Campus Safety and Security Plan

Ascent College
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September 2026

Choosing a postsecondary institution is a major decision for students and their families. Along with academic, financial and geographic considerations, the issue of campus safety is a vital concern. In 1990, Congress enacted the *Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act* (Title II of Public Law 101–542), which amended the *Higher Education Act of 1965* (HEA). This act required all postsecondary institutions participating in Title IV student financial aid programs to disclose campus crime statistics and security information. The act was amended in 1992, 1998 and 2000. The 1998 amendments renamed the law the *Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act* in memory of a student who was slain in her dorm room in 1986.

A Legislative History of the *Clery Act*

The *Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act* (Public Law 101-542) was signed into law by President Bush in 1990 and went into effect on Sept. 1, 1991. Title II of this act is known as the *Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990*. This act amends the *Higher Education Act of 1965* (HEA) by adding campus crime statistics and reporting provisions for postsecondary institutions. It requires the disclosure of crime statistics for the most recent three years, as well as disclosure of the institution's current security policies. Institutions are also required to issue timely warnings when necessary. All public and private Title IV eligible institutions must comply with the requirements of this act which is enforced by the U. S. Department of Education (ED).

This law was amended when Congress enacted the Campus Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights as part of the *Higher Education Amendments of 1992* {Public Law 102-325, Section 486(C)}, giving victims of sexual assault on campus certain basic rights. In addition, institutions are required to develop and distribute a policy statement concerning their campus sexual assault programs targeting the prevention of sex offenses. This statement must also address the procedures to be followed if a sex offense occurs.

The most recent version of this law was passed as part of the *Higher Education Amendments Act of 1998* {Section 486(e) of Public Law 105-244}. The official title under this act is the *Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act* {20 U.S.C. 1092(f)}. On Nov. 1,1999, ED issued the final regulations which went into effect on July 1, 2000. The amendments require ED to collect, analyze, and report to Congress on the incidences of crime on college campuses. The amendments also expand the requirement of the *Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act of 1990* that all institutions of higher education participating in the federal student aid programs must disclose to students, faculty, staff, and, upon request, prospective students, information regarding the incidence of crimes on campus as part of their campus security report.

The 1998 amendments made several changes to the disclosure requirements. Among these changes were the addition of two crimes (Arson and Negligent Manslaughter) and three locations (residence halls, non-campus buildings or property not geographically contiguous to the campus, and public property immediately adjacent to a facility that is owned or operated by the institution for education purposes) that schools must include in the reported statistics.

Institutions that have a campus police or security department are required to maintain a daily crime log that is available to the public.

The *Clery Act* was further amended in October 2000 by the *Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act* (Section 1601 of Public Law 106-386). The changes went into effect on Oct. 28, 2002. Beginning in 2003, institutions are required to notify the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by a state concerning registered sex offenders who are on campus may be obtained.

In 2013 the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act amended the Clery Act to require institutions to compile statistics for incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and to include certain policies, procedures, and programs pertaining to these incidents in their annual security reports.

What Must Be Reported

The *Clery Act* requires higher education institutions to give timely warnings of crimes that represent a threat to the safety of students or employees, and to make public their campus security policies. It also requires that crime data is collected, reported, and disseminated to the campus community and are also submitted to US Department of Education. The act is intended to provide students and their families, as higher education consumers, with accurate, complete, and timely information about safety on campus so that they can make informed decisions.

Because of the law's complex reporting requirements, the most reasonable and effective way to manage the reporting is as follows. If you observe any crime listed below, or if any person reveals to you that he/she learned of or was the victim of, perpetrator of, or witness to any crime listed below, contact the local Hampton police (911) immediately. Then complete an Incident Report Form and as indicated on the bottom of the form, send copies to the Dean of Students.

Crimes that should be reported are:

Murder and non-negligent manslaughter

Negligent manslaughter

Forcible sex offenses

Non-forcible sex offenses

Robbery

Aggravated assault

Burglary

Motor vehicle theft

Arson

All hate crimes involving bodily injury

All liquor, drug or weapons law violations resulting in an arrest

Domestic Violence

Dating Violence

Sexual Assault

Stalking

If you are in doubt as to whether a crime is reportable, please error on the side of reporting the matter. With the exception of liquor, drug and weapons law violations, it is immaterial whether an arrest is made. For purposes of your reporting, please assume that a **hate crime** is any crime manifesting evidence that the victim was selected because of the victim's actual or perceived race, religion, sexual orientation, gender, ethnicity/national origin, or disability. **Domestic violence** means any crime of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim or a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, or a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, or a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction, or any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction. **Dating violence** means violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: the length of the relationship; the type of the relationship; and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. **Stalking** means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress. **Sexual Assault** includes forcible and nonconsensual coercive sex offenses. Forcible sex offenses are any sexual act or carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or

physical incapacity (or because of his/her youth). This offense includes the forcible rape of both males and females (Rape, Sexual Assault, and Fondling). Nonconsensual coercive sex offenses are unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse (Incest and Statutory Rape). Rape is any penetration (anal, oral, or vaginal) or attempted penetration (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object (finger, tongue, penis, inanimate object, etc.) without consent or forcing someone to penetrate himself or herself with any object, however slight, without consent.

