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August 20, 2007

Ms. Nancy Gifford, Area Case Director
U.S. Department of Education
100 Penn Square East, Room 511
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: Virginia Tech Jeanne Clery Act Complaint

Dear Ms. Gifford:

The senseless murders of thirty-two students and faculty at Virginia Tech last April awakened the whole country to something our family learned twenty-one years ago when our daughter Jeanne was brutally raped and murdered on her campus by a student she didn't know – that our nation's campuses are not immune from the horrific violence in our society.

As you know, the federal Jeanne Clery Act, which is named in memory of our daughter, was enacted by Congress in 1990 to ensure that colleges warn their communities about these dangers. They must report crime statistics and make timely warnings about immediate threats. Virginia Tech, however, waited more than two hours to warn their campus that there'd been a double murder in a residence hall and that an unknown shooter was at-large. The community had no idea they were at risk when the shooter, a deranged student, struck again and killed thirty more people before committing suicide.

We are outraged that, as the new school year begins, there has been no acknowledgement that the campus should have been warned faster, and that nothing should have been handled differently or will be in the future. The intention of the Clery Act is to empower the campus community to protect themselves. They were tragically denied that opportunity at Virginia Tech. We are accordingly asking, as detailed more fully in the enclosed formal Clery Act complaint, that the U.S. Department of Education fully investigate Virginia Tech's handling of the April 16th shootings to make sure that students and employees on campus are protected in the future.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this urgent request. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any questions or we can be of any assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Connie & Howard Clery
Co-Founders

Enclosures

**Complaint Of Non-Compliance With
The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act
20 USC § 1092(f); 34 CFR § 668.46**

August 20, 2007

**Brought Against-
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University
Blacksburg, VA 24061**

**Brought By-
Security On Campus, Inc.
133 Ivy Lane, Suite 200
King of Prussia, PA 19406**

**Brought With-
U.S. Dept. of Education
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107**

Introduction

On April 16, 2007 thirty-two students and faculty at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (commonly referred to as Virginia Tech) in Blacksburg, Virginia were brutally murdered on-campus by the same gunman in two separate shooting incidents approximately two hours apart. Campus and law enforcement authorities promptly determined that two people, later identified as students, had been murdered in a campus residence hall during the first shooting and that an unknown suspect was at large. No warning, however, went out for more than two hours.

The second shooting across campus in a classroom building is believed to have been underway by the time a warning was issued. An additional thirty victims, 25 students and 5 faculty members, were killed. Approximately two-dozen people were also wounded. The shooter then killed himself as law enforcement officers descended upon his location finally ending the threat.

The federal Jeanne Clery Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f), requires institutions of postsecondary education to issue timely warnings when certain crimes, including homicides, are reported to campus authorities and represent an ongoing threat to students and or employees. The purpose of this warning is so that campus community members can take steps, with direction from their institution, to protect themselves and “aid in the prevention of similar occurrences.”

The two hour delay in issuing a warning in this case deprived campus community members of potentially life-saving information that they could have used to protect themselves and prevent any further shootings. Instead campus community members went about their usual routines unaware that there was a significant threat in their midst and unable to make informed decisions. This lack of awareness is precisely what the Clery Act is intended to prevent.

Security On Campus, Inc. (SOC) asks that the U.S. Department of Education (ED) thoroughly investigate the delay in the issuance of a timely warning as well as any underlying policies and practices or lack thereof that may have contributed to it. SOC further asks that ED promptly take any and all corrective action that may be warranted and necessary to protect the campus.

Timeline

The Virginia Tech Police Department (VTPD) responded to a call for service from West Ambler Johnston Hall (WAJ) at 7:20 AM on the morning of April 16, 2007 according to a timeline provided by them to a state panel reviewing the shootings (Exhibit A). Between 7:24 AM and 7:30 AM the responding officer determined that two people, later revealed to be a female resident and a male resident advisor, had been shot inside room 4040 and requested that additional officers respond to the scene.

Initial interviews with residents did not yield a suspect description and no one was seen leaving Room 4040 where the shootings occurred, according to the VTPD timeline. Between 7:30 AM and 9:15 AM significant additional emergency response resources, including both the campus and local municipal police chiefs, arrived on scene.

During this timeframe additional witness interviews yielded information about an acquaintance of one of the victims who “may have been with her earlier that same morning.” Investigators began searching for this individual, a non-student, who was believed to have left campus and issued a “Be On the Lookout” (BOL) request for information about their vehicle. A Montgomery County Deputy Sheriff located the vehicle off-campus and initiated a traffic stop at 9:24 AM. No information ever conclusively suggested that this individual may have been involved in the shootings and they were eventually determined to have in fact not been involved.

Between 8:10 AM and 9:25 AM the campus police chief provided information via telephone to a group of University officials called the “VT Policy Group” as the investigation progressed. A VTPD Police Captain joined the group at 9:25 AM to continue to provide the group with updates as new information became available.

At 9:26 AM an e-mail message (Exhibit B) was disseminated to the entire campus community stating that a “shooting incident occurred at West Amber Johnston earlier this morning. Police are on the scene and are investigating.” The e-mail further advised that the “university community is urged to be cautious” and asked people to contact campus police about “anything suspicious or with information on the case.” Readers were referred to the institution’s web site for updated information. No information was provided that indicated an unknown suspect was at-large or that anyone had been killed.

At about this time the shooting across campus at Norris Hall is believed to have begun. The first call about the shooting was received by the VTPD at 9:42 AM according to their timeline. Campus and Blacksburg municipal police officers responded to Norris Hall where the shooter shot himself to death as they arrived on the second floor. Thirty additional victims had been shot to death and approximately two dozen more had been wounded, many severely.

A second e-mail was then sent out at 9:50 AM, eight minutes after the first call about the Norris Hall shooting was received, stating that a “gunman is loose on campus. Stay in buildings until further notice. Stay away from all windows.” Additional e-mails followed at 10:16 AM and 10:52 AM announcing that classes had been cancelled and that there had been two separate shooting incidents.

Timely Warning Requirement Not Met

Under the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f), and its implementing regulations, 34 CFR § 668.46, institutions of postsecondary education are required to issue warnings about murders and certain other crimes known to campus police or other campus authorities when they pose an ongoing threat to the campus community. The Act, at 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(3), specifically requires that such warnings “shall be provided to students and employees in a manner that is timely and that will aid in the prevention of similar occurrences.”

