## **General Legal Advice to International Students**

#### **Automobiles**

- I. If you own or operate a motor vehicle, you must purchase and have in your possession proof of liability insurance. The law applies even if you are borrowing another's car. \$500.00 mandatory fine.
- 2. Be aware that most of the time used autos and most other used items do not carry <u>any</u> guarantees or warranties. You take the items "as is"; you take possession of the item in the condition that it is at the time of purchase. Have an independent, licensed mechanic thoroughly examine any used vehicle <u>before</u> you buy it. Always obtain a "bill of sale" or receipt from the seller.

### **Renter's Rights/Obligations**

- 1. Do not sign a housing contract or lease without first having the document examined at the Tenant Union Room 326 Illini Union, 217-333-0112, tenantunion.illinois.edu.
- 2. Landlords may not lawfully refuse to rent to you because of your sex, race, or national origin.
- 3. Purchase inexpensive renter's insurance for your house, apartment, room, etc., in case of theft or fire. The landlord is <u>not</u> legally responsible for your losses if losses occur.

#### Money/Financial

- I. Beware of telephone and mail invitations to purchase items or earn prizes because you purchased an item. Most are scams. If you receive a response to a craigslist ad you placed (to sell something, to sublease your apartment) with a money order for more than you asked, do not deposit it in your bank account and send the extra somewhere else. It is a scam. Hold on to your money!
- 2. Many U.S. students believe international students are wealthy. Do not make personal loans in <u>any</u> amount of money which you are not prepared to forfeit, or lose, forever. International students have been victims of unscrupulous borrowers in the name of friendship.
- 3. Never give your debit card number, credit card number, identification information, etc. over the phone or on internet unless YOU initiated the transaction.

#### Other

- I. When/if confronted by a police officer for any reason whatsoever, maintain a calm and polite attitude. Do not run from Police. Do not argue with the officer even if s/he is acting improperly. Student Legal Service can assist in resolving the matter in Court.
- 2. Alcoholic beverages may not be consumed on any public property, sidewalk, parking lot, etc., nor may an alcoholic beverage be transported, after being opened, in any type of motor vehicle, in any compartment, including in the trunk.



## **Student Legal Service**

www.odos.illinois.edu/sls Phone: 217-333-9053

324 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St., Urbana

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to Noon, and 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., M-F

A Unit of the Office of the Dean of Students. Connect. Learn. Achieve. Student Affairs at Illinois.

Student Legal Service is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to Noon, and 1:00 to 4:30p.m. The office is staffed by three licensed attorneys. All information you discuss with your attorney is absolutely confidential.

The office is funded entirely by a portion of the Service Fee.

## **Notice to Non-U.S. Citizens**

Nonimmigrant aliens subject to National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEERS) Registration, or special registration, who are also enrolled in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) do <u>not</u> have to notify DHS separately of changes in educational institutions or addresses.

However, you <u>must</u> notify your educational institution of your change in address <u>as soon as you are able to</u>.

At the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus, you must do this through "Enterprise Applications" at:

# apps.uillinois.edu

**Select "Student & Faculty Self-Service"** 

Then "University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign"

Then Log in with your netID and password

Then Select "Personal Information"

For information on "Maintaining Status" (available in English, Spanish, Arabic, Japanese, Korean, and Chinese), and other issues related to Student and Exchange status:

## www.ice.gov/sevis/students

"Maintaining Status" is Step 8 contained in the link "Steps 7-9: While in the United States"



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