November 12, 2019

To:        Dr. Joanne Smith
            Vice President for Student Affairs

From:     Eric Algoe
            Vice President for Finance and Support Services

Subject:  S.R. 2019.2020.20 A Resolution Calling on Texas State University Police Department (UPD) to Release all UPD Incident Data since 2016.

Texas State Police Department maintains a 60-day crime log in adherence with Clery requirements. The crime log contains all incidents reported to UPD, not only Clery reportable crimes. The Annual Security report contains all Clery reportable crime data for the previous 3 years, 2016, 2017, and 2018.
TO: Dean of Students Dr. Margarita Arellano
   Assistant Dean of Students Kathryn Weiser

DATE: Tuesday, October 1, 2019

FROM: Corey Benbow, Student Body President

SUBJECT: S.R.20 A Resolution Calling on the Texas State University Police Department to Release all UPD Incident Data since 2016

I approve of this legislation passed by the Student Government Senate which is Demands that the University Police Department provide a nonconfidential release of UPD incident data collected by the department since 2016 and directing the Student Body President to issue a letter to the US Department of Education asking them to launch
AUTHOR
Senator DeSalvo, Cody

SPONSORS
Senator Camargo, Eduardo
Senator Wicker, Catherine
Senator Moncada, David
Senator Blanchard, Patrick
Senator Halter, Colton
Senator Nieves, Preston
Senator Struck, Ry
Senator McKenzie, Jarrett

S.R. 2019.2020.20

Date of First Reading: September 23, 2019

A Resolution –

To be known as “A Resolution Calling on the Texas State University Police Department (UPD) to Release all UPD Incident Data since 2016,” which demands that the University Police Department provide a nonconfidential release of UPD incident data collected by the department since 2016 and directing the Student Body President to issue a letter to the US Department of Education asking them to launch an official inquiry if the university fails to comply with this resolution.

1 WHEREAS: Student Government serves as the official voice for students at Texas State University; and

2 WHEREAS: The University Police Department (UPD) serves as the officially recognized law enforcement agency on the Texas State University campuses1; and,

3 WHEREAS: UPD publicly commits to adhering to a set of values which in part include: Transparency – availability of information for effective collaboration and  

1 https://www.police.txstate.edu/about/history-and-mission.html
cooperation with our community; Integrity - uphold the highest ethical standards\(^2\); and

WHEREAS: In a recent article published by the Texas Tribune, it was revealed that the University Police Department failed to accurately report incidents on campus through the Clery Act, including incidents of sexual violence in and around campus; and

WHEREAS: The crime statistics and public reporting on the University Police Department website under the 60-day Crime and Fire Log does not include all reportable incidents under the Clery Act; and

WHEREAS: Laws like the Clery Act are minimum federal guidelines and should not be used as the only industry accepted standard by which to release information to the public, especially students at high risk such as students attending a college or university; and

WHEREAS: Texas State University prides itself on striving to be better than other institutions in the state, and the University Police Department includes a core value for innovation; and

\(^2\) https://www.police.txstate.edu/about/history-and-mission.html
WHEREAS: As such, the university administration should never
use examples of other institutions failings to deflect
from our own shortcomings; and

WHEREAS: In the interest of transparency and innovation, the
University Police Department should reform the way it
reports and provides information to the public on any
incident that occurs on or around campus including,
but not limited to, those incidents that fall under
the Clery Act; and

BE IT RESOLVED: The Student Government at Texas State
University, through the advocacy of its
Senators and Student Body President,
explicitly demands that the University Police
Department immediately release all incident
information collected by the department or its
partners since 2016 in a similar format to the
60-Day Crime and Fire Log found on the UPD
website with information including the nature
of the incident, a case number if one was
assigned, date and time reported, date and
time occurred, general location, disposition,
and any relevant information except
information that may be used to identify the
suspect or the victim about any arrested
person(s); and

BE IT RESOLVED: The Student Government demands this
information be provided to the Student Body
President, in a format that is not
confidential, within 60 days of passage or
provide within 60 days an estimated amount of
time to provide said report; and

BE IT RESOLVED: The Student Government directs the Student
Body President to write a letter to the U.S.
Department of Education asking them to open an
official Review into the University policing
policies and practices, as well as the Clery
Act reporting processes and statistics, should
the University not affirmatively respond to
this legislation with the report or the
estimate within the prescribed timeframe; and

BE IT RESOLVED: This legislation shall be forwarded to the
Student Body President for further action.