Consent is a voluntary act given by clear and unambiguous words or actions, as long as those words or actions create mutually understandable permission regarding willingness to engage in a specific sexual activity. Consent may be withdrawn at any time. Silence, in and of itself, is not consent. Lack of protest or resistance is not consent. Consent to one form of sexual activity does not imply consent to other forms of sexual activity. A previous or current relationship does not imply consent to sexual activity. Past consent does not imply future consent. Consent cannot be obtained by the use of physical force, threats, intimidating behavior, or coercion. Consent cannot be given by the following individuals: -Individuals who are asleep or unconscious-Individuals who are incapacitated due to the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication-Individuals who are unable to consent due to a mental or physical condition-Individuals who are minors. An incapacitated person is incapable of giving consent. Incapacitation means that a person lacks the ability to make informed, reasonable judgments about whether or not to engage in sexual activity. An incapacitated person lacks the ability to understand the who, what, when, where, why, and/or how of the sexual interaction.

Reporting Crimes on a Voluntary, Confidential Basis
Students, faculty, and employees may report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis by contacting the Dean of Students at (703) 753-2791

or completing an Incident Report Form and sending it to the Dean of Students office. These reported crimes will be included in the institution's crime statistics.

Unfounded Crimes
No reported crime may be considered unfounded unless a determination of such has been made by the Hampton Police Department. Ascent College will disclose the number of unfounded incidents in the ASR.

Campus Security

Safety and security are the responsibility of the entire college community. Ascent College seeks to maintain an environment which is nurturing, stable, tolerant, and forgiving. Also, Ascent College seeks an environment conducive to learning and it is the mission of the Office of Campus Safety at Ascent College. The Office of Campus Safety seeks to create and foster

partnerships within the college community - students, faculty, and staff working together to identify and solve problems proactively, for it is only when we work together that true safety and security can be achieved.

The Office of Campus Safety is dedicated to creating and maintaining a stable, safe, and secure environment for students, faculty, and staff, while upholding the mission of Ascent College. This office will be professional in appearance and demeanor, tolerant in all matters of diversity, and always vigilant.

Safety is a natural source of concern and Ascent College believes safety is a shared responsibility of all students, faculty, and staff. Therefore, the degree to which Ascent College is safe depends on each member of the campus community.

Our campus is a close-knit community with an excellent security history. The office of Campus Safety maintains a friendly and compliant working relationship with local law enforcement. An open campus affords freedom of movement for the college community, but it also means anyone can traverse the campus without arousing much suspicion. It is essential that every student takes some precautions to avoid unfortunate incidents with unwelcome campus visitors. Students should notify the city police (**911**) immediately if they discover anyone breaking a law. Students who interfere with a security officer's duties will be subject to disciplinary action. All students are expected to cooperate with the officers on patrol.

Students are urged to carefully consider safety and security on campus, using the suggestions and resources available from student services, and safety and security. All safety issues such as crime, violence, malfunctioning locks, and damaged or missing fire safety equipment should be reported immediately to the Student Dean as well as reporting any situations that are disruptive or potentially dangerous. Failure to report such incidents and safety hazards could endanger you, other members of the College community, and property.

How to Report a Crime or Safety Incident to the Campus Safety Office

All crimes listed above are to be reported immediately to the local police and then to the Dean of Students at (703) 753-2791. A form is available through the Dean's Office or upon request. This form should only be completed by those individuals identified as "campus security authorities" or those who are required to report information they receive about specified crimes (described below) pursuant to the federal *Clery Act*. The information collected from these forms will be used to prepare a compilation of statistical crime information that will be included in the campus' Annual Security Report. The annual report must be accomplished no later than October 1st of each year that Ascent College receives federal financial aid.

It is the policy of the college to ensure that victims and witnesses to crime are aware of their right to report criminal acts to the police, and to report College policy violations to the appropriate office (e.g., student conduct violations to the Office of Dean of Students). However,

if a reporting person requests anonymity, this request must be honored to the extent permitted by law.

Accordingly, no information should be included on the form that would personally identify the victim without his/her consent. College security personnel will use the form to determine the category of crime and location under which the crime should be reported according to the requirements of the *Clery Act*.

If You Are a Victim of Sexual Assault, Sexual Battery, Sexual Violence

Your first priority is to get to a safe place and obtain necessary medical attention. Victims are encouraged to make a timely report to law enforcement officials and college officials as discussed above. The timely reporting of the incident is important for necessary evidence collection and preservation.

Victims of sexual assault have the following Bill of Rights in accordance with the Clery Act:

You have the right to have a reasonable change in your academic or working situations.

You have the right to referrals to counseling, and/or assistance in notifying law enforcement officials.

