

Dec. 15, 2022

Dear UMB Community:

As another year comes to an end, I want to thank you for your support. Thank you for subscribing to our public safety newsletter. Thank you for your smiles, waves, and kind words for our police and security officers — it really does make a difference! I have the best job in the world, and that's thanks to you.



No matter what you celebrate, I want to wish you and your families a happy holiday. I hope you find time to rest and recover from those exams, year-end reports, or whatever keeps you busy. Stay safe, and we'll look forward to seeing you in the new year!

Sincerely,

Thomas Leone, MSL
UMB Chief of Police

Public Safety Update

Safety Tip of the Month — from the Office of the Fire Marshal

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together, light candles, and cook delicious meals. Unfortunately, that also means a greater risk for fire. [Follow these simple tips for a happy and fire-safe holiday season!](#)

Serving Our Community

UMB Police Receive Two Governor's Awards

The training division and co-responder team were honored at the 2022 Governor's Crime Prevention Awards. The co-responder team, which includes the University of Maryland School of Social Work, returning citizens, youth organizations, and community partners, has significantly helped the vulnerable populations surrounding UMB. [Learn more about the programs deserving of these awards.](#)

Private Pine Is Back!

Have you met Private Pine? Our "elf recruit" visits every December and takes over the UMB Police Department (UMBPD) social media accounts. This year, Private Pine is

meeting partners across campus who collaborate with UMBPD. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) to join in the fun!

Building Occupancy and Visitor Management Systems

Beginning Jan. 3, UMB students and employees will need to scan their badge at the kiosk when they enter open buildings. Many building entrances are unlocked when a security officer is present at the front desk. Those who swipe their badge to enter through a locked door will not need to swipe at the pedestal again. Visitors will also need to sign in through the visitor management system. [Learn more about these changes.](#)

Administration & Finance (A&F) Holds First Operation Butterball

More than 300 A&F employees (which includes Public Safety) received a \$25 voucher for groceries ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. “The well-being of our employees is important to our A&F leadership team,” said Dawn Rhodes, DBA, senior vice president and chief business and finance officer. [Learn more about Operation Butterball.](#)

Public Safety Partners

Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

Prepare for Winter Weather

Do you know what to do during winter weather? In the event of a campus closure or delay, a [UMB Alert](#) will be sent by approximately 5 a.m. Closure and delay information also is available on the UMB Alerts webpage, through UMB social media accounts, and via the Emergency Information Hotline (410-706-8622). *Please note: Weather-related delays and closures are no longer sent to local news media outlets.*

Do you have questions about what to do during a winter weather closure or delay? Read the University’s [Guide to Changes in On-Campus Operations](#).

OEM Among Those Honored by Native American Community

Hundreds of UMB employees responded during the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the response, UMB worked with Indian Health Service (IHS) and Native American LifeLines Urban Indian Organization to provide vaccines to Native Americans. On Nov. 18, UMB received the IHS Director’s Award for COVID-19 Pandemic Heroism. [Learn more about all of those who contributed to winning this award.](#)

Environmental Health and Safety (EHS)

Holiday Lab Safety Plan

As labs begin slowing down research operations for the holiday season, EHS reminds labs to create a lab-specific safety plan for operating during UMB closures or decreased holiday presence. In the event of an emergency closure, check out the [guidelines here](#). You also can use EHS’ [helpful guide](#) for preparing your lab for the holidays.

Elements of your plan should include:

- Confirming a critical contact list.
- Ensuring essential equipment is on emergency power and has adequate supplies to run through any absence.
- Securing physical research materials and backing up critical research data.
- Reviewing your emergency response plan, including plans in case personnel become ill.



Please visit umaryland.edu/police for more information about the UMB Police Department.