Further, the U.S. Department of Education, on page 61 of “The Handbook for Campus Crime Reporting” published in 2005, states that Clery Act timely warnings “***should be issued as soon as the pertinent information is available*** because the intent of a timely warning is to alert the campus community of continuing threats especially concerning safety, thereby enabling community members to protect themselves.” (Emphasis Added)

Virginia Tech’s “timely warning” policy as published in their current “Campus Safety A Shared Responsibility” report (Exhibit C) states that the campus “police department will... prepare a release and the information will be disseminated to all students, faculty and staff and to the local community.” Their published policy does not indicate what timeframe warnings will be issued within or what methods will be used.

First Shooting Posed An Ongoing Threat

The Clery Act, at 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f)(3), provides that a timely warning report must be issued about “crimes considered to be a threat to other students and employees... that are reported to campus security or local law police agencies.” Virginia Tech’s significant law enforcement response to the shootings as well as the eventual issuance of a warning indicates that the crime not only presented an ongoing threat but also was quite properly viewed as posing a potential threat to other campus community members.

Despite the evident seriousness with which the shooting was treated the VTPD timeline indicates, however, that the shooting at WAJ was characterized as “an isolated, singular event” that lacked “any indication of additional killings to follow.” It is not clear how the VTPD could have determined that immediately following the WAJ shootings and prior to their investigation. All that could have possibly been known with any certainty was that a double homicide suspect had been and may still have been at-large on or around the campus. Their motives would clearly be unknown, as would any other potential targets.

The Clery Act does not require that an institution have specific evidence that there will be additional crimes or that any specific targets may be vulnerable only that there is a generalized threat to the campus community. The U.S. Department of Education has, in fact, previously held that an institution that failed to issue a timely warning about an unknown suspect in the case of a residence hall murder violated the Clery Act’s timely warning requirement (see Program Review # 200730825904; Eastern Michigan University; June 29, 2007).

Warning Was Not Timely

As early as 7:24 AM the “pertinent information” that two people had been shot was available and known to campus police according to their timeline. Numerous campus police personnel and other campus officials, including the Office of the Executive Vice President, were aware of the homicide investigation not later than 8 AM. No warning, however, was issued until 9:26 AM two hours and two minutes after campus police first determined there’d been a double shooting.

It is clear that the intent is for warnings to be issued as soon as possible especially when there is an immediate threat. Virginia Tech’s release of an e-mail warning at 9:50 AM about the report of the second shooting which came in at 9:42 AM indicates that they were capable of issuing a warning in as few as eight minutes. A warning about the West Ambler Johnston shootings should have occurred within minutes rather than hours, which would be comparable to the amount of time that it took Virginia Tech to issue a warning about the Norris Hall shootings.

Warning Was Vague

In addition to not being issued in a timely manner the 9:26 AM warning contained insufficient information to adequately “aid in the prevention of similar” crimes. The e-mail merely states that a “shooting incident” had occurred. There is no reference to any people being shot, much less killed or any indication of just how serious the crime had been. Such a generic description could potentially include anything from the reckless discharge of a firearm to a multiple homicide, as was actually the case. No indication was given that an unknown homicide suspect was at-large and only generic guidance was offered about what the community should do.

Conclusion

The Jeanne Clery Act’s most fundamental principle is that college and university campus communities should be warned about potential threats so that they can take steps to avoid victimization. Nowhere is that principle more clearly brought in focus than in this case. The Virginia Tech campus community was not adequately warned about a potential threat to their safety and as a result were unable to take steps to protect themselves.

The families of those murdered, the survivors, and the entire campus community are owed an explanation of exactly how this was allowed to happen. As the agency with jurisdiction for enforcing the Jeanne Clery Act it is most properly the role of the U.S. Department of Education to investigate this matter and we call on the Department to do so promptly and thoroughly.



S. Daniel Carter
Senior Vice President
Security On Campus, Inc.

Exhibit

A

Comments by Virginia Tech Chief of Police
Wendell Flinchum on May 21, 2007 to the
Virginia Tech Review Panel concerning the
Police response at WAJ on 4-16-07

Col Massengill and members of the panel. My name is Wendell Flinchum and I am the Chief of Police for the Virginia Tech Police Department. I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak to you about the Virginia Tech Police Department response to the events at West Ambler Johnston Hall on April 16, 2007.

I would like to point out that the police investigation is still on-going and some of the information could change as the investigation progresses.

I would like to first tell you about the Virginia Tech Police Department. Our department was formed around 1945 and has grown into a professional organization. The department is currently nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA is an independent organization established to develop a set of law enforcement standards that would improve the delivery of police services around the country. CALEA accredits police departments throughout the country if those departments can meet CALEA standards. The Blacksburg Police Department and the Virginia State Police are also accredited by CALEA. Our department is one of only a few University police departments in the country that are nationally accredited and is one of three University police departments in Virginia. We received our third re-accreditation in November 2006.

Our department is a full service law enforcement agency. We currently have 40 sworn officers which are assisted by security guards, communication officers and administrative staff. The officers are highly trained and attend the same police academy as our local police and sheriff's departments. We formed an Emergency Response Team (ERT) in 1991 and this team trains regularly with the Blacksburg Police department's ERT. This team and our entire department have a close working relationship with the Blacksburg Police department which was demonstrated on April 16, 2007.

I will now go into the police response at West Ambler Johnston on April 16, 2007 based on the information we knew and obtained that morning.

West Ambler Johnston Hall Police Response on April 16, 2007

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

***Times as recorded by VTPD Dispatch**

WAJ - THE INITIAL CALL*

- **7:20 AM - April 16, 2007 - Initial call is received on a VTPD administrative telephone line.**
 - **Caller advises dispatcher that a female student in Room 4040 West Ambler Johnston (WAJ) Hall had possibly fallen from her loft bed.**
 - **Caller was provided information by another WAJ resident who was "near" Room 4040 and heard what sounded like someone falling out of a loft.**

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police/Rescue Response*

- **7:21 AM - VTPD Dispatcher notifies VT Rescue Squad of female student possibly fallen from her loft bed in WAJ.**

- **7:21 AM - VTPD officer is dispatched to 4040 WAJ to accompany VT Rescue Squad (per VTPD protocol.)**

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police/Rescue Response*

- **7:24 AM VTPD officer arrives at WAJ.**
 - After arriving at 4040 WAJ, VTPD officer finds that two people have been shot inside the room; immediately requests additional VTPD resources.