You have the right for the same opportunity as the accused to have others present at a disciplinary hearing.

You have the right to be notified unconditionally of the outcome of a hearing, sanctions, and terms of sanctions in place.

You have the right to speak or choose not to speak to anyone regarding the outcome.

You have the right to have your name and identifying information kept confidential (FERPA).

Disciplinary Proceedings

Ascent College has a zero tolerance for criminal acts committed on campus and most especially those acts involving domestic violence, dating violence, repeat violence, sexual violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking. Reports of criminal activity will be investigated by the Hampton City Police Department. The results of the investigation will be reported to the Dean of Students for appropriate action.

The following disciplinary proceedings will apply to any incident of alleged domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking including:

A review of the police report provided by the Hampton City Police Department by a disciplinary committee convened by the Dean of Students as provided in the Student Handbook;

The convening of a disciplinary hearing will be conducted in accordance with the procedures provided in the Student Handbook.

Any appeal will be handled as indicated in the Student Handbook.

Prevention Awareness Programs and Campaigns

New Student Orientation – The Student Handbook and the Annual Safety Report is provided and reviewed during New Student Orientation with a discussion on Student Conduct.

Prevention Awareness Chapel – Each semester one chapel service is dedicated to discussing prevention awareness and the prohibition of crimes of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and information in the Annual Safety Report.

Get Help Now:

- **Go somewhere safe**. Your safety is our first priority. Avoid showering, douching, brushing your teeth, eating or changing clothing in an effort to preserve physical evidence. Preserving any evidence is important should you choose to report the assault to the police. If you do change clothes, put all clothing you were wearing at the time of the assault into a paper bag. You can return to your room, a friend's place, even a crowded, public place.
- **Call someone**. Call a trusted friend, a family member. Counselors are available at the Sexual Assault Services (Sexual Assault Crisis center) at (703) 368-4141. They provide companion services for survivors at the hospital or police station.
- **Report the incident.** You may report the incident to the local police.
- **Seek medical attention as soon as possible.** You need to be examined for injury, physical evidence, sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy.
- **Seek counseling support.** Talking with a trusted friend, relative, or a trained counselor can assist you in taking care of yourself. The also provides individual and group counseling services.

Local Resources:

Police Departments
For Emergencies, Dial 911

- Haymarket Police Department: 703-753-2700
- Prince William County Police: 703-792-6500
- Manassas City Police: 703-257-8000
- Manassas Park Police: 703-361-1136

Local Hospitals – Emergency Call 911

- UVA Health: 703-7 53-9799
- 8180 Stonewall Shops Square, Gainesville, VA 20155
- Gainesville Medical Center: 703-576-2733
- 14370 Lee Hwy, Gainesville, VA 20155
- Patient First Primary and Urgent Care – Gainesville: 703-743-7017
- 14800 Lee Hwy., Gainesville, VA 20155-1842
- Gainesville Urgent Medical: 703-753-7797
- 7588 Gardner Park Dr., Gainesville, VA 20155

Sexual Assault Services (Sexual Assault Crisis Center) 24-Hour Number 703-368-4141
To obtain free, confidential short-term counseling and ongoing support for survivors

ACTS Domestic Violence Services 24-Hour Number 703-221-4951

National Sexual Assault Hotline 1-800-656-4673 Available 24 hours

Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline 1-844-7628483

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Bystander Intervention

Bystander intervention means safe and positive options that may be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. This includes recognizing situations of potential harm, understanding institutional structures and cultural conditions that facilitate violence, overcoming barriers to intervening, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking action to intervene.

If you see someone in danger*:*

Take the initiative, step in, offer assistance, and ask if the person needs help. Make sure to evaluate the risk of the situation first. Call 911 instead of putting yourself in danger.

Distract either person at the scene to intervene but don't be antagonistic.

Have others intervene with you, if it's safe to do so. This may have a greater influence on the perpetrator and increase your safety.

If the offender is known to you, ask them to leave the potential victim alone.

Remain at the scene as a witness instead of leaving. The perpetrator will be less likely to commit the assault with a witness there.

Risk Reduction

Risk reduction is an option designed to decrease perpetration and bystander inaction, and to increase empowerment for victims in order to promote safety and to help individuals and communities address conditions that facilitate violence.

Help to prevent situations of violence, avoid potential attacks, and reduce the risk of perpetration:

- Travel with friends to parties or other events rather than by yourself. Check in with each other frequently and leave together.
- Trust your intuition and don't be afraid to call for help or let someone know if you are worried about your safety or the safety of someone else.
- If you see someone is intoxicated, offer to call them a cab home.
- Avoid isolated areas and dimly lit places. Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Make sure your cell phone is always with you and charged in case you need to call for help.
- Use a buddy system, especially when walking around at night.
- Avoid being alone with someone you don't know or don't trust.
- Carry a noisemaker, such as a whistle, and a small flashlight on your keychain.
- Avoid giving out personal information to someone you don't know (phone number, address, etc.)
- In case of an emergency, call 911.

