

Public Safety Bulletin - September 2008

Department of Public Safety Information and Services

Limits of Authority of Officers

The Department of Public Safety personnel do not have arrest powers. Their authority is established and defined by the administrative officers of Centre College. The policies established by the administration provide for crime prevention and victim assistance. Public Safety officers provide basic security and monitor the campus for safety deficiencies. The officers also perform an academic service and support role at Centre College because observance of policies, rules, and regulations, is part of the overall educational experience. In addition, it is their responsibility to provide reasonable assistance in the enforcement of state and local laws.

Get by with a little "HELP" (4357) from your friends....

The Department of Public Safety can always be reached by calling ext. "HELP" (4357) on the campus telephone system or 236-4357 from all other telephones. For confirmed emergency situations which require the immediate assistance of police, fire, or EMS, the Danville Public Safety Department can be reached by calling 9-911.

Services Provided

How the Department of Public Safety Can Help

The Department of Public Safety personnel are dedicated to providing services which enhance campus safety.

***24 HOUR SERVICE.** The Department of Public Safety is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

***COMPREHENSIVE FIRE SAFETY PROGRAM.** Scheduled fire drills, inspections, and fire safety programs occur throughout the year.

***ESCORT SERVICE.** Escorts are provided throughout the campus area at any time requested.

***EMERGENCY PHONES.** Emergency telephones mounted near the entrance to the Cheek Public Safety Office, in front of the library, between Yerkes and Hillside, near the Jones Visual Arts Center, and in front of Chowan Dining Hall provide instant access to a public safety officer.

***OPERATION IDENTIFICATION.** A service that allows students, staff, and faculty to have their name and/or social security number engraved on personal property.

***CAMPUS SAFETY COMMITTEE.** A dedicated group of faculty, staff, and students who continually evaluate, make, and implement recommendations regarding campus safety.

***CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS.** Presented in all freshman residence halls and by request.

***236-HELP.** Or Ext. HELP when on campus. This is our phone number and our philosophy.

Building Security

With the exception of Centre's residence halls, all buildings are unlocked in the morning and relocked in the evening. All exterior residence hall doors are locked at all times. Access to residence halls is limited to residents, authorized personnel, and invited guests of residents. Entrances to the residence halls are secured with card access system.

Safety Tips

***DON'T WALK ALONE.** Travel in pairs or groups or call the Department of Public Safety for an escort.

***ALWAYS LOCK YOUR DOOR.** Whether sleeping or away, don't overlook this easy and important step. Don't give out any door combination. Delivery personnel and guests are to be met at the door.

***DETERMINE SAFE, WELL-LIGHTED ROUTES AHEAD OF TIME.** Use well travelled routes.

***BE AN ALERT WALKER.** Walk purposefully, confidently, and keep moving.

***NEVER PROP OPEN A DOOR.** Exterior or interior. These doors should be locked for your protection.

***ALWAYS LET SOMEONE KNOW YOUR PLANS.** It helps when someone knows where you are and when you intend to be back.

***KNOW WHERE THE EMERGENCY PHONES ARE LOCATED ON CAMPUS.**

***ALWAYS USE CAUTION AND COMMON SENSE.** Be careful when entering places like elevators and empty laundry facilities alone.

***KEEP YOUR ROOM KEY WITH YOU.** Do not hide it or loan it out to friends.

***KEEP VALUABLES WELL HIDDEN.** Money, jewelry, cameras, checkbook, etc.

***BE FIRE SAFETY CONSCIOUS.** Know your role in fire evacuation procedures.

***REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS PERSONS - REPORT ALL THEFTS.** Notify the DPS immediately.

***USE OPERATION IDENTIFICATION.** Have your valuables engraved and recorded.

***REPORT HARASSING PHONE CALLS.** Notify DPS if you are having problems with annoying, harassing, or threatening phone calls.

Crime Prevention

Crime prevention at Centre College is a top priority of the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Every reasonable effort is made to help people avoid becoming crime victims. This focus is evident in the crime prevention efforts of DPS and the Student Life Office through which it reports. DPS participates in the freshman orientation process, presenting basic crime prevention information to all new students. The educational process continues periodically in residence hall meetings conducted by public safety personnel, hall directors, and the resident assistants. The DPS Directors also instruct a session on personal safety during required personal safety courses. All pertinent security information and campus regulations are published in the Student Handbook. More specific notices are also distributed when events or circumstances need to be explained to the campus community. The Student Handbook is distributed annually to every student, to all parents, and is made available to anyone else upon request. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors may request assistance from the DPS officers by calling 236-HELP (4357) or by visiting one of our offices.