- **7:30 AM - Additional VTPD officers begin arriving at Room 4040.**

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police/Rescue Response

- **VTPD officers securing crime scene; starting preliminary investigation.**
 - Preliminary resident interviews unable to provide a suspect description.
 - No one on floor or in WAJ saw anyone leave Room 4040 after the initial noise was heard.

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

**Estimated Time; No Dispatch Entry.

WAJ - Police Response

- **7:40 AM – VTPD Chief Flinchum notified by phone of WAJ shootings.****
- **7:51 AM - Chief Flinchum contacts Blacksburg Police Department (BPD)**
 - Requests BPD Evidence Technician respond to WAJ.
 - Requests BPD Detective to assist with investigation.

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- **7:57 A.M. - Chief Flinchum notifies the Office of the Executive Vice President.****

- **8:00 A.M. - Chief Flinchum arrives at scene in WAJ.** (Time as recorded by Chief Flinchum's card swipe at WAJ)
 - By this time, VTPD Detectives and BPD Detectives already on scene at WAJ; investigation underway.
 - Local State Police Special Agent contacted; responded to scene.

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- **8:11 AM – Blacksburg Police Chief Kim Crannis arrives on scene.** (Time as recorded by BPD Dispatch)

- **8:13 A.M. - Chief Flinchum requests additional VTPD & BPD officers on scene to assist with securing WAJ entrances and assist in investigation.** (Time as recorded by VTPD Dispatch)

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- **8:15 A.M. - Chief Flinchum requests VTPD Emergency Response Team (ERT - VTPD equivalent of a SWAT Team) respond in anticipation of search warrants and/or arrest warrant service.**

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- **8:19 AM - Chief Crannis requests BPD ERT respond for the same reason.**
- **9:15 AM - Both ERT teams are staged at the Blacksburg Police Department in anticipation of search warrants and/or arrest warrant service.**

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- **Witness tells VTPD investigators about acquaintance of Emily Hilscher; individual may have been with her earlier that same morning.**
 - Individual not a VT student; Individual does not live on campus. Officers searching for info on acquaintance.
 - Investigators search for acquaintance's vehicle in campus parking lots; become more confident individual has left campus.
 - VTPD & BPD officers sent to acquaintance's residence; individual is not home; surveillance initiated.

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- **BOL (Be On the Lookout report) to Blacksburg Police Department and Montgomery County Sheriff's Office for individual's vehicle.**
 - All of the previous actions including the BOL, occurred between 8:16 AM and 9:24 AM.

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- **Meanwhile...on campus:**
 - Officers canvassing WAJ for possible witnesses.
 - VTPD, BPD, & VSP processing Room 4040 crime scene and gathering evidence.
 - Officers searching interior and exterior waste containers and surrounding areas near WAJ for evidence.

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- **Meanwhile...on campus:**
 - Investigators securing identification of victims.
 - Following up with rescue squad personnel for any additional evidence/information.
 - Allocating & assigning additional responding law enforcement.
 - Trying to locate the first resident who told the Resident Advisor about the noise in 4040 WAJ

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

➤ Note...

- VT residence halls were already locked before, during, & following the WAJ double-shooting. (Exterior residence hall doors are locked from 10:00 P.M. to 10:00 A.M.)
- All evidence recovered from WAJ crime scene and witness information gathered at WAJ indicated the WAJ scene was an isolated, singular event; never any indication of additional killings to follow.
- Even after a month into the WAJ & Norris Hall investigations, still no information from the WAJ crime scene that would indicate that the Norris Hall shootings would later occur.

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- From 8:10 AM to 9:25 AM - Chief Flinchum provides updated information via phone to VT Policy Group regarding progress made in WAJ investigation...as it becomes available.
- 9:25 AM - VTPD Police Captain joins VT Policy Group and provides updates as information becomes available.

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

WAJ - Police Response

- **9:24 A.M. - Montgomery County Deputy Sheriff alerts on acquaintance's vehicle and initiates traffic stop off campus.**
 - Detectives en-route to assist with questioning acquaintance.
 - **9:31 A.M. - VSP Trooper marks on-scene to assist Montgomery County Deputy Sheriff with traffic stop. (Time as recorded by VSP Salem Division Dispatch)**

- **9:30 - 9:42 A.M. - Questioning of acquaintance ongoing.**

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

*Times as recorded by VTPD Dispatch

Norris Hall - Police/Rescue Response

- **9:42 A.M. - First call made to VTPD Dispatch about shooting at Norris Hall.**

- **9:45 A.M. -VTPD and BPD officers are first to arrive at Norris Hall.**

- **9:50 AM - First team of officers on Second Floor inside Norris Hall; last shot fired as they reach second floor landing; triage and rescue of victims begins immediately.**

Chief Wendell Flinchum
Virginia Tech Police Dept.

Exhibit

B

Date: Mon, 16 Apr 2007 09:26:24 -0400
From: Unirel@vt.edu
Subject: Shooting on campus.
To: Multiple recipients <LISTSERV@LISTSERV.VT.EDU>

A shooting incident occurred at West Amber Johnston earlier this morning. Police are on the scene and are investigating.

The university community is urged to be cautious and are asked to contact Virginia Tech Police if you observe anything suspicious or with information on the case. Contact Virginia Tech Police at 231-6411

Stay attuned to the www.vt.edu. We will post as soon as we have more information.

Date: Mon, 16 Apr 2007 09:50:07 -0400
From: Unirel@vt.edu
Subject: PLease stay put
To: Multiple recipients <LISTSERV@LISTSERV.VT.EDU>

A gunman is loose on campus. Stay in buildings until further notice. Stay away from all windows

Date: Mon, 16 Apr 2007 10:16:40 -0400
From: Unirel@vt.edu
Subject: All Classes Canceled; Stay where you are
To: Multiple recipients <LISTSERV@LISTSERV.VT.EDU>

Virginia Tech has canceled all classes. Those on campus are asked to remain where there are, lock their doors and stay away from windows. Persons off campus are asked not to come to campus.

Date: Mon, 16 Apr 2007 10:52:45 -0400

From: Unirel@vt.edu

Subject: Second Shooting Reported; Police have one gunman in custody

To: Multiple recipients <LISTSERV@LISTSERV.VT.EDU>

In addition to an earlier shooting today in West Ambler Johnston, there has been a multiple shooting with multiple victims in Norris Hall.

Police and EMS are on the scene.