Crime and Security Report 2025											
Offense	**Number of Incidents**										
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
MURDER / NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SEX OFFENSES, FORCIBLE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SEX OFFENSES, NON-FORCIBLE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROBBERY	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BURGLARY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LARCENY THEFT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
ARSON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LIQUOR LAW ARRESTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS REFERRED FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DRUG LAW ARRESTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DRUG LAW VIOLATIONS REFERRED FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ILLEGAL WEAPONS POSSESSION ARRESTS	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ILLEGAL WEAPONS POSSESSION VIOLATIONS REFERRED FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DATING VIOLENCE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SEXUAL ASSAULT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STALKING	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
UNFOUNDED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Ascent College
Sexual Misconduct and Violence Policy

Policy Statement

As a Christian college, Ascent College holds that certain behaviors are counterproductive to college life, to the maturing believer, and to the development of Christian leaders. Members of the College community are required to refrain from all forms of sexual immorality including, but not limited to, any form of pornography, promiscuity, homosexuality, pre-marital sex, adultery, rape, sexual violence and abuse, public nudity, and other forms of sexual misconduct. Furthermore, the use of college telephone, college computer equipment, or personal computer equipment to access pornographic sites, services, databases, or talk radio stations is prohibited. Actions which infer sexual immorality, such as 'hooking up' or 'sleeping together' are also prohibited.

Ascent College does not tolerate sexual misconduct or sexual violence in any form, including unwelcome sexual advances, sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, or domestic, or dating violence. This policy, and the definitions and protocols within, describe the College's efforts to decrease acts of sexual misconduct and violence through awareness education, to provide a caring and effective institutional response to benefit the victims of sexual misconduct/violence and our community, and to comply with Federal and state guidelines regarding an institution's response to reports of sexual misconduct and violence. Title IX and Sexual Violence Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. The Title IX regulation describes the conduct that violates Title IX to include athletics departments, recruitment, admissions, financial aid, and scholarships pertaining to students, course offerings, classroom access, grading, and other academics, student counseling and support, hiring and retention of employees, and job-related benefits and leave.

The College is committed to maintaining an environment conducive to learning for all students and a professional workplace for its employees, and takes active measures against all discrimination, discriminatory harassment, and sexual harassment, including sexual misconduct and violence. Any student or employee who believes he or she has been the victim of discrimination, discriminatory harassment, or sexual harassment, including sexual violence or misconduct, or any student that may witness or learn of another person becoming the victim of the above, is urged to report the matter to the Student Affairs Officer and/or if warranted to the Hampton City Police Department. Ascent College personnel have no authority to make arrests and no authority to perform criminal investigations. All such actions must be performed by Hampton City Police Department (dial 911).

Educational Programs and Training

The College provides education programs to promote the awareness of rape, acquaintance rape, domestic violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and stalking. One chapel each semester includes a presentation on sexual misconduct and sexual violence awareness and prevention. Academic advisors also will provide a copy of this policy during the registration process and will have students' initial they have been made aware of this policy. New employees receive a copy of this policy during hire orientation. This policy will be discussed at one staff and one faculty meeting early in the fall semester each year.

Primary prevention education includes: • A statement that Ascent College prohibits sexual misconduct and violence, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; • Definitions of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; • The legal definition of consent with regard to sexual activity; • Safe and positive options that a bystander can take when he or she witnesses potential sexual misconduct or violence, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; • Information about risk reduction, including how to recognize warning signs of abusive behavior, and how to avoid potential attack.

Definitions and Descriptions of Sexual Misconduct and Violence

Unwelcome Sexual Advances, Sexual Harassment, and Sexual Assault

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature are considered sexual harassment and are illegal when: 1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of the student's status in a program, course, or activity; 2) submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a criterion for evaluation or as a basis for academic or other decisions concerning that student; 3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's work or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or academic environment. Any member of the College community may bring complaints of personal or sexual harassment, sexual assault, or violence forward. Sexual harassment and sexual assault are unacceptable behaviors for any member of the College community including faculty, staff, and students.

Harassment and Stalking

Harassment is defined as actions that intend to harass, annoy, or alarm another person. Striking, shoving, kicking, or otherwise subjecting a person to unwanted physical contact, or attempts or threats to do the same are forms of harassment. Other forms of harassment include: following a person, engaging in a course of conduct that alarms or seriously annoys another person and that serves no legitimate purpose, destroying private or public property, physical or verbal attacks upon or interference that prevents another person from conducting customary affairs, puts them in fear for their safety, or causes physical injury, and conduct less than a physical attack which does the same. Stalking is defined as engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety or others, or to suffer substantial emotional distress. Any practice that limits or prohibits persons from fulfilling God's call on their lives is strongly discouraged.

