



Community Advisory

Community Advisory: Extortion

Date: October 08, 2024

Details: UCIPD has received an increased number of extortion cases involving the sharing of sexually explicit material on social media. Check your privacy settings frequently and before using social media to interact with others. Be selective about what you share and consider how someone else might exploit your messages, photographs and/or videos against you (circulating those photographs/videos or using them to blackmail you).

UCIPD has also received an extortion case in which the suspect was impersonating a law enforcement officer. The suspect called a UCI student to tell them they had a warrant for their arrest. The suspect then threatened to arrest and deport the victim if they did not pay them.

For assistance with reporting extortion offenses, please contact UCIPD at (949) 824-5223.

Safety Tips:

- Keep in mind when setting your social network page(s) to private, it does not guarantee that your information is completely private.
- Do not forget that your friends may be able to see your other friends' posts and pages even if they are not friends with each other.
- If you start to feel concerns about a person or situation, trust your feelings and try to remove yourself as quickly as possible from the potential threat, even if it is someone with whom you know and even if it feels awkward to do so.
- UCI Police Department Safety Escort program is available to anyone by calling (949) 824-7233 (SAFE). This is a free service provided to members of the UCI community as a safe alternative to walking alone at night.
- Dial 9-1-1 for emergency or in-progress events. Non-emergency call (949) 824-5223.

Resources:

- The UCI CARE office provides confidential support and advocacy to students who have experienced sexual assault, relationship abuse and stalking <https://care.uci.edu/> or (949) 824-7273.
- UCI's administrative policies and support resources for sexual violence can be found at OEOD: <https://oeod.uci.edu/sho/resources-sexual-violence.php>
- UCI's Green Dot Bystander Program can be found at <https://care.uci.edu/greendot/index.php>
- Waymaker's is available to provide 24-hour crisis and referral services

<https://www.waymakersoc.org/> or (949) 831-9110.

- [UCI Police Department](#) (949) 824-5223.

Sincerely,

Liz Griffin

Chief of Police

[UCI Police Department](#)

What is this Community Advisory? Community Advisories are released when certain events that warrant an advisory are reported on or near UCI property, as deemed necessary by the UCI Police Department. These advisories are intended to raise awareness about safety-and security-related incidents among the UCI community.

Police Department
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