Police have one shooter in custody and as part of routine police procedure, they continue to search for a second shooter.

All people in university buildings are required to stay inside until further notice.

All entrances to campus are closed.

Exhibit

C

CAMPUS SAFETY

A SHARED RESPONSIBILTYY



**VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE
AND STATE UNIVERISTY**

2005 JEANNE CLERY ACT REPORT

CAMPUS SECURITY A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University is Virginia's largest University. It has a student population of over 25,000 on its main campus and serves over 2,300 students at extension campuses located throughout the Commonwealth. Surrounded by the Town of Blacksburg, Virginia Tech is situated on 2,600 beautifully landscaped acres that provide areas for serene meditation such as the Duckpond, areas of physical activity that include the South Recreation Field, plus the Library Mall and Squires Student Union for social or intellectual interaction. Located in the New River Valley and only a short drive from the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains, the Appalachian Trail, and the New River itself, there are numerous activities for the outdoor enthusiast to enjoy. Virginia Tech is convenient to reach from interstate I-81 and only 4 to 5 hours from either Virginia's beaches or the Nation's Capital, Washington D. C.

The Town of Blacksburg's crime rate is below the nation's average and is below the State's average for a university community. Virginia Tech benefits from this location, however, crime and unsafe behavior can occur here just as they do anywhere else in the country.

Virginia Tech is committed to providing the members of the campus community and visitors with the safest and most secure environment possible, however, even the most extensive initiatives cannot succeed without the awareness and cooperation of the community members who work, study and live on campus. The following information contains safety tips, resource phone numbers and a brief overview of the many services the university provides. Keep this information where it can be easily located; it provides you with a useful reference source of information.

POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

Virginia Tech has designed policies and regulations in order to create a safer and more harmonious environment for the members of its community. All campus community members and visitors of the university are required to obey these regulations. These policies not only reflect the university's high standards of conduct, but also local, state and federal laws. Observed and enforced, they create a high degree of safety for the university community.

Alcohol and Drugs

Virginia Tech recognizes that the misuse and abuse of alcohol is a persistent social and health problem of major proportion in our society and that it interferes with the goals and objectives of any educational institution. Accordingly, Virginia Tech does not encourage the use of alcoholic beverages and strongly discourages illegal or otherwise irresponsible use of alcohol. Members of the university community are responsible for their decisions regarding their use of alcohol as well as their behavior, which occur as a result of these decisions. In this context, Virginia Tech created a comprehensive policy on Alcoholic Beverages and Other Controlled Substances. This policy can be found in the University Policies for Student Life and on the Web at <http://www.judicial.vt.edu>. The Alcoholic Beverage Policy is outlined in the Student Code of Conduct found in University Policies for Student Life.

Alcohol Policy

Virginia Tech fully complies with the alcohol regulations of the Commonwealth of Virginia. All state laws apply to Virginia Tech students, faculty, staff and visitors. These laws prohibit possession, distribution and consumption of all alcoholic beverages by persons less than 21 years of age. To maintain conditions conducive to a learning environment, and to ensure that all community members are in a safe, productive environment, the university further restricts the use of alcohol within specified criteria. For more comprehensive details, please refer to the University's Policy on Alcoholic Beverages and Other Controlled Substances.

Controlled Substances

The university strictly prohibits the illegal use or possession of any controlled substance. The illegal use of controlled substances is incompatible with the goals of an academic community. Students found guilty of possessing, using, distributing, or selling controlled substances will face serious disciplinary action, which may include suspension and/or dismissal from the university for a first offense. Violations of state law should be reported to the University Police who will take appropriate legal actions.

Sexual Assault/Sex Offenses

Sexual Assault is a crime punishable by both civil and criminal legal action. The University Judicial System administered through the Office of Judicial Affairs adjudicates, at the request of the victim, all cases involving sex offenses in which the alleged perpetrator is a Virginia Tech Student. Virginia Tech also encourages victims to prosecute alleged perpetrators to the fullest extent of the law. There are several avenues for assistance if a person becomes the victim of a sex offense.

Victims of sexual assault tend to feel a variety of conflicting emotions: rage, fear, depression, relief to have survived, numbness, and exhaustion, to name just a few. Two key points to remember are that the assault was not your fault and there is help available.

Virginia Tech Police Department is always available ready to assist if needed. The Virginia Tech Police Department is a valuable resource for information. The department has available educational literature on prevention methods and procedures to follow if you should become the victim of a sex offense. The department provides educational programs on women's awareness, personal safety and instructs Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) classes upon request. RAD classes are self-defense classes for women only. Consisting of awareness, safety tips and progresses into hands on attack simulations at the end of the class.

The Police Department's Victim/Witness Assistance Program protects the rights of victims and witness of crimes. Referral information is accessible at all times regarding area services available for general counseling, medical attention, emergency housing or financial assistance. Responsiveness to the needs of crime victims is a department priority.

IF SEXUAL ASSAULT HAPPENS TO YOU:

- Contact the police for assistance and information.
- Go to the New River Valley Medical Center in Radford or Montgomery Regional Hospital in Blacksburg. A qualified physician or nurse will examine you for injuries and collect physical evidence that could be used in judicial proceedings if you decide to prosecute. New River Valley Medical Center offers the services of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners.
- If possible, do not change your clothes, shower, eat or drink between the rape and the trip to the emergency room. Bring a change of clothes with you because the police will need the clothes you were wearing for evidence.
- The hospital will notify the Women's Resource Center of Radford, who will supply you with a trained companion at the hospital. The companion will look after your needs and will help direct you to available services.
- Even if you do not wish to prosecute, it is important that you have a physical exam after the attack. Besides bruises or other physical injuries, the perpetrator might have passed on a sexually transmitted disease that requires treatment. An HIV/AIDS test may also ease your mind, although six months must elapse after an attack to accurately detect the presence of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.
- Seek counseling from the Thomas E. Cook Counseling Center, Women's Center at Virginia Tech, The Women's Resource Center, or a private counselor. All these services are free of charge (except private counseling) and CONFIDENTIAL. If you are not comfortable talking with a counselor, consider talking with a trusted friend or family member. (See Counseling)
- Consider your judicial options if you have not done so already. Although there are statutes of limitation on criminal cases, they are often longer than you think. You also have the option of campus and civil charges (See Judicial Options).
- If the assault and its aftermath are interfering with your ability to complete your academic work, talk with the Thomas E. Cook Counseling Center, Women's Center at Virginia Tech, or the academic dean of your college about academic relief. The Dean of Students will also assist in changing academic and living situations after an alleged sexual assault incident, should the victim request such assistance and such changes are reasonably available.
- Remember that it is never too late to deal with a sexual assault, and that you can heal from this significant trauma. Lots of people are ready and able to help you, but they can't if you don't ask.