Domestic or Dating Violence

Domestic or dating violence, in any form (verbal or physical), will not be tolerated. Fits of rage, loud arguments, breaking, throwing, or damaging personal or campus property are prohibited. Domestic violence crimes are felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim, by a person who is cohabitating with the victim as a spouse, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction. Dating violence is violence committed by a person 1) who is in a social relationship of romantic or intimate nature with the victim, and 2) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: a) the length of relationship, b) the type of relationship, and c) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. Domestic or dating violence includes, but is not limited to, physical or sexual abuse, or the threat of such abuse.

Sexual Assault

Sexual Assault includes forcible and unforcible sex offenses. Forcible sex offenses are any sexual act or carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of his/her youth). This offense includes the forcible rape of both males and females (Rape, Sexual Assault and Fondling). Non-Forcible sex offenses are unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse (Incest and Statutory Rape). Rape is any penetration (anal, oral, or vaginal) or attempted penetration (anal, oral, or vaginal), however slight, with any object (finger, tongue, penis, inanimate object, etc.)

without consent or forcing someone to penetrate himself or herself with any object, however slight, without consent.

Consent

Consent is a voluntary act given by clear and unambiguous words or actions, as long as those words or actions create mutually understandable permission regarding willingness to engage in a specific sexual activity. Consent may be withdrawn at any time. Silence, in and of itself, is not consent. Lack of protest or resistance is not consent. Consent to one form of sexual activity does not imply consent to other forms of sexual activity. A previous or current relationship does not imply consent to sexual activity. Past consent does not imply future consent. Consent cannot be obtained by the use of physical force, threats, intimidating behavior, or coercion. Consent cannot be given by the following individuals: -Individuals who are asleep or unconscious-Individuals who are incapacitated due to the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication-Individuals who are unable to consent due to a mental or physical condition-Individuals who are minors. An incapacitated person is incapable of giving consent. Incapacitation means that a person lacks the ability to make informed, reasonable judgments about whether to engage in sexual activity or not to engage in sexual activity. An incapacitated person lacks the ability to understand the who, what, when, where, why, and/or how of the sexual interaction.

Procedures and Reporting

Students and employees who believe they have been the subject of sexual misconduct or violence are strongly encouraged to report the alleged occurrence(s) as soon as possible to the Campus Security Office. If warranted, students and employees are encouraged to call Hampton City Police Department by dialing 911. The longer the delay in reporting the behavior, the more difficult it becomes to effectively resolve the issue.

The College will protect the confidentiality of the victim to the extent permitted by law. The College is obligated by law to conduct a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation when it becomes aware of an alleged incident and to take appropriate steps to address the situation. Members of the Counseling staff are confidential resources and do not report incidents unless the victim specifically requests them to do so. The only details shared are to capture general details about the incident (date, time, location, and incident type) for statistical inclusion in the College's Annual Security and Safety Report. When a student or employee makes a report to the College that the student or employee has been a victim of sexual misconduct or violence, including dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking, whether or not the offense occurred on or off campus, the College will provide the student or employee a written

explanation of the student's or employee's rights and options (see the attached Federal Campus Sexual Assault Victims' Bill of Rights).

The College will provide written notification to students and employees about existing College and community resources including counseling, health, and victim advocacy services. The College will also provide written notification to victims about options for and assistance in changing academic, living, and work situations. The College will make accommodations if the victim requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to local law enforcement.

Disciplinary Proceedings

Ascent College has a zero tolerance for criminal acts committed on campus and most especially those acts involving domestic violence, dating violence, repeat violence, sexual violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking. Reports of criminal activity will be investigated by the Hampton City Police Department. The results of the investigation will be reported to the Dean of Students for appropriate action.

The following disciplinary proceedings will apply to any incident of alleged domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking including:

A review of the police report provided by the Hampton City Police Department by a disciplinary committee convened by the Dean of Students as provided in the Student Handbook or procedures in the Employee Handbook;

The convening of a disciplinary hearing will be conducted in accordance with the procedures provided in the Student Handbook or Employee Handbook.

Any appeal will be handled as indicated in the Student Handbook or Employee Handbook.

If You Are a Victim of Sexual Assault, Sexual Battery, Sexual Violence

Your first priority is to get to a safe place and obtain necessary medical attention. Evidence may be necessary to prove the alleged criminal offense or to obtain a protection order; therefore, if the incident has just occurred, victims of sexual assault or violence should not bathe or shower so that evidence may be gathered during a professional medical exam. Clothes worn after the assault should be placed into a paper bag and provided to the responding police agency or given to the hospital examiner, should those services be desired by the victim.

Victims are encouraged to make a timely report to law enforcement officials and college officials as discussed above. The timely reporting of the incident is important for necessary evidence collection and preservation.

Federal Campus Sexual Assault Victims' Bill of Rights.

Victims of sexual assault have the following Bill of Rights in accordance with the Clery Act:

You have the right to have a reasonable change in your academic or working situations.

You have the right to referrals to counseling, and/or assistance in notifying law enforcement officials.

You have the right to the same opportunity as the accused to have others present at a disciplinary hearing.

