October 10, 2014 – Possible Sexual Assault in Student Residence Hall, Fairfax Campus

On October 10, 2014 at approximately 7:30 p.m., the George Mason University Police Department received information that a female student may have been sexually assaulted in the early morning hours of October 10 by a male student while in a residence hall. The student believes she may have unknowingly ingested an unidentified drug prior to the alleged assault. University Police is actively investigating this incident.

This information is being released in accordance with the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. The Clery Act requires all colleges and universities that participate in federal financial aid programs to keep and disclose information on and near their respective campuses, including timely warnings of crimes that may represent a serious or continued threat to the safety of students or employees.

University Police reminds all community members of the following information about sexual assault:

- It is estimated that one in every four to five college women will be the victim of a sexual assault or attempted sexual assault.
- Victims are never responsible for the offender’s behavior.
- The most common type of sexual assault is not by a stranger but by someone the victim knows, typically a date or an acquaintance.
- Alcohol and drugs are often used to create vulnerability to sexual assault. Studies of sexual assault incidents show a high correlation between acquaintance rape and drug/alcohol usage. Be alert to people pressuring you or others to use alcohol or other drugs.
- Do not drink from any open container that you did not open yourself and/or that was left unattended.
- Be active in supporting a safe and respectful community. If you see others engaging in disrespectful or inappropriate actions, speak up and get involved, or contact someone else to assist.
- If you engage in sexual activity, be sure you understand your partner’s limits, and communicate your own limits clearly. Don’t engage in sexual activities without affirmative consent from your partner.

Note that this information is general in nature and does not necessarily relate to any specific incident. For more information on campus and community resources, please visit waves.gmu.edu.

If you have any information regarding this incident, please contact University Police at 703-993-2800.