The control of motor vehicle traffic on campus is a necessary part of the efficient operation of the university. During business hours certain areas are restricted to those vehicles necessary to university business.

The purpose of these regulations is to facilitate the safe and orderly conduct of university business and to provide parking facilities in support of this function within the limits of available space.

In developing these regulations, SHSU is guided by the Texas Motor Vehicle Laws and the Texas Education Code 51.202, and are applicable to all members of the university community; faculty, students, staff, and visitors.

A. In these regulations the term campus is interpreted to include all property under the jurisdiction of SHSU. The term vehicle or motor vehicle is interpreted to include automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, motor bikes, motor scooters, bicycles as identified under section III, Bicycle Registration, and any vehicle that is self-propelled.

B. In these regulations persons are informed where they can park rather than list every place where it is improper to park. Faculty, staff, and students are required to park in the assigned areas only, according to permit type and/or color zone designated. Parking is restricted to legally marked spaces between two white lines.

The university will make every effort to render protection to vehicles parked on campus, but cannot assume the responsibility for any losses.

In the event of conflict between traffic signs or markings and printed regulations, the signs or markings shall be followed. All yellow curbs, yellow wheel stops, and yellow stripes denote a “No Parking Zone.” Red curbs, red wheel stops, and red stripes denote a “Fire Zone” and “No Parking at Any Time.”

The university reserves the right to impound or have impounded any vehicle that is parked in a manner dangerous to vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or in flagrant violation of university parking regulations. The vehicle owner shall bear all costs involved in such vehicle removal. Disabled vehicles should be reported immediately to the Department of Public Safety Services.

The university considers the use of a vehicle on campus a privilege and convenience, and is not obligated to furnish unlimited parking space to accommodate all vehicles. However, the university will attempt to provide a reasonable number of parking spaces in keeping with available resources.

C. DEFINITIONS

COMMUTER: A student without resident assignment within Sam Houston State University managed housing. Commuter students are not eligible for resident permits, faculty/staff permits or reserved surface lot space permits.

DISABLED VEHICLE: Any vehicle that has mechanical failure which prevents it from being operated at all or impedes the vehicle’s operation for a period of more than three (3) weeks.

DISABLED VETERAN: Any veteran that possesses or qualifies for disabled veteran license plates, or has a disabled placard issued by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles and provides proof of service through Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs paperwork.

DPSS: Sam Houston State University Department of Public Safety Services which includes University Police Department and the Office of Parking and Transportation.

EVENT PARKING: Any lot or parking garage maintained by P&T may be closed and utilized for event parking for the use of events sponsored by SHSU. These events include but are not limited to athletic, departmental, recruiting, administrative or celebratory events.

EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE VETERAN: Any veteran that qualifies for or possesses specialty license plates issued by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles indicating receipt of a Purple Heart, Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Army Distinguished Service Cross, Air Force Cross, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, or indicating service as a Prisoner of War or Survivor of Pearl Harbor.

FACULTY/STAFF: Any person employed by the university, full-time or part-time. The Faculty/Staff designation does not apply to graduate assistants or student employees of the university. Faculty/Staff members are not eligible for student permits.
2015-2016 University Parking Rules and Regulations

FIRE ZONE/RED CURB AREA: This area is identified as a fire zone and no parking zone. This area is marked by any single or combination of signage, red curb painting and/or red lines on the pavement. A vehicle, with exception to an emergency vehicle, may not be parked and left unattended for any amount of time. Any vehicle observed in this manner is considered in violation and can be cited and/or towed.

FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS: A clear and obvious violation of these rules and regulations, including but not limited to possession of a lost, stolen or altered permit; possession of a permit by someone other than the original purchaser; receipt of 5 or more unpaid citations; or any violations that substantially impact the daily operations of the university or the health and safety of others.

IMPOUND: securely hold a vehicle until certain conditions are met for its release.

MOTORCYCLE/MOPED/MOTOR SCOOTERS: A self-propelled device with at least two wheels in contact with the ground during operation; a braking system capable of stopping the device under typical operating conditions; a gas or electric motor; and a deck designed to allow a person to stand or sit while operating the device.

OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY HOLIDAY: Those days when the university is officially closed for business.

(P&T) PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION: The Department of Public Safety Services Office of Parking and Transportation.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANT: Employee of P&T who controls the parking of motor vehicles; issues parking citations in parking lots, garages and along streets at SHSU; provides guidance and directions to visitors; assists with special-event parking.

PARKING PERMIT: Permit issued by P&T that authorizes parking on university property. Hangtags are removable permits that may be transferred to multiple registered vehicles belonging to the permit holder. Decal permits are stickers or permits applied by adhesive that are permanently affixed. No portion of any permit or its displayed content may be changed in any manner after issued by DPSS.

PARKING SPACE: An area designated for vehicle parking by pavement or curb markings and signs. Any area not so marked is not a valid parking space. Valid parking spaces are identified by two parallel marker lines bordered by a horizontal marker line or curb/wheel stop.

PAY BY SPACE or SHORT TERM PARKING SPACE: Designated parking spaces identified by space signage or signage at the entry of a parking lot for use at an hourly rate and maximum daily rate. Pay by Space Parking is available for all non-permit holders and permit holders that would like to utilize the space for parking. Pay by Space parking is managed and all fees paid to a third party parking application service.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS: a permit is required at all times on campus, with the exception of semester intersessions and official university holidays. Pay by Space and Sam Houston Parking Garage hourly spaces do not require a permit but do require vehicle registration and credit card payment to park.

PRIVATE CONTRACTOR: Any person employed by a business, but not affiliated with SHSU as faculty, staff or student, which has contracted to operate a business or service function of the university.

RESERVED PARKING SPACE: A parking space identified by signage to be reserved or designated. Traffic cones and barricades in parking areas should be observed as a reserved area or an area that is closed and should not be utilized.

RESIDENT: SHSU students who have a current SHSU on-campus housing assignment. Resident students are not eligible for faculty/staff, commuter, remote or reserved surface lot space permits.

SEMESTER INTERSESSION: the period between the day following published last day of SHSU finals of one semester and the beginning of the next semester (first day of class) and SHSU spring break.

SHSU: Sam Houston State University

STUDENT: Any person who is or has been within the last six months registered and enrolled at the university (including but not limited to online students, dual credit students, part-time students, auditing individuals, teaching assistant students, graders and research assistants).
TEMPORARY PERMIT: An authorized permit issued by P&T which is issued outside of the term based permits to faculty, staff or students. Temporary permits can be issued to valid permit holders that operate a secondary vehicle or available to purchase by visitors or faculty/staff and students that require occasional parking at the daily cost of parking.

TOW: When a vehicle is authorized to be removed from university property by DPSS or designee for a flagrant violation or in a matter where DPSS identifies a vehicle parked in a manner which presents a hazard or obstruction to university operations.

UNAUTHORIZED PARKING PERMIT: Use of a permit for which the individual is no longer eligible or use of a permit that was purchased/issued to another individual.

UNIVERSITY: Sam Houston State University

UNIVERSITY PROPERTY: includes all properties under the control and jurisdiction of Sam Houston State University.

UPD: Sam Houston State University Police Department

VEHICLE: Includes, but is not limited to, automobiles, buses, trucks, trailers, motorcycles, motor scooters, motorbikes, mopeds, and bicycles.

VENDOR: An individual or company not affiliated with the university as faculty, staff or a student, which provides goods or services to the university.

VISITOR: Any person who is not a faculty, staff or student member of the university or otherwise eligible for a SHSU parking permit.

YELLOW ZONE/AREA- This area is identified by signage and/or yellow curb or surface lot striping and considered a No Parking Area. Any vehicle parked and left unattended for any amount of time is in violation and can be cited and/or towed. Curbs painted yellow can be used as a loading/unloading zone of large, heavy equipment but the vehicles may not be left unattended for any amount of time. Any vehicle observed in this manner is considered in violation and can be cited and/or towed.

II. VEHICLE REGISTRATION

All SHSU faculty, staff, students and other governmental employees, full or part-time, who operate or expect to operate a vehicle on university property, regularly or occasionally, are required to register the vehicle with the Parking and Transportation Office of the Department of Public Safety Services, and obtain a parking permit assigning a designated color area for parking.

