



2012

CAMPUS SAFETY REPORT

MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
2012 CAMPUS SECURITY REPORT

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f)) is the landmark federal law, originally known as the Campus Security Act, that requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. The law is tied to an institution's participation in federal student financial aid programs and it applies to most institutions of higher education both public and private. The Act is enforced by the United States Department of Education.

The law was amended in 1992 to add a requirement that schools afford the victims of campus sexual assault certain basic rights, and was amended again in 1998 to expand the reporting requirements. The 1998 amendments also formally named the law in memory of Jeanne Clery. Subsequent amendments in 2000 and 2008 added provisions dealing with registered sex offender notification and campus emergency response. The 2008 amendments also added a provision to protect crime victims, "whistleblowers", and others from retaliation.

**The Clery Act requires colleges and universities:**

Publish an Annual Security Report (ASR) by October 1, documenting three calendar years of select campus crime statistics including security policies and procedures and information on the basic rights guaranteed victims of sexual assault. The law requires that schools make the report available to all current students and employees, and prospective students and employees must be notified of its existence and given a copy upon request. Schools may comply with this requirement via the internet if required recipients are notified and provided exact information regarding the on-line location of the report. Paper copies of the ASR should be available upon request. All crime statistics must be provided to the U.S. Department of Education.

To have a public crime log. Institutions with a police or security department are required to maintain a public crime log documenting the "nature, date, time, and general location of each crime" and its disposition, if known. Incidents must be entered into the log within two business days. The log should be accessible to the public during normal business hours; remain open for 60 days and, subsequently, made available within two business days upon request.

Disclose crime statistics for incidents that occur on campus, in unobstructed public areas immediately adjacent to or running through the campus and at certain non-campus facilities including Greek housing and remote classrooms. The statistics must be gathered from campus police or security, local law enforcement and other school officials who have "significant responsibility for student and campus activities." The Clery Act requires reporting of crimes in seven major categories: 1. Criminal Homicide, 2. Sex Offenses, 3. Robbery, 4. Aggravated Assault, 5. Burglary, 6. Motor Vehicle Theft and 7. Arson.

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Schools are also required to report statistics for the following categories of arrests or referrals for campus disciplinary action (if an arrest was not made):

1. Liquor Law Violations
2. Drug Law Violations
3. Illegal Weapons Possession

Hate crimes must be reported by category of prejudice, including race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and disability. Statistics are also required for four additional crime categories if the crime committed is classified as a hate crime: 1. Larceny/Theft, 2. Simple Assault, 3. Intimidation, 4. Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property.

### **Hate Crimes**

A criminal act motivated by bias against any person or group of persons, or the property of any person or group of persons because of the ethnicity, race, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability of the person or group, or bias based upon the perception that the person or group has one or more of those characteristics. Timely warnings about Clery Act crimes which pose a serious or ongoing threat to students and employees. Institutions must provide timely warnings in a manner likely to reach all members of the campus community. This mandate has been part of the Clery Act since its inception in 1990. Timely warnings are limited to those crimes an institution is required to report and include in its ASR. There are differences between what constitutes a timely warning and an emergency notification; however, both systems are in place to safeguard students and campus employees.

### **Emergency Operations Plan**

Devise an emergency response, notification and testing policy. Institutions are required to inform the campus community about a "significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on the campus." An emergency response expands the definition of timely warning as it includes both Clery Act crimes and other types of emergencies (i.e., a fire or infectious disease outbreak). Colleges and universities with and without on-campus residential facilities must have emergency response and evacuation procedures in place. Institutions are mandated to disclose a summary of these procedures in their ASR. Additionally, compliance requires one test of the emergency response procedures annually and policies for publicizing those procedures in conjunction with the annual test.

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**Mission Statement: Mercer County Community College**

Mercer County Community College is concerned about the safety and welfare of all campus members and guests and commits itself to promoting a safe and secure environment. Because no campus can totally isolate itself from crime, Mercer County Community College has developed a series of policies and procedures designed to ensure that every possible precaution is taken to protect the campus community.

**College Safety and Security Office Information**

The Office of College Safety and Security reports directly to the Vice President/Chief Business Officer of the College. The Office of College Safety and Security works closely with all departments of the College to ensure that safety policy and procedures are uniformly executed and conveyed in a clear and consistent manner to all the College's students, faculty, and staff.

The main office is located at 1200 Old Trenton Road, West Windsor, New Jersey. It is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Uniformed Campus Safety officers, a supervisor, and a director provide around-the-clock patrol and services to the campus community. All Campus Safety officers are licensed in the state of NJ as unarmed private security officers. They have the same arrest powers as a private citizen as provided in the NJ Revised Statutes.

