

9/26/2024 – PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY

Several staff members and a student have reported to Eastern Washington University Police Department that a male on a bicycle followed them and engaged in lewd behavior while they were walking in the campus mall. The male was described as 14-20 years old, average height, thin build, with light colored/reddish hair.

We are seeking help identifying a person of interest (see photos below). Anyone who has information should contact the EWU Police at 359-7676. **If you need to report a crime in progress, call 911 immediately.**



Safety Tips from EWU Police Department

Crime victims are never at fault for being victimized. Perpetrators alone are responsible for crimes and their effects. EWU Police offer the following suggestions that may help reduce the possibility of experiencing a crime:

If you are frightened, yell “HELP” and call 911

- Trust your instincts – If something or someone makes you uneasy, avoid the person or leave.
- Show confidence – Walk at a steady pace, keep your head up. Send the message that you are calm and confident.
- Do not wear headphones or look at your cell phone when walking.
- Be observant – Look around. Be aware of your surroundings and the people in them.
- Remain alert - Know who is walking behind and in front of you. Things to watch for include suspicious persons or vehicles, people who are wearing inappropriate clothing for the weather (Example: A facemask in the middle of summer), and people just loitering around.
- Be extra cautious in transitional spaces – (e.g., walking from your car to your house). If your keys are equipped with a panic button, have your finger ready to press it. Always have your keys in-hand before you reach the door.
- Have family members meet you outside when arriving home.
- Get to know your neighbors where you live and work.
- Stick to well lighted streets and well-populated areas – Avoid shortcuts, wooded areas, alleys, and isolated parking lots and garages.
- Safety in numbers – Walk with friends or in a group.
- Use well lighted public transportation stops.

Download the EagleSafe app at <https://inside.ewu.edu/police/ewu-alerts/>. This app contains numerous safety features including Mobile Blue Light, EagleWalk and Friend Escort.

This notification is posted on our Timely Warning web page at <https://inside.ewu.edu/police/ewu-timely-warnings/>