A. Parking permits are required 24 hours a day.

B. Students may register their vehicles during the regular class registration periods. At all other times, student vehicles may be registered with Parking and Transportation at the Department of Public Safety Services, located in the Charles W. Tackett Police Building located at 2424 Sam Houston Avenue in the Sam South Complex. Faculty and staff are also required to register their vehicles online or at the Parking and Transportation Office. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays. Arrangements may be made to pick up a parking permit after 4:30 p.m. at University Police by calling Parking and Transportation at (936)294-1800 or 4-1800 from a campus phone number.

C. Fees for Vehicle Registration:
   The vehicle registration fee is payable only once during the academic year and is in effect from the date paid to the end of the academic year. There will be no refund made on the vehicle registration fee.

D. Individuals shall not lend, sell, or otherwise allow other persons to use their permit. Ownership of all permits remains with the university and are not transferable to another person.

F. Brown Mobility permits for the physically challenged must be obtained from the Parking and Transportation Office.

G. Veterans Parking Policy
   In adherence to Texas Senate Bill 1061, Disabled Veterans, Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients, Former Prisoners of War, Pearl Harbor Survivors, and Purple Heart Recipients, whose vehicles display the special license plates issued by the Texas Department of Transportation, are exempt from the payment of fees for any University surface parking permit for which
they are otherwise eligible, in accordance with State law. This privilege applies only to the veteran and not to anyone else driving the vehicle. Garage parking requires the payment of normal fees due.

H. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to inform Parking and Transportation of any changes in their vehicles (e.g., purchase of a new car), home or work addresses, or contact information.

I. The university reserves the right to remove and impound any abandoned motor vehicle or any vehicle found on its property without a SHSU parking permit, or without valid registration tags.

J. Purchasing a permit signifies you have read and understand the SHSU parking rules and regulations and agree to abide by them.

III. BICYCLE REGULATIONS AND REQUIRED REGISTRATION

All state and local laws pertaining to bicycles will be enforced on campus. This enforcement includes traffic and parking regulations. Measures to enforce these regulations may include warning notification, citations and/or impoundment of a bicycle.

University-specific regulations are as follow:

A. Campus speed limit is 10 mph.
B. Bikes may not ride on sidewalks, disabled ramps, in mall areas or in parking garages.
C. Bikes must yield to pedestrians.
D. Bikes must keep to the right of the roadway and obey all traffic control devices.
E. All bicycles parking on campus must be registered with The Parking and Transportation Office of The Department of Public Safety Services and display a department issued permit.
F. Bicycles secured to anything other than a bicycle rack are considered improperly parked.
G. Any bicycle considered abandoned, lost, stolen, or improperly parked or stored may be impounded at the owner’s expense (see Section VI, Citation and Fines).
H. The university is not responsible for any incidental damages that may occur to bicycles or locks during the impoundment process
I. Faculty, staff, and students of the university are required to display a SHSU bicycle permit on their bicycle. This permit is issued free of charge, regardless of affiliation. Registration may be completed online or in person at the Parking and Transportation office. Unregistered bicycles or bicycles that are found to be abandoned, reported lost, stolen or parked in an area other than a bike rack are subject to impoundment. Bicycle lock removal service is available to owners of SHSU registered bicycles. A fee will be charged for the removal of each lock, and bicycle owners are required to complete an impound release form to obtain their bicycle.