Family members and friends often have strong reactions when they learn that someone they love has been sexually assaulted, whether recently or in the past. Of course, they feel concern for their loved one, but that concern can emerge in ways that do not assist the victim's recovery. Below are some suggestions on how to assist the victim. Friends and family members are also strongly encouraged to seek counseling and support for their feelings of grief, rage, and guilt.

- Above all, do not blame the victim for the sexual assault. She or he is likely to be very sensitive to questions that sound accusatory, such as, "why were you in his room?" Or "Why did you have so much to drink?"
- Reassure the victim that you believe her or him. Confessions of this nature are very, very difficult to make, and the victim likely fears disbelief as much as blame.
- Ask the victim what she or he needs. As tempting as it might be, do not step in and take control of the situation. The victim has had control taken away from her or him by the sexual assault, and it is vital that he or she regains control in the healing process. Although you may think you know best, let the victim make the decisions.
- You may feel unable to assist the victim because of your own emotions or beliefs. It's fine to tell her or him this in a nonjudgmental manner, and refer her or him to someone more able to help.
- If the perpetrator is someone you know, do not try to exact revenge yourself. Leave that to the legal system, if the victim so chooses.
- Encourage the victim to seek assistance, and remember that you too will need support as you go through this difficult time with your loved one.

Medical Care

As mentioned above, victims of very recent assaults should go to the emergency room of New River Valley Medical Center or Montgomery Regional Hospital for a physical exam and the collection of evidence. All victims, past or present, should be seen by a qualified physician or nurse to check for sexually transmitted diseases, physical trauma, and possible pregnancy. New River Valley Medical Center offers the services of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners. Female victims may prefer to see a female physician, and should request one if that will increase their comfort, though in the emergency room that may not always be possible.

Virginia Tech students can receive all the necessary medical care through Schiffert Health Services. However Schiffert Health cannot collect evidence and will refer victims to Montgomery Regional Hospital or New River Valley Medical Center. The Women's Clinic of Schiffert Health Services offers gynecological care, pregnancy testing, and testing and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases. Victims may also wish to see their family doctor. Even if no symptoms are apparent, victims are still strongly encouraged to seek medical attention.

Counseling Options

Students coping with a sexual assault have at least three counseling options that are free of charge. Two of those options are on-campus: The Women's Center at Virginia Tech and the Thomas E. Cook Counseling Center. The Women's Center at Virginia Tech offers short-term crisis counseling and sexual assault support groups. The Thomas E. Cook Counseling Center offers both short-term and long-term individual and group counseling. The Women's Resource Center in Radford offers a 24-hour crisis line, individual and group counseling, and legal advocacy. These three agencies frequently collaborate to provide services to victims of sexual assault and these services are CONFIDENTIAL.

Many other options exist which have some cost associated with them, such as private therapists. Counseling is often crucial to the recovery process, and victims should be encouraged to seek the assistance of qualified professionals, even if many years have elapsed since the assault. As always, the choice to seek counseling should be the victim's.

Legal and Judicial Options

Sexual assault victims have three judicial options from which to choose: filing criminal charges, filing campus judicial charges, and filing a civil suit for monetary damages. Victims are not limited to just one of these options, but can choose any combination including filing all three types of charges. Below is a brief description of each type of judicial process.

Criminal

Filing criminal charges means going to the police. If the assault happened on campus, it falls under the jurisdiction of the Virginia Tech Police. If the assault happened off-campus in the town of Blacksburg, it falls under the jurisdiction of the Blacksburg Police. If the assault occurred in the county, it falls under the jurisdiction of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office.

Many victims believe that if they do not file criminal charges immediately, they lose that option. There are statutes of limitation for filing criminal charges, but they are typically several years in duration. Certainly, it is best to go to the police as soon as possible after an assault, in order to preserve as much evidence as possible. The police will arrange for the victim to be seen at Montgomery Regional Hospital for medical care and evidence collection. However, even if some time has elapsed, the police still encourage victims to come forward.

Criminal charges are prosecuted by the state of Virginia, not the individual victim. A commonwealth attorney will argue the case at no cost to the victim. The victim serves as the primary witness to the crime, and his or her testimony is crucial to the case. Criminal cases may take considerable time to proceed through the justice system. Typically, the press protects the identity of the victim, although the identity of the accused perpetrator is not.

Campus

Campus judicial charges can only be filed if the alleged offender is a Virginia Tech student. The referral agent is typically a member of the Virginia Tech community as well. The campus judicial system examines violations of university policy. Campus judicial hearings do not replace or substitute for criminal prosecutions, and students who choose campus judicial hearings are also encouraged to seek redress through the criminal justice system and civil court. So long as the accused student is enrolled in school, there is no statute of limitations on filing judicial charges.

The student accused of sexual misconduct may choose between an administrative hearing and a panel hearing. The hearing typically takes place within two weeks of the time the complaint-called a judicial referral-is filed by the referral agent. At the hearing, the alleged offender and the referral agent each have the opportunity to present their side of the story and to call witnesses. Each also may have a support person/advisor present. The burden of proof is lower than in a criminal court. The hearing officers will base their decision on a preponderance of the evidence.

Sexual misconduct is classified in the Student Code of Conduct as a violation of the Abusive Conduct Policy. Depending on the circumstances of the case, students who are found in violation of the abusive conduct policy may receive sanctions that include suspension for one or more semesters or dismissal from the university. If a student is found guilty of a sexual assault involving penetration, the minimum sanction will be one year's suspension. Students found in violation of the university sexual misconduct policy do have the right to appeal. Notification of judicial action taken against students is made on a "need to know" basis. This includes the Commandant of Cadets in cases involving cadets, the Office of the Graduate School in cases involving graduate students and international students, the Athletic Department in cases involving varsity athletes, the Director of Office of Student Programs, in cases involving residence hall students, and victims of violent crime, including sexual assaults, involving student perpetrators. Other university agencies or organizations may be required to obtain written release before they can receive notification. Copies of all judicial sanction letters are archived in the Office of Judicial Affairs. Additional information can be located in the University Policies of Student Life or by contacting the Student Life & Advocacy Office.

