieved better compliance by those who operate vehicles and carts in the PZ to ensure the access and parking rules and regulations are adhered to for the safety of all. We continue to ask for the cooperation of all who need access to the PZ to follow the protocol provided in the Parking & Transportation Services website at: [transportation.stanford.edu](http://transportation.stanford.edu). Vehicles and carts in violation of this policy will be cited and/or booted. If you operate a cart or vehicle in the PZ, please follow the



## Laptop Security

By Deputy Rick Rondeau

I received the call for service about ten minutes into the start of my patrol shift. "Deputy Rondeau respond to Myer Library and make contact with Ms. Smith, who said that her laptop was stolen," said the police dispatcher.

I said to myself, another laptop theft in the library, I sure would like to catch the thief who is responsible for this. What I didn't know was this was not going to be just another laptop theft.

When I arrived at Myer Library I saw a young lady sitting on a chair close to the main entrance. She was visibly upset, and she appeared very fatigued. I introduced myself and asked her what happened. She said that she took a break from studying and left her books, backpack, and laptop unattended next to the study cubicles. She said lost track of time and forgot that her property had been left unsecured. When she returned to her cubicle, the laptop was missing. She said that she looked everywhere in the library and the laptop could not be found.

I began to write her information down in my report when she told me that if her laptop were not found that *her life would be over*. I asked her what she meant by that and she told me that her entire doctorate dissertation was saved on the laptop and she had no back up! At that moment, Ms. Smith began to cry inconsolably. She said that she had been working on her dissertation for over a year and that there was no way she could start over from scratch.

Although Ms. Smith is a fictional character for this article, her case is more common than not. I used the doctorate dissertation to make a strong point about the potential trouble we put ourselves in when we leave our property unsecured. There are numerous news stories of laptops being stolen that contain personal information ranging from social security numbers, list of mailing addresses, sensitive government documents, banking information, and more. In all of these cases the potential for identity theft is great and the damage that may be caused to the victims involved could take years to resolve.

Here are a few things that you can do to help prevent a portable item like a laptop from being stolen:

U.S. Marines are taught during boot camp to never leave their M-16 Rifle more than arms reach away from themselves. This is great advice for portable electronics.

Attach a cable that locks to your laptop and attaches securely to a fixed object. Lock all of your electronic items up when not in use. A wooden trunk that locks is one way to store these items.

Some things to do now just in case your electronic items are stolen that will increase the chances of the police recovering your property:

Engrave your laptop with your drivers license number.

Take photographs of all your property and store the photos in a safe place. This will allow police to share the photos of the stolen property with other police agencies in the area.

Record the make, model number, color, serial number, and any other unique descriptors of your property. Store this list in a safe place. This information is critical for police to list your serialized property into a statewide law enforcement database as "stolen." This greatly increases the chance of recovery by allowing police officers to contact victims when they find a stolen item.

Think about purchasing property insurance for your valuables.

Store your computer documents in multiple locations, especially if you have a document like Mrs. Smith that will cause great disruption to your life.

Please contact the Stanford University Department of Public Safety for more information <http://police.stanford.edu>.

## Child Safety

By Deputy Stephanie Taylor

Recently, Dep. Adam Cullen and I had the pleasure of meeting 10-year-old Michael\* at a football game held at the Stanford University football stadium. Michael and a friend, Brian\* were two of about 50 children playing in a grassy area in the north end zone when his night took a turn for the worse. Michael and Brian had an argument and Brian wandered off leaving his buddy behind. Michael waited for what seemed like a 10-year-old's eternity for his friend to come back, but he didn't and worry started to set in. Michael was pretty resourceful and approached a guest services employee who was wearing a bright red uniform. As smart as Michael was to seek help from a uniformed adult, there were key pieces of information that Michael didn't know.

Michael was a guest of his friend Brian and Brian's dad. Michael didn't know his friend's dad's name or cell phone number. Michael didn't know his own home phone number or his parents' cell phone numbers. Michael also didn't know his seat section number and he didn't have a ticket in his pockets. Although Dep. Cullen tried to reassure Michael, his lip began to quiver and tears welled up in his eyes.

Michael may never know this, but he taught me a very important lesson that night that I would like to share with all adults who are responsible for children's well-being. When bringing children to large group events consider the following safety precautions:

Keep in mind children's developmental abilities and limitations and supervise accordingly. When under stress, children may forget telephone numbers. Their perception of time can be influenced by getting caught up in all the fun.

Don't let children run into an elevator before you get there. The door may close separating children and adults! While on vacation in Ohio, my 8-year-old niece outran her grandparents to be the first one to press the elevator button. She won the race, but the elevator opened and quickly closed behind her. Her grandparents were frantic. While the hotel security and police locked down the hotel, one officer found my niece in a

random unlocked room watching cartoons. She was completely oblivious to the panic she set in motion.

Many people would probably frown upon placing dog-like collars on their children, but a reasonable alternative is to place a piece of paper in a child's pocket with parents' names and phone numbers.

Give children their tickets if it has a designated seat number and have them place them in their pockets or add the seat information to the phone number list.

Take note of guest service stations and uniformed personnel. Point them out to your children and even better, introduce them to us! Encourage children to approach law enforcement personnel to help them become comfortable seeking help.

This next suggestion may be controversial. Write the seat numbers *in ink* on a child's arm. Be aware, the number could wash off of their hand. (We all know that *all* children always wash their hands after using the bathroom).

Keep a current picture of your child in your wallet.

Dress your children in bright colors. Remember what they are wearing. Do not have your children wear clothing or hats with their names on them. The same goes for personalized backpacks and suitcases.

Have children walk in front of you, not behind you. There are many sights more interesting than watching the backs of parents' jeans. Before you know it, the child is inadvertently following a different pair of jeans.

Michael was fortunate. His friend's dad came looking for him and found him talking to Dep. Cullen. It may seem like a rite of passage for children to get lost and found, however parents and other adults can definitely have an impact on helping children skip this step.

Preventing children from eating those roly-poly bugs.....well that's for another article.