

August 29, 2017

Dear students,

Every year we renew our commitment and efforts to enhance student safety on and around campus. Recently the university upgraded our camera systems, hired more campus security officers, employed a safety app (Live Safe), and collaborated with [Lyft](#) to increase its transportation options to and from campus. Among the best safety measures, however, are ourselves and our friends.

Here are five tips for personal safety:

1. **Use a buddy system.** Always arrive and leave with your friend(s), and check in throughout the evening. Intervene if you see a friend in need of help; ask them to do the same for you. Have a backup meeting location in case you are separated.
2. **Get a free ride.** USC has an expansive [Campus Cruiser](#) system and a partnership with [Lyft](#) within the campus cruiser [boundaries](#) so you do not have to walk home alone at night.
3. **Be prepared.** Before you go out in the evening, make sure your phone is charged and you have emergency contacts in your phone (including USC Department of Public Safety: 213-740-4321), and you have your identification.
4. **Drink responsibly.** It is illegal to drink under the age of 21. If you are 21 or older and you plan to drink alcohol, do not drink on an empty stomach, maintain control of your drink at all times, stay hydrated by consuming non-alcoholic beverages, and never drink and drive.
5. **Download the Live Safe App:** The Live Safe App is a complete safety app full of USC resources. The app can be used to report a crime, call the police, or allow friends and family to follow your movement from one location to another. Learn more at <http://dps.usc.edu/services/safety-app/>

Be safe and be well,



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