Civil Court

Sexual assault victims have the right to sue the perpetrator or other involved parties for monetary damages. This type of prosecution, which may be pursued alone or in conjunction with criminal and/or campus judicial charges, does require an attorney. As with campus judicial action, the burden of proof is a preponderance of the evidence. Victims considering this type of prosecution are advised to consult Student Legal Services or a private attorney for information.

Sex Offender Registry and Access to Related Information

The federal **Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act**, enacted on October 28, 2000, went into effect October 28, 2002. The law requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by a State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained. It also requires sex offenders already required to register in a State to provide notice, as required under State law, of each institution of higher education in that State at which the person is employed, carries on a vocation, volunteers services or is a student.

In the Commonwealth of Virginia convicted sex offenders must register with the ***Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry***. The Registry was established pursuant to [§ 19.2-390.1](#) of the Commonwealth's Crimes Code. Every person convicted on or after July 1, 1997, including juveniles tried and convicted in the circuit courts pursuant to [§ 16.1-269.1](#), whether sentenced as adults or juveniles, of an offense for which registration is required shall be required as a part of the sentence imposed upon conviction to register and reregister with the Commonwealth's Department of State Police as provided in this section.

In addition, all persons convicted of violations under the laws of the United States or any other state substantially similar to an offense for which registration is required shall provide to the local agency all necessary information for inclusion in the State Police Registry within ten days of establishing a residence within the Commonwealth. Any person required to register shall also be required to reregister within ten days following any change of residence, whether within or without the Commonwealth.

Nonresident offenders entering the Commonwealth for employment, to carry on a vocation, volunteer services or as a student attending school who are required to register in their state of residence or who would be required to register under this section if a resident of the Commonwealth shall, within ten days of accepting employment or enrolling in school in the Commonwealth, be required to register and reregister pursuant to this section. For purposes of this section "student" means a person who is enrolled on a full-time or part-time basis, in any public or private educational institution, including any secondary school, trade or professional institution, or institution of higher education.

Information concerning offenders registered with the ***Sex Offender and Crimes Minors Registry*** may be disclosed to any person requesting information on a specific individual in accordance with the law. Information regarding a specific person requested pursuant to the law shall be disseminated upon receipt of an official request form that may be submitted directly to the Commonwealth's Department of State Police or to the State Police through a local law-enforcement agency. The Department of State Police shall make Registry information available, upon request, to criminal justice agencies including local law-enforcement agencies through the Virginia Criminal Information Network (VCIN). Registry information provided under this section shall be used for the purposes of the administration of criminal justice, for the screening of current or prospective employees or volunteers or otherwise for the protection of the public in general and children in particular. ***Uses of the information for purposes not authorized by this section are prohibited and a willful violation of this section with the intent to harass or intimidate another shall be punished as a Class 1 misdemeanor.***

The Commonwealth's State Police maintains a system for making certain Registry information on violent sex offenders publicly available by means of the Internet. The information made available includes the offender's name; all aliases which he has used or under which he may have been known; the date and locality of the conviction and a brief description of the offense; his date of birth, current address and photograph; and such other information as the State Police may from time to time determine is necessary to preserve public safety. The system is secure and is not capable of being altered except by or through the State Police. The system is updated each business day with newly received registrations and re-registrations.

Important Phone Numbers

This section has attempted to offer an overview of sexual assault issues, and the available options on the Virginia Tech campus. No one publication can be entirely comprehensive. Sexual assault is a complex issue; no two cases will have exactly the same results or the same course of action. The university therefore offers a variety of services so that victims can get the assistance they most need. A good starting point for a victim, or family and friends of a victim, is with the Sexual Assault Education Coordinator who is based in The Women's Center at Virginia Tech. For further explanation or elaboration of the information in this section, contact the agencies whose numbers are listed here.

The Women's Center at Virginia Tech	231-7806
Women's Resource Center	639-1123 (hotline, 24 hours) 639-9592 (office)
Thomas E. Cook Counseling Center	231-6557 (8am-5pm) 231-6444 (5pm-8am)
Schiffert Health Services	231-6444
Virginia Tech Police	911 (emergency, on campus) 231-6411 (non-emergency)
Blacksburg Police	911 (emergency, off campus) 961-1150 (non-emergency)
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	911 (emergency, off campus) 382-2951 (non-emergency)
Montgomery Regional Hospital	953-5122 (emergency room)
New River Valley Medical Center	731-2000
Dean of Students	231-3787
Office of Judicial Affairs	231-3790
Office of Student Programs	231-6204
Student Legal Services	231-4720
Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action	231-7500

VIRGINIA TECH POLICE

The Virginia Tech Police Department is a nationally accredited professional organization staffed by highly trained men and women. The department consists of 40 sworn officers and a full time support staff of 20 employees. Numerous seasonal employees supplement the support staff during the academic year. Virginia Tech Police operate 24 hours a day and provide full police service to the university community. The officers are state-certified and empowered to enforce all federal, state, and local laws on university property. They have full authority to make arrests and carry firearms. In addition to patrol, investigation, and crime prevention, the department answers calls for assistance such as vehicle breakdowns or keys locked in vehicles.

The Virginia Tech Police maintains a close working relationship with the Virginia State Police, Blacksburg Police Department, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and Christiansburg Police Department as well as other law enforcement agencies throughout the state. As a participant in the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Virginia Crime Information Network (VCIN), Virginia Tech Police are able to transmit and receive crime information with other police agencies throughout the United States. Through its membership in related professional organizations, the department is able to keep abreast of new or developing ideas and has a medium for the exchange of information on law enforcement issues. The Virginia Tech Police Department has a news form "What's Happening" and is published each morning (except Sat. and Sun.) that lists all incidents of crime within the past 24 hours. A copy is E-mailed to all administration with a need to know and to the local media stations.

At times it may be necessary for "**timely warnings**" to be issued to the university community. If a crime(s) occur and notification is necessary to warn the university of a potential dangerous situation then the Virginia Tech Police Department should be notified. The police department will then prepare a release and the information will be disseminated to all students, faculty and staff and to the local community.

For more information or for programming call 231-8123.

DEPARTMENT'S MISSION

The Virginia Tech Police Department strives to improve the quality of life of those we serve by developing partnerships with the university community so that together we can effectively address issues and concerns. It is our primary goal to maintain a secure environment with equal protection under the law, and to provide dedicated service for all persons living, working and visiting within the university.