IV. REQUIRED DISPLAY OF PERMIT

A. Current decals and hangtags must be properly displayed on vehicles, including bicycles, at all times.
B. Decals must be permanently affixed (not taped, laminated or altered for easy removal) on the inside, in the lower right corner (passenger side), of the front windshield. Hangtags must be hung from the rearview mirror with the entire front face of the hangtag visible from the outside of the vehicle to be valid. Hangtags may also be taped to the lower right corner (passenger side) of the windshield. Operators of motorcycles are required to register their vehicle with Parking and Transportation, and pay a parking fee. Bicycle permits should be affixed on the front fork of the bike where it is easily observable. The printed permit number on any decal or hangtag shall never be left obstructed or non-viewable from the exterior of the vehicle.
C. Should a decal or hangtag become mutilated or obliterated in any way, a replacement must be obtained from Parking and Transportation. When the remnants of a decal/hangtag are presented, a replacement will be provided free of charge.
D. If a different vehicle must be registered, a replacement decal will be provided free of charge, if the remnants of the old decal are presented to Parking and Transportation. If a hangtag permit was purchased, the hangtag permit must be transferred to the replacement vehicle, and Parking and Transportation notified of the new vehicle information.
E. If a decal/hangtag is lost or stolen, the permit holder shall immediately report this information to Parking and Transportation Services and complete the associated report. A replacement permit will be provided for a $20.00 administrative fee. The customer will sign a form stating the permit was lost or stolen, and acknowledges any vehicle displaying the lost/stolen permit
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on campus will be towed immediately. Customer will also acknowledge any citations issued to their permit not reported as lost or stolen (i.e., loaned or sold) will be applied to the account of the original purchaser.

F. Students, faculty and staff who have not purchased a parking permit, but need to operate a vehicle on the Huntsville campus for a short period of time, may either purchase a temporary permit for the cost of $4.00 per day, or park in the parking garage for an hourly fee.

G. All permits shall be displayed on the vehicle as instructed on the permit. Individuals cited for "No Parking Permit" who in fact have a permit, and are otherwise parked properly within the color zone appropriate for their permit, may have two citations per semester (six total annually) waived for this violation. Any additional citations will be waived only if the customer purchases a daily permit for $4.00 for each such additional violation or subsequent academic day that passes since the original No Permit violation.

V. PARKING AREA REGULATIONS

All university parking facilities are marked according to color zone areas. Operators must adhere to these designations except as noted below:

A. White faculty and staff permits can park in white faculty/staff, green commuter, blue resident, orange remote, and red (SHSU Woodlands Campus) parking zones 24 hours a day.

B. Green Commuter permits can park in green commuter and orange remote lots 24 hours a day. Between 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. they can also park in white faculty/staff parking zones with the exception of spaces identified as 24 hour designated or reserved spaces. Green commuter permits are prohibited from parking in blue resident zones at all times.

C. Blue resident permits can park in blue resident and orange remote parking zones 24 hours a day. Between 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. resident permit holders can also park in green commuter and white faculty/staff parking zones with the exception of spaces identified as 24 hour designated or reserved.

D. Orange remote permits may be purchased at a reduced cost and are only valid in orange remote zones consisting of the Bowers Stadium Lot, Sam South Complex, and the Vending/Agriculture Mechanical Complex. Orange permits may not park in white faculty/staff or blue resident parking zones at any time, but may park in green commuter parking zones between 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. weekdays.

E. Red permits are parking permits designated for The Woodlands Center Complex. This permit is only available to those who are full time students at The Woodlands Center Complex. This permit does not validate parking on the Huntsville Campus.

F. Physically challenged students, faculty and staff who possess a State of Texas disabled placard or disabled registration tags are required to register their vehicle with Parking and Transportation. A brown mobility permit will be issued entitling them to park in handicap spaces, white faculty/staff, green commuter, blue resident, and orange remote parking zones 24 hours a day. Special permits are available to students who must park close due to a temporary injury or illness. Requests for temporary special permits must be made to Parking and Transportation. Temporary special permits are not authorized to park in any area designated for the physically challenged and/or disabled.

G. All university streets have a speed limit of 20 miles per hour. Parking lots are limited to 10 miles per hour for motor vehicles. The Sam Houston Parking Garage has a speed limit of 5 miles per hour.

H. Motorcycle permits can park in any motorcycle designated space in any parking zone. It is unlawful for the owner, or any other person, to ride or park a motorcycle, motorbike, or motor scooter on any pathway, sidewalk, mall or disabled ramp. Every person operating a motorcycle, motorbike, motor scooter or bicycle must give pedestrians the right-of-way at all times, keep to the right of the roadway and obey all traffic control devices.

I. Reserved visitor parking spaces are restricted to vehicles displaying visitor parking permits issued through Parking and Transportation or Visitor Center. The term “visitor” is interpreted to mean an individual with no official connection with Sam Houston State University as a faculty, staff or student.