You have the right to be notified unconditionally of the outcome of a hearing, sanctions, and terms of sanctions in place.

You have the right to speak or choose not to speak to anyone regarding the outcome; and

You have the right to have your name and identifying information kept confidential to the extent permitted by law (FERPA).

Also:

The accuser and the accused must have the same opportunity to have others present during any information gathering or disciplinary proceedings.

Both parties shall be informed in writing of the outcome of any disciplinary proceedings and the institutional procedures for appealing the decision. Also, both parties will be informed in any change in the results of the proceedings.

Other Information

A victim may decide to pursue legal orders of protection. Where applicable, the College will use reasonable measures to honor orders of protection, no-contact orders, restraining orders, or similar lawful orders issued by a criminal, civil, or tribal court or by the College.

Retaliation against someone who reports an incident or concern or provides assistance in gathering information about an incident or concern is strictly prohibited by policy and law. Students and employees should be careful to avoid any behavior that could be experienced as retaliation and are invited to seek counsel from Student Life staff or Human Resources staff.

The College, depending on the circumstances, will provide written notification to victims about options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic situations, working situations, and protective measures. Accommodation or protective measures are provided if

reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to Hampton Police Department.

Information Sheet

Get Help Now:

- **Go somewhere safe**. Your safety is our first priority. Avoid showering, douching, brushing your teeth, eating, or changing clothing in an effort to preserve physical evidence. Preserving any evidence is important should you choose to report the assault to the police. If you do change clothes, put all clothing you were wearing at the time of the assault into a paper bag. You can return to your room, a friend's place, even a crowded, public place.
- **Call someone**. Call a trusted friend, a family member. Counselors are available at the **Sexual Assault Services (Sexual Assault Crises Center) at (703) 368-4141.** They provide companion services for survivors at the hospital or police station.

Report the Incident:

You may report the incident to local police or the Ascent College Safety Office in the Dean of Student Affairs. The College will assist in notifying law enforcement if the victim so chooses; however, the victim may decline to notify such authorities.

Seek medical attention as soon as possible. You need to be examined for injury, physical evidence, sexually transmitted diseases, and pregnancy.

Going to the hospital to seek medical attention does not obligate you to report the crime. Evidence may be necessary to prove the alleged criminal offense or to obtain a protection order; therefore, if the incident has just occurred, victims of sexual assault or violence should not bathe or shower so that evidence may be gathered during a professional medical exam. Clothes worn after the assault should be placed into a paper bag and provided to the responding police agency or given to the hospital examiner, should those services be desired by the victim.

Local Resources:

For Emergencies, Dial 911
Police Departments

- Haymarket Police Department: 703-753-2700
- Prince William County Police: 703-792-6500
- Manassas City Police: 703-257-8000
- Manassas Park Police: 703-361-1136

Local Hospitals – Emergency Call 9-1-1

- Gainesville Medical Center: 703-576-2733
- 14370 Lee Hwy, Gainesville, VA 20155
- Patient First Primary and Urgent Care – Gainesville: 703-743-7017
- 14800 Lee Hwy., Gainesville, VA 20155-1842
- Gainesville Urgent Medical: 703-753-7797
- 7588 Gardner Park Dr., Gainesville, VA 20155

Sexual Assault Services (Sexual Assault Crisis Center) 24-Hour Number 703-368-4141
To obtain free, confidential short-term counseling and ongoing support for survivors

ACTS Domestic Violence Services 24-Hour Number 703-221-4951

National Sexual Assault Hotline 1-800-656-4673 Available 24 hours

Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline 1-844-7628483

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Bystander Intervention

Bystander intervention means safe and positive options that may be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. This includes recognizing situations of potential harm, understanding institutional structures and cultural conditions that facilitate violence, overcoming barriers to intervening, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking action to intervene.

If you see someone in danger:

Take the initiative, step in, offer assistance and ask if the person needs help.
Make sure to evaluate the risk of the situation first. Call 911 instead of putting yourself in danger.
Distract either person at the scene to intervene but don't be antagonistic.
Have others intervene with you if it's safe to do so. This may have a greater influence on the perpetrator and increase your safety.
If the offender is known to you, ask them to leave the potential victim alone.
Remain at the scene as a witness instead of leaving. The perpetrator will be less likely to commit the assault with a witness there.

Risk Reduction

Risk reduction is an option designed to decrease perpetration and bystander inaction, and to increase empowerment for victims in order to promote safety and to help individuals and communities address conditions that facilitate violence.

Help to prevent situations of violence, avoid potential attacks, and reduce the risk of perpetration:

Travel with friends to parties or other events rather than by yourself. Check in with each other frequently and leave together.

Trust your intuition and don't be afraid to call for help or let someone know if you are worried about your safety or the safety of someone else.

If you see someone is intoxicated, offer to call them a cab home.

Avoid isolated areas and dimly lit places. Always be aware of your surroundings.

Make sure your cell phone is always with you and charged in case you need to call for help.