Virginia Tech Police strive at all times to help make the University community as safe and harmonious as possible; however, there are times when crimes occur and arrests must be made.

The men and women who make up the force serve the Virginia Tech Police Department's mission. They are highly dedicated, with a firm commitment to the university and the people who make up the university community. The officers in the department are professionally trained. Each officer is instructed in accordance with mandated standards, as established by the Department of Criminal Justice Services. Such training is required of all police officers sworn and certified in Virginia. In addition to basic training, the department's administration is committed to training officers in areas of specialty, ie: crime prevention, investigation, forensics, or training on new equipment or procedures. To achieve this result, speakers are invited to the University or officers are sent to where the very best training is available.

SWORN TO SERVE

The Virginia Tech Police Department strives to make our campus as safe and secure as possible, not only through active policing but also by providing services that assist campus community members in becoming aware of the potential for crime and what they can do to reduce their risk. Below are a few of the services the department provides in an effort to serve our community.

PATROL DIVISION

The Virginia Tech Police regularly patrol the streets, parking lots, grounds, and agricultural areas of the campus, and make periodic patrols of research facilities located in adjoining counties. The officers patrol in vehicles, on bicycles and on foot. Officers are required to make periodic foot patrols of the area around and inside buildings during each shift. In addition to increasing security, foot patrols also provide officers with an opportunity to enhance communication with the individuals who live and work at the university.

Virginia Tech Police are responsible for maintaining order and public safety during all campus events, such as athletic events; concerts, rallies, or visits from high ranking government officials and on occasion, play host to local schools utilizing the University's facilities.

Virginia Tech Police strive at all times to help make the University community as safe and harmonious as possible; however, there are times when crimes occur and arrests must be made.

Adopt-A-Hall

The Virginia Tech Police, in an attempt to foster positive relationships and partnerships with students, has implemented the Adopt-A-Hall program. The program partners officers with residence halls in an attempt to increase communications and build trust between students and the police department. Having regular contact with residence hall staff and students allows officers to relay concerns of the students to applicable police department divisions, conduct crime prevention programs, and create a proactive rather than reactive approach to policing.

K-9 Program

Hokie, a German Shepherd, was acquired from Ohio in December 2001. Hokie is under the command of Officer Keith Weaver and began his duties after completion of canine training in April 2002. Hokie is a dual-purpose dog and is utilized for tracking suspects and missing persons, as well as searching for drugs.

INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

Virginia Tech Police Department has an investigation unit that provides follow up services on cases that need more intensive investigation time than a patrol officer can provide or that require the specialized skills these investigators have been trained for. Examples of training the investigators have received are drug interdiction, investigation of arson, forensics, and sexual assault. Investigators also provide educational programming, upon request on their areas of expertise.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH UNIT

Virginia Tech Police Department has a full time crime prevention unit that provides educational programming, security surveys, and other crime prevention functions to the university community. Educational programs include Student Police Academy, Alcohol Awareness, Bicycle Safety, Drug Awareness, Operation ID, Personal and Property Safety, Rape Aggression Defense and Women's Awareness and Safety.

Beginning with orientation sessions for incoming freshmen and their parents, the unit follows with safety programs throughout the year in the residence halls on a request basis. These programs include personal and property safety, drug and alcohol awareness, women's awareness and other requested topics. The unit assists parking services with bicycle registration and provides educational literature on bike safety and security. These programs are also available to faculty and staff upon request or if a need becomes apparent.

Satellite Offices

The Virginia Tech Police Department currently operates a satellite office located in War Memorial Hall.

Community Action Life Line (C.A.L.L.) Program

U.S. Cellular and the Virginia Tech Police Department offer cellular phones to help promote safety while exercising on campus. The phones are available to students, faculty and staff on a checkout basis to carry while exercising on campus. The phones are programmed to call directly to the Virginia Tech Police Department and no other calls can be made and no calls can be received. These phones are available at the equipment room in McComas Hall, War Memorial Gym and the police department located off of Southgate Drive or one of our Satellite Stations on campus.

U.S. Cellular has another program call Stop Abuse From Existing (S.A.F.E.) and phones are available at the Women's Center at Virginia Tech on a loan out basis. These phones are for victims of stalking, sexual assault, etc that may need or feel more comfortable with direct contact with law enforcement. These phones can be checked out at the Women's Center at Virginia Tech or the Virginia Tech Police Department.

Operation Identification

The Virginia Tech Police Department has engravers to loan for the purpose of engraving personal property. This nationally recognized identification procedure is thought to help make items theft resistant, because engraved items are more easily identified making them harder to sell. Another benefit to the program is, if an item is lost or stolen, then recovered, it is much easier for the owner to be located and the property returned. Procedure for engraving items is to abbreviate your state and driver's license number on the item with an engraving tool, (Expl. VA 211110000). Do not use your social security number due to the rise of identity theft.

Fingerprinting Services

Virginia Tech Police also provide fingerprinting services for Virginia Tech students, faculty, staff and their families at no cost, and at anytime.

Safe Ride

The Virginia Tech Police Department sponsors a nighttime safety escort service. Safe Ride operates from dusk till dawn and provides transportation or a walking escort, upon request, to persons who must cross campus during the nighttime alone. Safe Ride may be contacted by calling 231-SAFE.

REPORTING A CRIME OR GETTING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Criminal or suspicious acts and emergencies should be reported to the police immediately in person, by telephone or by using one of the emergency call boxes strategically located around campus. A program has been added to The Virginia Tech Police Home Page that enables students, faculty and staff to report incidents via the Internet. The report form contains all information needed to complete a police report. This form can only be used for vandalism, damage, or destruction of property; larceny or theft offenses; and annoying or harassing phone calls. If a person wants to report an incident either anonymously or formally to the Women's Center, Judicial Affairs or to the Virginia Tech Police they can access the "Stop Abuse" website by clicking on the link provided on our website. Also, available is an on-line silent-witness reporting option. This form allows anyone to report a crime anonymously or simply to give information about a crime or alleged crime he or she has general knowledge or suspicion about. All information is kept in the strictest confidence and is only accessible to authorized Police Personnel. These forms can be accessed at www.police.vt.edu. If you should ever have a need to contact the police, our officers and staff will attempt to assist you in any way possible. Virginia Tech Police Department is located behind Lane Stadium next to the University's Motor pool. Our dispatch office is staffed 24 hours a day and the department's dispatchers are always available to answer questions or to have an officer respond to take a complaint. Below are a few tips for contacting the police. By using these tips you can help us, help you.