J. The responsibility for finding a legal parking space rests with the motor vehicle operator. Lack of space in any particular location is not considered a valid excuse for violating the Parking and Traffic regulations.
VI. SAM HOUSTON PARKING GARAGE

The Sam Houston State University Parking Garage, located at 1730 Avenue I, is a separate entity and it is a pay-per-use facility. The garage provides both contract and hourly parking rates. Garage contract permits can only park in their assigned space in the garage.

Garage contract permits are only valid in the Sam Houston Parking Garage and do not validate parking in any surface lot or university parking space outside of the Sam Houston Parking Garage. Between 5:00PM and 7:30AM, garage contract permit holders may park in any valid space with exception to handicap spaces, reserved spaces and 24 hour designated faculty/staff spaces.

VII. CITATIONS AND FINES

A. Description of Violations, Actions and Fine Amounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violation Description</th>
<th>Fine Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Violations- Citation issued and fine occurred up to 4 citations</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displaying a Valid Permit, but parked in a Faculty/Staff Zone</td>
<td>$40.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked on Campus with No Valid Permit</td>
<td>$40.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improperly Displaying a Permit on a Registered Vehicle or displaying an expired Permit</td>
<td>$30.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displaying a Valid Permit, but parked in an unauthorized zone or space</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improper Parking, backing into diagonal space, parked facing traffic</td>
<td>$20.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displaying a Valid Permit, but vehicle not registered with Public Safety</td>
<td>$10.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illegal Exit from Garage Point of Sale</td>
<td>$75.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flagrant Violations- Citation issued, Fine Incurred and vehicle impoundment</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked in a Fire Zone, Red Zone</td>
<td>$100.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked in a Handicap Zone</td>
<td>$150.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possession of, Attempted Use, or Use of an Altered or False Decal</td>
<td>$100.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked On or Across Marker Lines of a Valid Space</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parked in No Parking Zone, Yellow Zone</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking Where Prohibited, Reserved Space or Not a valid Space</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle Impoundment Fee(abandoned, reported lost/stolen, failure to register vehicle, parking where prohibited)</td>
<td>$30.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removal of Lock Fee for Unregistered Bicycle (with or without owner consent)</td>
<td>$10.00 per violation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Five or More Outstanding Citations</td>
<td>Impoundment and/or Parking Privileges Revoked</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Vehicle Impoundment may be used at the discretion of Public Safety Services*
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C. Moving Violations – All vehicles driven on SHSU property or under its jurisdiction are subject to all university traffic regulations and the State of Texas Motor Vehicle Laws. All moving violations will be adjudicated in Walker County Justice Courts or the City of Huntsville Municipal Court.

D. Resale of parking decals/hangtags is prohibited and will be considered as a falsely purchased decal and/or hangtag.

E. Citations issued to vehicles not displaying an SHSU permit will normally be assigned to the registered owner via DMV records. However, if the registered owner is a family member of an SHSU student, faculty member, or staff member, the citation will be assigned to the SHSU student, faculty member, or staff member.

VIII. VIOLATORS’ OBLIGATION AND APPEAL PROCEDURE

A. Citations for university parking violations may be paid at the Bursar’s Office, or online by utilizing MySam for faculty/staff and students.

B. University parking citations may be appealed and must be filed within ten (10) calendar days after the issuance of the citation.

C. For faculty, staff, or students to appeal a parking citation, they must log into their MySam parking account, select the link to their parking account, and appeal the citation online or via electronic mail to parking@shsu.edu. Appellants have the capability to attach photos to their appeal substantiating their position. A member of the Parking Office staff will respond to their request by either accepting, reducing, or denying their appeal. If the appellant is still not satisfied, they may appeal to the Parking Appeals Panel. The appellant can either submit the same appeal, or revise it, for panel review, but the citation must be paid before appeal panel review within five (5) calendar days following the initial appeal decision. The panel will review the circumstances and forward their decision back to Parking and Transportation, who would notify the customer. If the appeal was denied, the citation would already be paid; if accepted, the fine would be refunded to the customer’s account.

