In an effort to provide timely and accurate information to our students, staff, and faculty members, the following information is being provided to you so that you can make informed decisions about your safety. This Safety Notice has been sent so you may be aware of your surroundings as you study around campus this week.

At 9:51 p.m. on May 1, the UT Police Department received a report of a fondling that occurred in Hodges Library. A female student reported that on May 1 between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m., she was followed and assaulted by a male in Hodges Library. The assault took place on the 5th floor when the male suspect touched her buttocks without her consent. The male then followed her to the 6th floor where the female student told him to stop and sat with a friend. UTPD responded, but the suspect was no longer in the library. The female student does not know the identity of the suspect, but believes he is affiliated with the university. The female student declined an official report with UTPD.

Fondling is a criminal offense and defined by the Clery Act and the FBI as the touching of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity. Fondling is classified by Tennessee statute as sexual battery, which is an offense punishable by law.
Information we want you to know about your safety and the safety of all Volunteers.

- You can report criminal or suspicious activity on the LiveSafe app or by calling UTPD at 865-971-3111. Download the app from the [UT website](https://www.utk.edu).
- If you are victim of a crime, we encourage you to report the incident as soon as possible so appropriate measures can be taken for your safety and the safety of others.
- If you see something that doesn’t look right or makes you feel concerned, please report that as well.

**Clery FAQs**

**Information on Clery**

For information on prevention and reporting options, contact the [Office of Title IX](https://www.utk.edu/title-ix).

**Join the UTK LiveSafe community**

The [Clery Act](https://www.ed.gov) requires the university to notify the campus community of certain criminal activity that occurs on university owned or controlled property. In addition, the university is required to provide safety tips that may aid in the prevention of similar crimes. The intent of a warning regarding a criminal incident(s) is to enable individuals to protect themselves. For Safety Notices and Clery statistics, crimes are classified according to the regulations of the Clery Act mandated by the Department of Education. Though state law may categorize an incident differently, [Clery definitions and classifications](https://www.ed.gov) are strictly followed when labeling an incident for Clery reporting purposes.
Contact Us

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