

Crime Alert

UPDATE

Virginia State University Police Department arrested two individuals following the armed robbery of a VSU student.

VSU officers were patrolling the area immediately south of where the crime was reported. Officers located a subject in Gateway Parking Lot matching the description provided by the victim. The subject was in the company of a male juvenile. Both were detained by police and later arrested for multiple felonies. The gun believed to have been used in the robbery was recovered near the scene.

Notice of crime – On Campus – Armed Robbery

In compliance with the provisions of the federal *Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1988* Virginia State University is giving notice of an Armed Robbery.

Reported Offense: On February 5, 2017 at 6:02 AM, a robbery was reported to the Virginia State University Police Department that occurred in Gateway Parking Lot. The VSU Police is handling the investigation of this incident.

Suspect Description: Short male suspect, dark complexion with a thick moustache. The suspect was last seen wearing a black hooded sweatshirt armed with a handgun.

Brief description of how the crime took place: The victim stated that she was sitting in her vehicle when she was approached by the suspect. The suspect displayed a handgun and demanded her cellphone. The victim complied and the suspect fled the scene on foot into a wooded area south of where the incident took place.

It can be assumed that conditions continue to exist that may pose a threat to members and guests of the community. Police have increased patrols in this area.

The VSU Police would like to remind students, in particular, to keep personal safety in mind. There are certain things you need to be aware of living in an urban environment. Crimes may occur in our community. The best defense is to be prepared and to take responsibility for your own safety and for that of your friends and fellow students. A few key reminders:

- If you find yourself in a similar situation do not resist. Cooperate.
- In the event of an incident such as this, the information you provide police will help them identify the suspect(s). Focus on his or her physical characteristics, i.e. clothing description, height and weight, and last known direction of travel.
- Don't make any sudden, unexpected moves.
- If the suspect claims to have a weapon, never try to force the bluff.
- Never try to apprehend the criminal yourself. Call the police immediately.
- When out walking, trust your instincts about a person or situation and choose safety over courtesy.

- If you need help, look for an Emergency Reporting Telephone. You automatically will be connected to the VCU Police Department.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Do not let a cell phone conversation or listening to music distract you when crossing the street or in another situation that calls for your full attention.
- Avoid isolated areas and walking alone at night.
- For additional safety tips from the VSU Police, please see: [https:// vsu.edu/police](https://vsu.edu/police) and follow the department on Facebook and Twitter.
- Be very cautious if someone tries to stop or distract you; some tactics used are:
 - o “Do you have a cigarette?”; or
 - o “Can I use your phone?”

VSU students, faculty and staff are encouraged to share this safety information with other members of the community and are asked to be aware of their surroundings.

Students, faculty, staff and citizens of Richmond are asked to report all suspicious persons or incidents, however minor, to VSU Police immediately.

Anyone with information pertaining to this crime can contact the VSU Police Department (24/7) at (804) 524-5360 or through RAVE Guardian Mobile App anonymously.

[Why am I receiving this email?](#) Virginia State University is dedicated to promoting a safe and secure environment for learning, living, working or visiting. This notification is part of our efforts to prevent and solve crimes. To report a crime in progress or an emergency on campus, call (804) 524-5360. For off campus emergencies, dial 911. VSU’s annual safety report is available at: vsu.edu/police.

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