Campus Safety officers are responsible for a full range of safety services to the Mercer County Community College community, including all crime report investigations, medical emergencies, fire emergencies, traffic accidents, and enforcement of all College policies including those relating to alcohol use, drug use, and weapons possession. Campus Safety officers submit incident reports on all crimes on campus reported to the department. These incident reports are then filed with the appropriate local police department (Hamilton, Lawrence, Trenton and West Windsor Police Departments) and automatically become part of its record-keeping process. All serial numbers of vehicles and property stolen from campus are reported through the appropriate police department and reported to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). All criminal activity, suspicious activity, and other emergencies on campus should be reported directly to the Office of College Safety and Security by any member or guest of the Mercer County Community College community. Security Officers can be contacted by using any interior emergency phone or by dialing 3200 within the college. Campus Safety officers will respond to you anywhere on campus to investigate and inquire about any of these events.

**Campus Law Enforcement Authority**

The Office of College Safety and Security officers at Mercer County Community College have the authority to ask persons for identification and to determine whether individuals have lawful business at Mercer County Community College. Security officers have the authority to issue summons related to

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parking and violations of campus policy. Fines resulting from any violation shall be paid at the Bursars Office. Outstanding fines may be billed to financial accounts of students, faculty, and staff. Criminal incidents are referred to the local police who have jurisdiction on the campus. The Office of College Safety and Security at Mercer County Community College maintains a highly professional working relationship with the West Windsor, Trenton and Hamilton Police Departments as well as the Mercer County Sheriff's Department. All crime victims and witnesses are strongly encouraged to immediately report the crime to the College Safety and Security Office and the appropriate police agency. Prompt reporting will assure timely warning notices on-campus and timely disclosure of crime statistics.

**Alcohol Policy**

Mercer County Community College seeks to encourage and sustain an academic environment that both respects individual freedom and promotes the health, safety, and welfare of all members of the community. In keeping with these objectives, the College has established a policy and guidelines governing the distribution and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the College campus, consistent with laws of the state of NJ. Under-age possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages are not permitted on property owned or controlled by the College. Intentionally or knowingly selling, or intentionally or knowingly "furnishing" alcoholic beverages to persons under the age of 21, or to persons obviously inebriated, is not permitted on property owned or controlled by the College.

Alcohol can be served at public events only to those over the age of 21 and only if in conformity with those requirements of the NJ Liquor Control Commission and the College regarding the serving of alcohol. Arrangements for serving alcohol at public events must be made through the Office of the Dean for Students Affairs in the Student Center on the West Windsor campus.

Any individual known to be in violation of the College alcohol policy is subject to disciplinary action and possible arrest, imprisonment, or fine according to state or federal law.

**Illegal Drugs**

Mercer County Community College does not condone possession, use, or distribution of any and all illegal drugs by anyone in any campus facility. Any individual known to be possessing, using, or distributing such drugs is subject to disciplinary action and possible arrest, imprisonment, or fine according to state or federal law.

**Weapons**

For the safety of everyone, all types of weapons are prohibited on campus. Anyone possessing or using weapons can and will be subject to disciplinary action. "Weapon" means anything readily capable of lethal use or of inflicting serious bodily injury. The term includes, but is not limited to, all:

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1. Firearms, even though not loaded or lacking a clip or other component to render them immediately operable;
2. Components which can be readily assembled into a weapon;
3. Gravity knives, switch-blades, knives, daggers, dirks, stilettos, or other dangerous knives, billies, blackjacks, bludgeons, metal knuckles, sandclubs, slingshots, cestus or similar leather bands studded with metal filings or razorblades imbedded in wood; and
4. Stun guns and any other weapon or other device which projects, releases or emits tear gas or any other substance intended to produce temporary physical discomfort or permanent injury through being vaporized or otherwise dispensed in the air.

**Daily Crime Log**

Campus Safety maintains a daily crime log that lists all reported crimes. The log outlines the logistics of the crime (date, time, location), the nature of the crime, and how the crime was handled.

**Crime Statistics**

The Office of Campus Safety, under the direction of the director or his or her designee, gathers and compiles Mercer County Community College's crime statistics. In addition to the crimes reported to Campus Safety, the director also solicits information from the Office of the Dean of Students and the Department of Physical Education and Athletics. Crime statistics in this report from off-campus venues and adjacent streets are compiled in collaboration with the appropriate local police department.

These crime statistics are substantiated by the Office of Campus Safety in collaboration with the dean of students, the director of physical education and athletics, and the appropriate local police department. Double counting of these crimes is avoided by an oversight process conducted by the director of campus safety.

It should be noted that the Campus Security Act was amended in 1998. Any marked increase across years or in the revised statistics from previous years can be accounted for by the fact that the geographic boundaries for reporting were greatly expanded in 1998, and reporting of drug, alcohol, and weapons violations was also broadened to include not only arrests but also disciplinary referrals.