D. The violations “Parked in Handicap Zone” and “Altered/False Decal” may not be appealed.

E. Students who fail to resolve parking citations are subject to disciplinary action.

F. Any person receiving five (5) or more unresolved parking citations shall be considered to be in flagrant violation of the university parking regulations and their vehicle is subject to impoundment as set forth under Section I. Students’ records and transcripts may be tagged and held for failure to resolve their parking citations. Students having unresolved parking citations may be denied registration for classes the following semester, or the ability to graduate.

IX. FUNDS FROM VEHICLE REGISTRATION

Since the State of Texas does not provide funding for parking facilities, monies collected from motor vehicle operation will be applied to the operation of Parking and Transportation and the Department of Public Safety Services, the improvement of existing facilities, additional parking and traffic facilities, and other uses for the university.

X. REGULATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

The university reserves the right to change any or all parts of these regulations as necessary. All changes will be published on the university’s website.

Matt McDaniel
Assistant Director
SHSU Parking and Transportation

XI. UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
A. The University Police Department can be contacted 24 hours a day at the following numbers:
(936) 294-1800 or Campus Extension 4-1800.
B. In accordance with V.A.C.S.-2929J enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas, April 27, 1967, the governing board of Sam Houston State University is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations for the safety and welfare of students, employees and property. In addition to university regulations, all of the general and criminal laws of the State are declared to be in full force and effect within the areas under the jurisdiction of Sam Houston State University, and all persons are responsible for compliance with these laws.

The governing board of Sam Houston State University is authorized to employ campus police personnel for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of V.A.C.S.-2929J, and has commissioned such officers as peace officers vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities of peace officers in the performance of their duties.

It shall be unlawful for any person to trespass upon the grounds of Sam Houston State University, or to damage or deface any of the buildings, trees, shrubs, grasses, flowers, or other property on the grounds.

The University Police shall be vested with the authority to refuse to allow persons having no legitimate business to enter upon any property under the control and jurisdiction of Sam Houston State University, and to eject any unauthorized persons from said property upon their refusal to leave peaceably upon request.

Authority is given to the Sam Houston State University Police Department to require identification of any person upon the property of the university. Failure to produce identification upon request of an officer may result in arrest and appearance before a magistrate.

C. All thefts, accidents or other offenses that occur on campus should be reported to the University Police Department immediately. Motor vehicle accidents should be reported prior to moving the vehicles. Single vehicle accidents should also be reported. Keys or valuables should not be left in a vehicle. Always keep your vehicle locked.

D. When planning functions and activities, notify the University Police Department at least a month in advance so necessary arrangements may be made.

XII. UNIVERSITY POLICE FUNCTIONS

In order to avoid any possible misunderstanding of the functions of the University Police Department in relation to its law enforcement efforts, it is recognized that Sam Houston State University Police Officers are “Peace Officers” as defined under the laws of the State of Texas.

The Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 2, Article 2.12, includes as peace officers under item (9): “officers commissioned by the governing board of any state institution of high education.”

Thus the University Police Officers are authorized by State statute to enforce Federal and State laws and/or any regulation issued by the Board of Regents of Sam Houston State University on property under the control and jurisdiction of Sam Houston State University. Section 51.203, Texas Education Code; Campus Police Officers, states “The governing boards of each state institution of higher education and public technical institute may employ and commission peace officers for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subchapter. The primary jurisdiction of a peace officer commissioned under this section includes all counties in which property is owned, leased, rented, or otherwise under the control of the institution of high education or public technical institute that employs the peace officer or otherwise in the performance of their duties.”

The University Police has as its primary objective to protect all persons within its jurisdiction to be as free from criminal attack, to be secure in their properties, and to live within a peaceful community, as humanly possible. They shall perform their law enforcement functions in a professional manner and it is to this purpose that, we believe, the University Police and its jurisdiction was created by the Board of Regents with authority delegated by the State Legislators.

Thank you for your cooperation in making Sam Houston State University an enjoyable and safe community.

Kevin Morris, Director/Chief of Police
Department of Public Safety Services

Approved by the Board of Regents, Texas State University System