SUBJECT: PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY – REPORTED FONDLINGS

IU Bloomington Public Safety Advisory: October 21, 2021

CONTENT WARNING: This notice contains information on an assault that may cause distress to some individuals.

In order to promote safety and security for students and employees, a Public Safety Advisory is being issued for reported fondling incidents just off campus.

REPORTED INCIDENTS: On 10/21/2021 IUPD received a report of a series of 5 fondling incidents from the Bloomington Police Department. Although BPD is conducting the investigation of these incidents, IUPD is issuing this advisory to inform and protect the campus community.

TIME AND LOCATION OF INCIDENTS: All 5 incidents occurred around 8 AM between 10/19/2021 and 10/20/2021 off campus at the Evolve Apartment Complex on N Dunn Street. The reported fondling incidents occurred while people were exercising, or in the exercise room in the complex. It was reported the suspect would approach females and briefly fondle them before leaving the area.

SUSPECT: Bloomington Police Department has identified the suspect and describes the person as a black male, around 20 years of age, 6’3”, 160lbs, brown eyes, black hair with medium-length dreadlocks who has no known address. The investigation is ongoing.

Racial descriptors alone are not a valid reason to profile or cast suspicion on an individual. In cases of serious crime such as this we may include them only as part of the totality of circumstances if it may reasonably assist in the identification of the perpetrators.

Anyone with information on this crime is encouraged to call the Bloomington Police Department at 812-339-4477 or IUPD-Bloomington at 812-855-4111.
You may also call Crime Stoppers at 1-317-262-TIPS (8477).

For information on how to report sexual misconduct at IU please go to: https://stopsexualviolence.iu.edu/report/index.html

SAFETY TIPS: Sexual assault can happen to anyone. Each member of the IU Bloomington community shares in the responsibility to create and maintain a safe and respectful environment for all individuals. You can help reduce the risk of sexual assault by watching out for the safety of others. While not all crimes of sexual violence are alike, the following information may be helpful:

- Perpetrators of sexual assault are often more likely to assault someone they know, rather than a stranger. It is also important to know that perpetrators of sexual assault can be strangers to the victim. The perpetrator, not the survivor, is responsible for any instance of sexual assault.

- Consent – Anyone initiating any kind of sexual contact with another person must obtain their consent. Consent is an agreement or permission expressed through affirmative, voluntary words or actions that are mutually understandable to all parties involved. Consent can be withdrawn at any time. Consent cannot be coerced or compelled by force, threat, deception, or intimidation.

  *Keep in mind that consent cannot be given by someone who is incapacitated. This means that a person is incapable of consent if they are unable to understand the facts, nature, extent, or implications of the situation due to drugs, alcohol, a mental disability, being asleep or unconscious, or based on their age (pursuant to Indiana law).

- Personal Safety – Perpetrators may use social media platforms to meet potential victims. Perpetrators may use personal information shared to engage in harmful and harassing behaviors. Be cautious about what you share and how you use social media. Use safety resources on your social media platforms to report anyone harassing or exhibiting harmful behaviors. Perpetrators often use drugs and/or alcohol to target potential victims. Other date rape drugs are tasteless, colorless, odorless, can be ingested in a multitude of forms, and the effects are not immediately apparent. Be cautious of any substance you are drinking, eating, or inhaling that you have not personally prepared and has not remained in your constant control.

- Bystander Intervention – Look out for each other. If one of you cannot be with a group of trusted friends, tell each other where you are going, whom you will be with, when you expect to return, and that you’ll contact them if anything changes. If you see someone in trouble,
intervene directly if it is safe for you to do so, or delegate by seeking help from those around you or by calling 911.

If additional information or updates are released, they will be posted to http://emergency.iu.edu

For more information on sexual violence prevention and resources, see http://stopsexualviolence.iu.edu

Additional safety tips can be found at: https://protect.iu.edu/police-safety/safety-prevention/index.html

Download the IU Rave Guardian Safety App. For more information visit: https://protect.iu.edu/news/iu/2019/guardian.html

Crimes are identified using the terminology from the Clery Act. Additional information on the Clery Act, including definitions of crime terms can be found at: https://protect.iu.edu/police-safety/clery/index.html

Update your information on the IU Notify page to receive the most up to date notifications. Instructions for how to update your contact information are found at: https://kb.iu.edu/d/avvp