The Office of Campus Safety is committed to working with the Mercer County Community College community to resolve all criminal matters in a timely fashion. All members of the Office of Campus Safety know that for this to happen they must cooperate and work hand-in-hand with faculty, staff, and students. By working together, the Office of Campus Safety and the College community can create a safe and secure environment.

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**Sex Offender Registration Statement**

In accordance to the "Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act" of 2000, which amends the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Campus Security Report 2012 Page 6 of 22 Registration Act, the Jeanne Clery Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, Mercer County Community College, Office Of College Safety and Security is providing a link to the New Jersey State Police Sex Offender Registry. The New Jersey State Police is responsible for maintaining this registry. Follow the link here to access the New Jersey State Police website.

[http://www.nj.gov/njsp/info/reg\\_sexoffend.html](http://www.nj.gov/njsp/info/reg_sexoffend.html)>

This act requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement 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 of each institution of higher education in that State at which the person is employed, carries a vocation, or is a student.

In accordance with New Jersey law, individuals who have been convicted, adjudicated delinquent or found not guilty by reason of insanity for a sex offense must register under New Jersey's Megan's Law. The specific offenses for which registration is required can be found in New Jersey Code at 2C:7-2. Consistent with this public safety purpose of Megan's Law, the Internet registry law expressly prohibits the use of registry information for the purpose of applying for, obtaining, or denying health insurance, insurance, loans, credit, education, scholarships or fellowships, benefits privileges or services provided by any business establishment (unless for a purpose consistent with the enhancement of public safety), or housing or accommodations.

The law also makes it a crime, punishable by a term of imprisonment between three and five years and a fine of up to \$15,000, to use registry information to commit a criminal offense, and makes it a disorderly persons offense, punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000, to use registry information to commit any disorderly persons or petty disorderly persons offense. These charges would be in addition to any charges related to the underlying criminal act committed.

**Preventing and Responding to Sex Offenses Statement**

For those who are victims of a sexual assault at this institution, the first priority should be to get to a place of safety and then to obtain necessary medical treatment. The Office of College Safety and Security strongly advocates that a victim of sexual assault report the incident in a timely manner. Time is a critical factor for evidence collection and preservation. An assault should be reported directly to the appropriate local police department and/or the Office of College Safety and Security. The filing of a police report will not subject the victim to scrutiny or judgmental opinions. Filing a police report will:

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Ensure that a victim of sexual assault receives the necessary medical treatment and tests, at no expense to the victim. Provide the opportunity for collection of evidence helpful in prosecution, which cannot be obtained later. (Ideally a victim of sexual assault should not wash, douche, use the toilet, or change clothing prior to a medical/legal exam.)

Assure the victim has access to free confidential counseling from counselors specifically trained in the area of sexual assault crisis intervention. When a sexual assault victim contacts the local police department, the Mercer County Prosecutors Office Sex Crimes Unit will be notified as well.

The victim of a sexual assault will receive assistance from both the local police department and Mercer County Prosecutors office with regard to the investigation and all criminal justice system proceedings.

Counseling options are available through the local police departments and the Mercer County Prosecutors Office of Victim Witness Advocacy. The Office of Victim Witness Advocacy provides crime victims and witnesses with services designed to help them cope with the aftermath of victimization and make their participation in the criminal justice process less difficult and burdensome. The unit strives to afford the highest quality of services to the greatest number of victims. One of the unit's most crucial responsibilities is keeping victims and witnesses advised of their current case status. This is accomplished through a series of letters mailed at each significant phase of the criminal prosecution.

Another essential role of the Victim Witness staff is to advocate for victims and promote their rights within the criminal justice system. The office provides emotional support, crisis intervention, referrals, court accompaniment and information to victims and witnesses. In addition to assisting with restitution requests, staff members help victims complete and file claims with the Victims of Crime Compensation Board. One of the most important and basic rights of victims during the criminal justice process is the right to participate. Advocates ensure that victims are afforded that right by providing guidance and support. In a related vein, the office also notifies victims of inmate releases on bail, parole eligibility and sentence expiration so that victims can take appropriate steps to object or prepare for the inmate's release.

In addition to these direct victim services, the office maintains strong partnerships with allied professionals, other victim service providers and leaders in the community to ensure that a comprehensive network of services and support is available. The unit has a trained staff of victim witness advocates and support personnel. Bilingual (English/Spanish) staff members are available. Student interns and/or volunteers occasionally provide part-time assistance.

For more information, contact the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office of Victim Witness Advocacy at 609.989.6428.