The Virginia Tech Police Department encourages everyone that has become a victim of crime to come forward and report to the police. However, on occasion and depending on the nature of the crime the victim refuses to press charges. This is the victim's option. Just because a report is filed with the police department does not mean that criminal charges have to be filed.

The Virginia Tech Police has two phone numbers. One is for Police, Fire and Rescue emergency calls. The other phone line is for non-emergency calls.

Emergency - 911 (from any campus telephone)
Non-emergency ☐231-6411

Emergency Calls

In case of an emergency don't hesitate to use the emergency **911**-phone number, however, don't misuse or tie up this line to report keys in vehicle or minor maintenance repair request.

HOW TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY

Police:

Dial 911

- Give the location of the incident
- Describe what is happening or what you have observed.
- Give a description of the suspect.
- Give the suspects means of transportation and direction of travel.
- Stay on the phone and answer any questions the dispatcher may have.
- Stay on the phone until the dispatcher tells you to hang up.

Rescue:

Dial 911

- Give the nature of the injury or illness.
- Give the location where first aid is needed.
- Answer any questions the dispatcher may have.
- Stay on the phone until the dispatcher tells you to hang up.

Fire

Dial 911

- Give the location of the fire or fire alarm.
- Answer any questions the dispatcher may have.
- Exit the building.

Always report crimes no matter how small they may seem. The police can do nothing about crimes unless they know they're happening.

A MORE SECURE CAMPUS

Access and security of buildings and residence halls

The Virginia Tech Police Department works closely with the Physical Plant and The Office of Residential and Dining Programs to maintain security in all university buildings and residence halls. Security and safety hazards may be reported to the University Police at 231-6411 or to the Physical Plant at 231-4300. Employees of the physical plant inspect campus facilities regularly, promptly making repairs affecting safety and security, and respond to reports of potential safety and security hazards, such as broken windows, doors and locks.

The Virginia Tech Police also work in cooperation with Office of Student Programs staff members to provide security and controlled access to the university residence halls. The "Campus Watch" program places patrol personnel around the residence hall areas, during the hours of 10pm until 6am. Only residents and their escorted guests are admitted after the buildings are locked.

Professional staff is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to respond to emergency situations. All student rooms are equipped with telephones capable of reaching the police dispatcher via the 911, and all student rooms are equipped with door viewers to provide an extra dimension of security.

Lighting and landscape

Parking lots, sidewalks, and all major walkways are lighted at night. The □Campus Watch□ checks these lights and any lights operating improperly are reported to the dispatcher and in turn, to Electric Service to be replaced or repaired. Any shrubbery or trees that are observed to be a security risk by creating dark spots, hiding places or obscuring overhead lighting, are reported to the Physical Plant Department for corrective actions.

Sources of Information and Assistance

Virginia Tech Police Department - 231-6411

(From any Campus Phone) **EMERGENCY** □**911**

Blacksburg Police Department - 961-1150

(Off Campus phone) **EMERGENCY** - **911**

Dean of Students - 231-3787

Office of Judicial Affairs - 231-3790

Women□s Center - 231-7806

Safe Ride (Dusk till Dawn) - 231-SAFE (7233)

Office of Student Programs - 231-6204

Schiffert Health Services - 231-6444

Thomas E. Cook Counseling Services - 231-6557

SAFETY TIPS

Security doesn't begin and end with the university police. It takes the entire university, faculty, staff and students to make our campus a safe and secure place to live, work, and play. What can you do to help? The number one thing you can do is to take a few precautions and follow a few safety tips that will help us, help you.

- * Trust your instincts. If a place or situation doesn't feel right, it probably isn't.
- * Avoid working or studying alone in a building at night.
- * Avoid shortcuts and isolated areas when walking after dark.
- * Don't walk alone after dark - use the Escort Service.
- * Don't leave personal property lying around unattended.
- * Carry a whistle or other noisemaker.
- * Never prop open exterior doors.
- * Keep your room door locked when leaving even for "Just a minute" and when sleeping.
- * Lock windows and close shades after dark.
- * Never attach your name and address to keys, if lost or stolen they could lead to theft.
- * When traveling in your vehicle keep windows up and doors locked.
- * Engrave your valuables.
- * Report any suspicious or criminal activity to the police and report all crimes.

Crime on Campus Report from 2003 to 2005

Offense Type	Year	Total On Campus Crime	Residential Facilities	Non-Campus Buildings & Property	Public Property
Murder & Non-negligent Manslaughter	2003	0	0	0	0
	2004	0	0	0	0
	2005	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2003	0	0	0	0
	2004	0	0	0	0
	2005	0	0	0	0
Forcible Sex Offenses	2003	7	4	0	3
	2004	9	4	0	0
	2005	7	7	1	0
Non-forcible Sex Offenses	2003	0	0	0	0
	2004	0	0	0	0
	2005	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2003	1	0	0	1
	2004	1	1	0	0
	2005	0	0	0	1
Aggravated Assault	2003	7	2	0	5
	2004	8	3	0	3
	2005	5	0	0	5
Burglary	2003	31	15	0	0
	2004	53	41	3	0
	2005	22	11	0	5
Motor Vehicle Theft	2003	1	0	0	1
	2004	1	0	2	1
	2005	2	0	0	2
Arson	2003	0	0	0	0
	2004	5	5	0	0
	2005	9	7	0	1
Hate Crimes	2003	0	0	0	0
	2004	0	0	0	0
	2005	0	0	0	0

Number of Arrests/Referrals for Selected Offenses

Offense Type	Arrests					Judicial Referrals			
	Year	On Campus	Resid. Facilities	Non-Campus Buildings & Property	Public Property	Year	On Campus	Non-Campus Buildings & Property	Public Property
Liquor Law Violations	2003	107	36	3	3	2003	203	0	0
	2004	137	51	1	2	2004	549	0	0
	2005	194	45	0	0	2005	563	0	0
Drug Violations	2003	32	20	0	0	2003	5	0	0
	2004	34	15	0	0	2004	6	0	0
	2005	34	17	0	0	2005	13	0	0
Weapons Violations	2003	1	1	0	0	2003	0	0	0
	2004	1	0	0	0	2004	0	0	0
	2005	6	1	0	0	2005	0	0	0