Use a buddy system, especially when walking around at night.

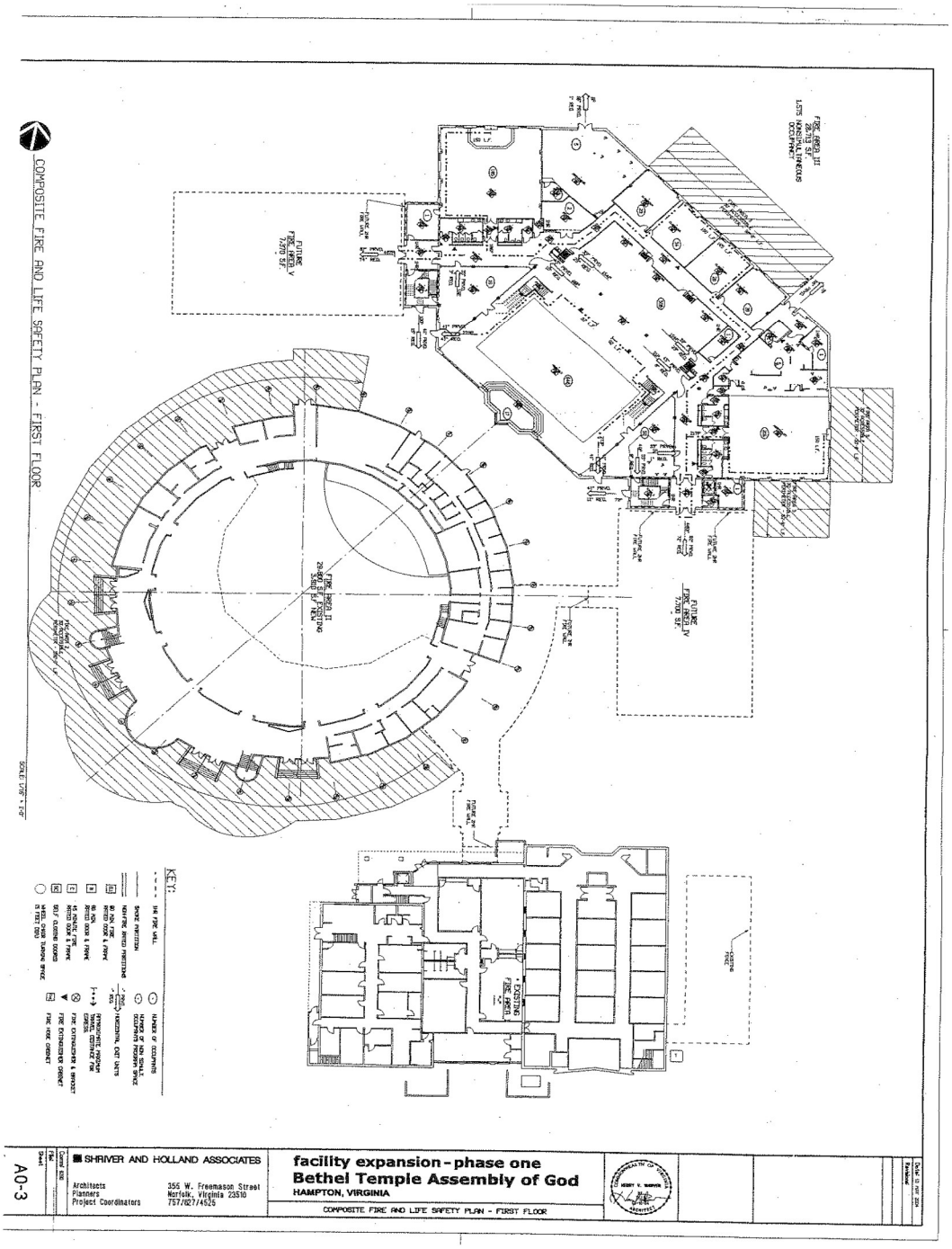
Avoid being alone with someone you don't know or don't trust.

Carry a noisemaker, such as a whistle, and a small flashlight on your keychain.

Avoid giving out personal information to someone you don't know (phone number, address, etc.)