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Disciplinary proceedings, as well as guidelines for cases involving sexual misconduct/sexual harassment are detailed in the Student Handbook. The Handbook provides information regarding the judicial procedures. A student found guilty of violating the college's sexual misconduct/sexual harassment policy could be criminally prosecuted in the state courts and may be suspended or expelled from the college.

**Timely Warnings Statement**

In the event that a situation arises, either on or off campus, that, in the judgment of the director of College Safety and Security, constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat, a campus wide "timely warning" will be issued. Timely Warnings will be issued through M-Alert - The College Emergency Alert Messaging System.

M-Alert is the emergency messaging system implemented by Mercer County Community College. This system enables MCCC administrative, safety and security professionals to reach all students, faculty, and staff members with time-sensitive messages via voice recording, e-mail, and text messaging. During unforeseen events, critical situations, or emergencies, the College may employ this system to broadcast pertinent information and provide details on appropriate response.

M-Alert helps MCCC provide a safer environment, enhance emergency preparedness, and keep its students and employees better informed. In order to ensure that the M-Alert system is effective, all employees and students must provide current contact information. Update your contact information immediately. (Via the Student or Employee MCCC web portal.) Accurate and timely information is essential in order for the Office of College Safety and Security to help everyone in the event of an emergency.

**Emergency Notifications Statement**

In the event of a confirmed significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health and/or safety of students or employees occurring on the campus, Mercer County Community College will immediately notify the campus community. An "immediate" threat as used here encompasses an imminent or impending threat. Some examples of significant emergencies or dangerous situations are but not limited to outbreak of meningitis, norovirus or other serious illness, approaching tornado, hurricane or other extreme weather conditions, earthquake, gas leak, terrorist incident, armed intruder, bomb threat, civil unrest or rioting and explosion.

The College President is responsible for the overall direction of the campus emergency response. The authority to declare a Campus State of Emergency rests with the President or the Vice President of Administration and Chief Business Officer. In the event that a situation arises, either on or off campus, a

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campus wide "emergency notification" will be issued. Emergency notifications will be issued through M-Alert - The College Emergency Alert Messaging System. During unforeseen events, critical situations, or emergencies, the College may employ this system to broadcast pertinent information and provide details on appropriate response.

**Crime Prevention Tips**

Call 3200 and/or 3503 from any campus phone to report an emergency.

Value your safety as well as the safety of others.

Always be aware of your surroundings.

Report all suspicious persons or activities, safety hazards or unsafe lighting to the Office of College Safety and Security at 609.570-3503.

Don't walk alone. Get a friend to walk with you. Call the Office of College Safety and Security at 609.570-3503 for a Safety Escort.

At night, always choose a well-lit and well-populated walking route.

Develop a relationship with your class mates; encourage checking in with each other.

Have your keys in hand before you get to your vehicle.

Never take shortcuts through poorly lit areas.

Keep your vehicle doors locked at all times with your windows up. Do not leave valuables such as electronics, clothing, loose change or other personal items in your car. If you need to leave anything in your vehicle, do not leave it in plain sight.

Never leave your book bag, purse, laptop or other valuables unattended.

The Office of College Safety and Security is committed to working with the Mercer County Community College community to resolve all criminal matters in a timely fashion. All members of the Office of Campus Safety know that for this to happen they must cooperate and work hand-in-hand with faculty, staff, and students of Mercer County Community College. By working together, the Office of College Safety and Security and the College community can create a safe and secure environment.

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Crime Statistics West Windsor Campus

Offense	Calendar Year	On Campus
Criminal Homicide	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Negligent Manslaughter/Murder	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Sex Offenses (Forcible)	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Sex Offenses (Non Forcible)	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Robbery	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Aggravated Assault	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Burglary	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Arson	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0

Arrest For Violation Of:	Calendar Year		
	2011	2010	2010
Liquor Law	0	0	0
Drug Laws	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons	0	0	0

Disciplinary Actions /Judicial Refers For Violations Of	Calendar Year		
	2011	2010	2009
Liquor Law	0	0	0
Drug Laws	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons	0	0	0

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Crime Statistics James Kerney Campus

Offense	Calendar Year	On Campus
Criminal Homicide	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Negligent Manslaughter/Murder	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Sex Offenses (Forcible)	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Sex Offenses (Non Forcible)	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Robbery	2011	1
	2010	0
	2009	0
Aggravated Assault	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Burglary	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Arson	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2011	0
	2010	0
	2009	0

Arrest For Violation Of:	Calendar Year		
	2011	2010	2010
Liquor Law	0	0	0
Drug Laws	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons	0	0	0

Disciplinary Actions /Judicial Refers For Violations Of	Calendar Year		
	2011	2010	2009
Liquor Law	0	0	0
Drug Laws	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons	0	0	0