

SAFETY MESSAGE



Dear Campus Community,

The following information is being shared to enhance your personal safety at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The goal is to provide information so the UNL community has awareness of the situation and can take precautions for their own safety, as well as to encourage reporting of similar situations to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Police. Information reported in this message is based on the situation as currently known to UNLPD.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Police Department is investigating a third-degree assault that would be classified by Nebraska law and by the [Clery Act](#) as a hate crime motivated by bias against the LGBTQA+ community.

The incident is reported to have occurred Sunday, March 30, 2025, between 2:00 a.m. and 2:15 a.m. on the sidewalk of N 16th St. outside of Jorgensen Hall, at 855 N 16th St. Reportedly, several parties were walking when they were contacted by an unknown male suspect. The suspect made derogatory comments about the LGBTQA+ community and assaulted one of the members of the group. The suspect then fled the area on foot.

The suspect is an 18–22-year-old white male, short brown hair, black T-shirt, jeans and brown cowboy boots.

A hate crime is defined by the Clery Act as a criminal offense that manifests evidence based on sufficient objective facts that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim. The categories of bias in the Clery Act are race, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and disability.

The incident was reported to UNLPD Monday, March 31, 2025.

Related UNLPD Case Number: 25000984

Personal Safety Tips

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln firmly believes a crime survivor is never responsible for the other person's actions or criminal conduct and it is the fault of the perpetrator alone. The UNLPD is providing the following safety tips in an effort to assist the University community with taking the necessary precautions

- Always remain alert and aware when walking alone, paying full attention to who is around you. Walk with your head up (avoid looking at the ground) and observe your surroundings.
- Take breaks from talking on your cell phone or texting when walking to observe your surroundings. Avoid listening to music through earbuds/headphones loud enough it blocks outside sounds.
- If after dark, always walk with a friend or in a group when possible and travel well-lit and busy routes. When able, avoid walking or parking in dark or isolated areas. Avoid walking with people you do not know well or trust.
- Take advantage of the bus service on campus. Buses pick up and drop off in well-lit areas and typically groups enter and exit. Feel free to contact the UNLPD and request a Safe Walk if you are by yourself.
- Have your keys in your hand as you approach your door and remember to be alert to what and who is around you. Glance under your car, around it and in the back seat as you get in.
- Never hitchhike or accept rides from strangers. Move away from any vehicle if approached by someone unknown. You are under no obligation to communicate; it is okay to be rude if you do not wish to talk to someone who makes you feel uncomfortable.
- If you suspect someone is following you or feel uncomfortable about someone near you, stay away from dimly lit areas and head to a populated area or building you know is open. Change directions, cross the street, and/or vary your pace. Show you are suspicious and aware of the person.
- Cause a scene if you feel threatened; yell if necessary.
- *A list of campus safety resources can be found at <https://safety.unl.edu>*

Crime prevention and awareness, as well as consistent reporting, may be the strongest defenses against becoming a victim. Please call UNLPD immediately at 402-472-2222 (2-2222 on campus) to report information on this incident, or on any crime or suspicious activity or person. If you have any questions about this message, please contact the UNLPD at the phone number above or email unlpd@unl.edu.

