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# Special connections: January 12, 1990

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*Boston University*

SPECIAL

# CONNECTIONS

Date January 12, 1990 Topic \_\_\_\_\_

## Medical Center accelerates efforts to combat campus crime

In response to a recent increase in crime, which apparently mirrors a citywide increase in street crime, the University Hospital and the Medical Campus are working to tighten security. The Medical Campus administration arranged last week to implement an immediate and continuing presence of the Boston University Police Department at the Medical Campus. Boston University Police officers will patrol the streets surrounding the Boston University Medical Center. In addition, efforts have been accelerated to bolster overall security measures within the University Hospital and Medical Campus buildings, as well as Medical Center parking areas.

While the University Hospital and Medical Campus buildings themselves are generally secure, a number of serious incidents on public streets directly adjacent to the Medical Center are cause for concern and immediate response. An increase in crime that began in November includes a number of assaults; two of these assaults involved a gun or knife. These incidents have occurred on Albany, East Concord and East Newton Streets and Harrison Avenue.

Clearly marked Boston University Police cruisers with armed officers are now patrolling the Medical Center area. The officers of the Boston University Police Department have full police powers, including the power to arrest, book and prosecute to the fullest extent of the law.

UH Security Manager Kevin Tuohey reminds UH staffers of the following:

- Hospital Security can be reached 24 hours a day at x6666, in the event of an emergency; non-emergency calls should be directed to x6667.
- Hospital Security provides an escort service for Medical Center employees, staff and students, upon request, at the Emergency Room Security Desk, from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., Monday through Friday, and on weekends and holidays. Escorts are made to the BUMC parking lots; employees are encouraged to avoid parking on side streets.

### Safety tips

Manager of UH Security Kevin Tuohey offers the following suggestions for the protection of yourself and your property:

- Use the shuttle or escort service whenever possible.
- When taking public transportation, utilize the MBTA stop located in the front of the Atrium Pavilion.
- Be aware of your surroundings when walking; walk with someone when possible and walk in well-lit areas.
- Don't carry large sums of cash, flaunt expensive jewelry or leave valuables in open view in your automobile.
- In short, minimize the opportunity to be victimized.



The  
University  
Hospital

- Medical Center identification badges should be worn at all times while on the Medical Campus.

In addition, the following measures are expected to secure the area further:

- The University Hospital's Security Department has tightened its working relationship with Medical Campus Security and anticipates that an aggressive Identification Program will be effective shortly throughout the Medical Center.
- Hospital Security will be working with Human Resources to implement Employee Orientation/Education Programs.
- Emergency call boxes have been installed in Lot C and are expected to be operational shortly.
- The escort service provided by the University Hospital for all members of the Medical Center community has been strengthened through backup assistance from Medical Campus Security.
- Lighting has been increased in Lot C and additional lighting is being installed on Albany, East Concord and East Newton Streets and Harrison Avenue.

University Hospital President J. Scott Abercrombie Jr., M.D., School of Medicine Dean Aram Chobanian, M.D., Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry Dean Spencer N. Frankl, D.D.S., and Medical Center Director Richard H. Egdahl, M.D., are looking to all members of the Medical Center community to encourage, embrace and cooperate with all efforts to tighten Medical Campus security.