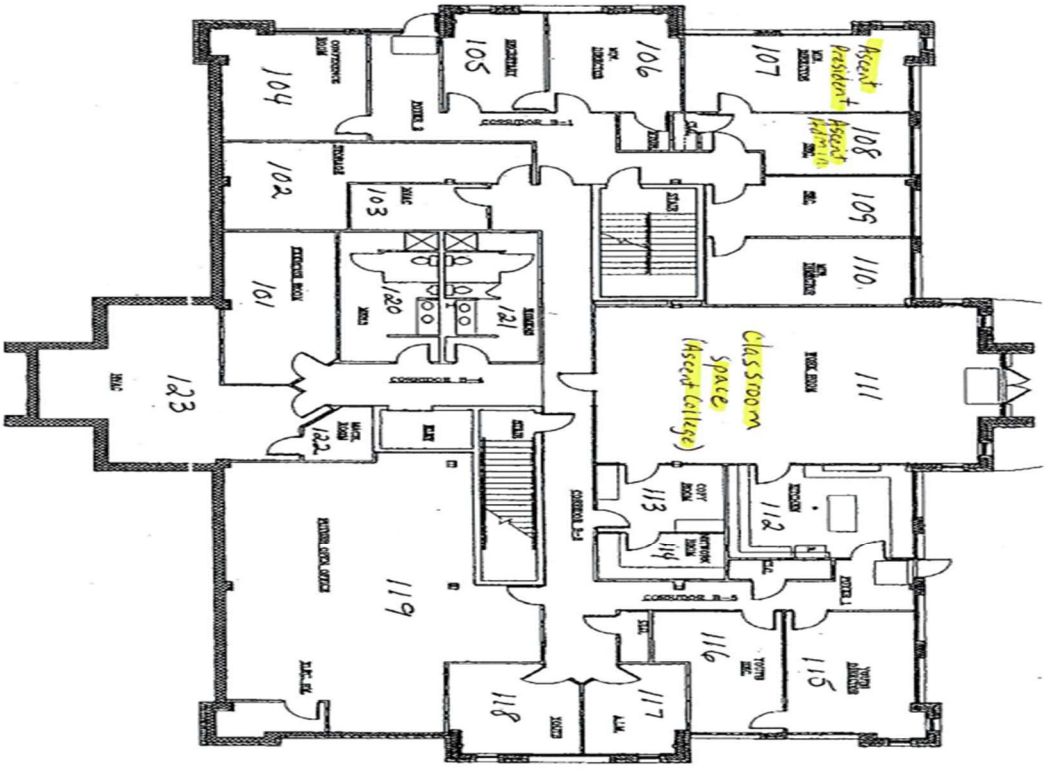
In case of an emergency, call 911.

The Physical Layout of the Hampton, VA campus is provided below.

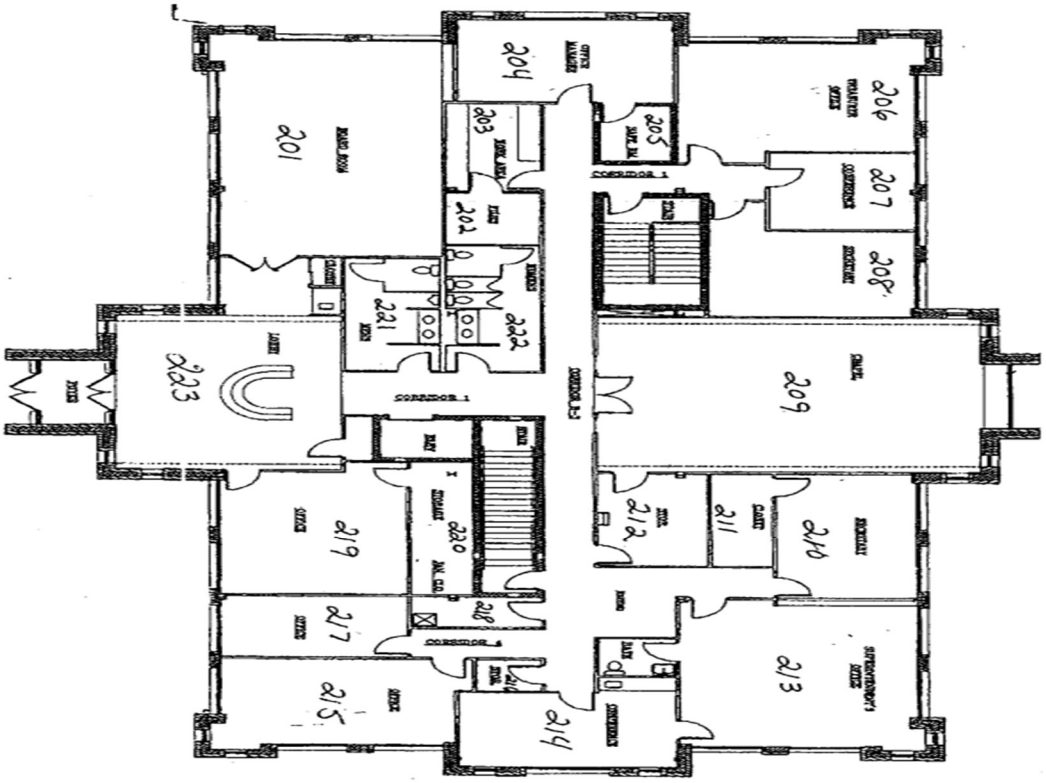


Note: The Ascent Campus has relocated from 1705 Todds Lane, Hampton, Virginia, 23666 to14525 John Marshall Hwy, Gainesville, VA 14525

Ascent College
14525 John Marshall Hwy, Gainesville, VA 20155
(703) 753-2791



Floor 1



Floor 2