

# HOOS SAFE

Official Newsletter of the UVA  
Department of Safety & Security



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## Welcome To Safety 101

FROM THE DESK OF CHIEF LONGO

Sometimes, to understand something, you have to start from the very beginning, going back to the basics. There is plenty to learn about our department and the resources that it and our partners offer around Grounds. Let's get started.

We cannot reiterate enough how important it is to us that students, faculty, staff, and the public are aware of the different resources available to you: whether it's in a mobile app, scooter registry, or other things found this newsletter, we have the tools to help prepare you in the face of danger.

The purpose of this newsletter is to highlight our work throughout the UVA Community by showcasing our employees, general safety messaging, and educating you on the resources at your fingertips. Please know most of all, that safety will always be our top priority. Okay, class dismissed.



## What's a UVA Alert?

BY MEGHAN RAPP

Throughout the year, the University community may receive different types of alerts from our department.

These notices are to inform the community of a threat, or a potential threat, in the area. The severity of the threat is associated with the type of notification we may send: **UVA Alert** being the most serious and requiring you to take an immediate action, a **Safety Advisory**, which notifies you of certain past criminal activity, or our **General Communications**, such as road closures, incoming inclement weather, or other non-urgent safety information.

These notifications are part of the federal requirement outlined in the [Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act](#). You can read more about the differences between the different safety notifications at UVA in the chart below.

“Understanding and following the directives we send to the community during an emergency is incredibly important.”

-CHIEF LONGO

## UVA SAFETY NOTIFICATIONS

### Notification Types

*UVA issues three types of safety notices based on urgency*



#### UVA Alert

IMMINENT THREAT,  
MAY REQUIRE ACTION TO STAY SAFE

- Issued upon confirmation by University first responders
- Examples include:
  - Tornado warning
  - Gas leak
  - Armed intruder
  - Chemical/hazardous materials spill
  - Fire/explosion



#### Safety Advisory

CRIME HAS OCCURRED & POSES SERIOUS,  
ONGOING COMMUNITY THREAT

- Certain serious crimes which have occurred and which pose an ongoing threat to the community.
- Issued as information is available and on a case-by-case basis for certain crimes which have occurred either on Grounds or in an area immediately bordering Grounds
- Examples may include notices about sexual assault, robbery, or other crimes, with info that may enable community members to better protect themselves from similar incidents



#### General Communication

AWARENESS ABOUT SAFETY ISSUES

- Acknowledgement that a widely known threat or condition is being monitored
- Modifications to operating schedule
- Update to previous safety incident

**SAFETY IS THE UNIVERSITY'S TOP PRIORITY**



# NIGHT LIFE

*Being safe on  
Grounds after hours!*



## TIPS FROM THE CORNER

We know that students are on Grounds at all times of day, studying at the library with friends or enjoying nightlife on the Corner. Please keep your safety in mind.

There are many resources if you are on the Grounds at night and need assistance. Options include utilizing an [Emergency Blue Light Phone](#), the [UVA Ready mobile Safety App](#), and speaking with a [UVA Ambassador](#)!

Here are a few more tips:

- Let a friend know when you leave/arrive home.
- Utilize [Night Pilot](#), [UTS On Demand](#), [Safe Walk](#), [Transloc](#), or [Charge-A-Ride](#) to get home safely.
- If you see someone in distress, say something or report it via phone or text to UVA Police.

## SCOOTER SAFETY

Using electric scooters around Grounds is common and a great mode of transportation. Please do your part to be safe while operating a scooter on Grounds or within our community. Learn more about scooter safety [here](#)!



## UNIVERSITY POLICE GIVE BACK

For the past several years, employees of UVA Police and DSS have enjoyed participating in a tutoring program at Greer Elementary School in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Through weekly visits these tutors have worked to improve the reading efficiency of several second grade students. The program runs from October to May each school year.

For more information about our work and this program, click [here](#).



# Countdown to Graduation

## Safety @ Final Exercises



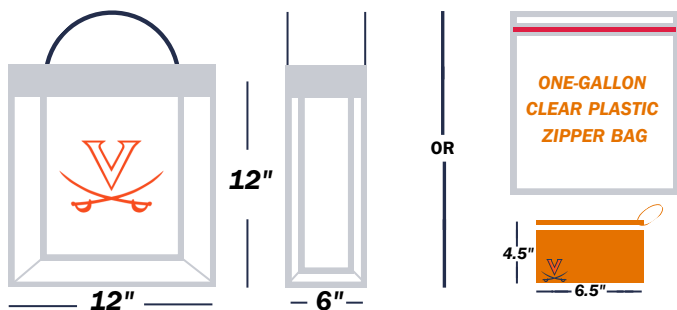
### UVA ALERTS

We strongly encourage the public to enroll in [UVA Alerts](#) to ensure safety messaging reaches everyone in attendance. Text, "UVA" to 226787 to enroll in mobile alerts or download [the UVA Ready mobile safety app](#). There is no charge for either service.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER

We actively monitor for inclement weather during the week of Final Exercises. If inclement weather should be an issue, attendees will be notified by 5:30AM on May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of alternate locations for graduation ceremonies.

### APPROVED BAGS



**ALL ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO SEARCH**

### NON-APPROVED BAGS

<b>PURSES</b>	<b>FANNY PACKS</b>
<b>COOLERS</b>	<b>CLINCH BAGS</b>
<b>BACKPACKS</b>	<b>BINOCULAR CASES</b>
<b>LUGGAGE</b>	<b>CAMERA BAGS</b>
<b>TINTED PLASTIC BAGS</b>	<b>COMPUTER BAGS</b>

**MEDICALLY NECESSARY BAGS PERMITTED TO ENTER FOLLOWING SEARCH**



# ARE YOU UVA READY?



## WHY DOES UVA HAVE A SAFETY APP?

UVA has utilized different versions of a safety app over the past several years. However, we wanted to work with our partners in the community to create a fully branded, one-stop safety preparedness app that covers several topics, issues, and resources from all across Grounds.

In August 2024, UVA Ready was officially launched in the app stores. We are so proud to bring this app to everyone that utilizes Grounds. Safety will always be our top priority.

## WHAT DOES IT EVEN DO?

UVA Ready offers several UVA resources to make sure that you are prepared in the event of an emergency. Use the app to call 911, send a tip to UVA Police, receive UVA Alerts, send an "I'm OK!" message and your location to loved ones during an emergency, and more!

## CAN PARENTS USE IT?

Absolutely! UVA Ready is available to anyone with a smartphone, including parents and the public. Just download it and start. Students, faculty, and staff can log in with their UVA username and password to access even more resources within our community.

## WHERE CAN I DOWNLOAD IT?

UVA Ready is available for free in the [Apple App Store](#) and the [Google Play Store](#). They are entirely free and available to anyone. Just look for the logo!

## WILL THE APP TRACK ME?

No. The only people that can see your location are those you share it with directly, UVA Ready does not track your location on a regular basis.



UVA Ready



# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Since joining UVA Police in 2008, Sgt. Rexrode has supported thousands of students and employees impacted by threats or acts of violence.

**SGT. BENJAMIN REXRODE**

VICTIM WITNESS  
COORDINATOR

## GOT A QUESTION GOT A TOPIC? ASK US!

If you have a question about safety at UVA, never hesitate to ask us! Your safety is our top priority!

[safety@virginia.edu](mailto:safety@virginia.edu)

Email us today!

Let's Get Social

