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Crime Prevention

The Campus Police Crime Prevention Program is a total effort of the entire campus community. An effective crime prevention program hinges on the efforts of the entire community. We encourage all members of our community to work together to make FMU as crime free as possible. One of the most important actions anyone can take is to report crimes, suspicious persons, and potential problems as quickly as possible. Any victim or witness to a crime is encouraged (although not required) to report what happened so an investigation can be carried out. Even if the victim declines later prosecution, The Campus Police need to know what happened so actions can be taken to preclude further events. Crimes can be reported in person by coming by our office at the Physical Plant, by telephone at 661-1109, by E-Mail at FMUPD@fmarion.edu or by using the Campus Police Silent Witness Program. Our investigator will work closely with the victim to resolve the case. The victim maintains the right to drop the case or go forward with prosecution.

The Campus Police Department participates in various presentations from Freshman or Parent Orientation to University Life 100 in an attempt to inform everyone about what is offered and how to help themselves avoid being victimized while here at FMU. The department distributes flyers and pamphlets to anyone and also offers movies on crime prevention and individual security. Crime prevention services are available to students both on and off campus. The Department's primary goal is to provide a safe and healthy environment that enhances the learning experience and complements the University's educational mission.

The program can be divided into three broad categories:

- We operate on the premise that almost every violation committed on campus is avoidable. Our Patriot's Against Crime (PAC) program serves two purposes. First it minimizes criminal opportunities and second it encourages the community members to be responsible for their own security and the security of others.
- One of our crime prevention programs is Operation I.D. which encourages property owners to record the serial numbers of their property or engrave a personal number on property and then record this information with Campus Police for future reference should any item become stolen. A decal is placed on the participants room door to indicate to any would-be thief that the property within the room is on file with the Campus Police. Lectures are held in the Housing Office to inform students about things they should do such as using the "buddy system" when walking or jogging at night, where our emergency call boxes are and how they are used and methods of ensuring security of residence hall rooms-keeping doors and windows closed and locked. These and other suggestions are designed to minimize the chance of our community members becoming the victim of personal or property crimes.
- Campus Police Officers routinely walk through the main campus and housing area; residence halls and apartments, checking on safety or security hazards, fire equipment; making sure it is in place and functional, and documenting problems found.

Safety

As part of the university's education mission, we are available to talk to students, faculty and staff to discuss various topics such as fire or personal safety.

We provide information on what to do, how to report and where to go in the event of a fire; how to use fire fighting equipment and how to test individual smoke detectors.

We explain various rules listed in Housing and Traffic Manuals as well as the Student Handbook. We also cover what community members should do in the event of a natural disaster.

Campus Police provide 24 hour a day escort services to any community member who feels uncomfortable or who experiences a "gut feeling" that something may be amiss.

Service

The Campus Police have seven officers currently certified with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians as First Responders. These officers operate Campus Police vehicles equipped with basic life support equipment and are in direct contact with the Florence County Central Dispatch to obtain EMS services as necessary.

Patrol vehicles are equipped with items to unlock most types of vehicles and to jump start automobiles in difficulty. Should anyone in the immediate vicinity of the campus require these services we provide them free of charge. Changing flat tires for female community members unfamiliar with doing this is another service that we provide.

The campus is provided with push button operated emergency call boxes with eight located in elevators in all major buildings and the remainder placed around campus. Ten telephone keypad phone boxes are positioned in the student housing area with an additional phone box at Leatherman Science Facility. A periodic review of these safety devices is conducted to insure that their operation and placement best serve the needs of the University community and its visitors.

The University has also introduced two "high tech" security measures on campus. One is an electronic Intellikey system which has been installed in all the major campus buildings. As a replacement for the traditional lock and key system, this system makes it more difficult for unauthorized persons to enter a building using a lost or stolen key. The second security measure is the installment of surveillance cameras in the hallways of all residence halls. With this system in place, it is now possible to monitor the hallways 24 hours a day. This has helped to deter crime and has aided in the identification of those involved in wrongful or criminal activities.

Keeping the Campus Safe:

- Report suspicious persons or criminal activity to the University Police at 661-1109.

Office of General
Counsel
Governance
University
Communications
Institutional Review
Board

Future
Students:
Apply
Now!

- Keep your car doors and windows locked at all times.
- Use locks on lockers and bicycles.
- Attend crime prevention programs.
- Take responsibility to protect yourself and your fellow campus community members.

Preventing Theft On Campus:

- Close and lock all office doors when you leave, open doors invites theft.
- Keep cash, checks, credit cards, keys, and books with you at all times, never leave them unattended.
- Write your name or a specific I.D. number, in pen, inside your books.
- Store computers, lab equipment and audiovisual equipment, when not in use, in a locked office or classroom.



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