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Reporting Crimes and Emergency Conditions

Any criminal or suspicious activity that occurs on the Centre College campus should be reported immediately to DPS. Public Safety personnel are trained in various areas of safety and security, and in many instances can resolve the situation without outside intervention. DPS is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

For confirmed emergency situations which require the immediate assistance of police, fire, or emergency medical services, the Danville Police Department can be contacted by calling 9-911. An actual fire, a person brandishing a weapon, or a person with a serious injury are examples of instances in which the local Police Department should be called.

Public Safety also investigates and files reports on incidents involving illness or injury, property damage, and non-injury motor vehicle accidents on campus for insurance and other purposes. These incidents should be reported immediately to the department.

Sexual Assault*

Sexual assault is an extreme and criminal form of inappropriate sex-related behavior. It includes any physical violence or sexual intimacy where one party is not a consenting participant.

Centre College will not tolerate any type of sexual assault and will use, cooperate with, and encourage, to the extent possible, college disciplinary measures and criminal proceedings with respect to sexual assault.

Throughout the school year, programs are presented in the residence halls and Greek houses that promote the awareness of rape, acquaintance rape, and other forcible and non-forcible sex offenses. These programs are presented by members of the Centre College community.

* A more comprehensive description of Centre College's Sexual Assault Policy can be found in the 2008-2009 Student Handbook.

Notification Process

If a student is a victim of sexual assault, she/he is advised to follow these procedures.

1. Go to a safe place.
2. Call someone that you trust - a good friend, your family, a Resident Assistant, or one of the following:

<u>Office</u>	<u>After Hours</u>
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*Director of Residence Life and Counseling: Ext. 5477	238-5833
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*Rape Crisis Center: 1-800-656-HOPE (24 hours)	
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*Comprehensive Care: 236-2726	1-800-342-2437
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*College Nurse: Ext. 5530	236-9062
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*Dept. of Public Safety:	Ext. 4357 (24 hours)
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*Danville Police Dept.:	238-1220
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3. Seek medical care at Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center Emergency Room. It is important to have a medical exam to check for physical injuries and disease, to dispense pregnancy information and prophylactics if necessary and to collect evidence should you decide to prosecute. The medical exam is free to the victims of rape. You may have the exam and then decide not to prosecute.

***DO NOT** bathe, douche, urinate, or defecate prior to arriving at the Emergency Room.

***DO NOT** change clothes. DO bring extra clothes, as clothing will be held as evidence.

***DO** ask for someone you trust or a staff member to come with you.

4. Report assault to campus authorities.

Sex Offender Registry

The Kentucky State Police maintains a database of registered sex offenders. This registry may be accessed through the internet at the following address:
<http://www.kentuckystatepolice.org/sor.htm>

Drug and Alcohol Policy

The College's policy regarding student use of alcoholic beverages and other controlled substances is derived from its general philosophy of student life. Centre students are regarded as persons who are morally and legally responsible for their own conduct within the context of the norms and values of an educational environment. Students and employees are expected to act as responsible members of the local community when it comes to state and local laws dealing with drugs and alcohol. The laws and penalties for violations are published annually in the Student Handbook. As part of its overall educational program and mission, the College provides counseling and educational programs dealing with responsible alcohol use and the consequences of abuse.

Weapons Policy

One of the most important responsibilities of a community is to provide for the safety and well being of its members. We take this charge seriously.

No person may possess, use, sell or store, while on campus or on property under the control of Centre College, any dangerous or deadly weapon (operational or decorative), firearm, ammunition, explosive device (including fireworks), or any other potentially harmful or destructive device.

"Weapons" include, but are not limited to, martial arts weapons, knives (other than those necessary for cooking or approved college activities, including ROTC), bows and arrows, air guns, shot guns, BB guns, and "deadly weapons" as defined by KRS 500.080(4).

A "destructive device" means any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, grenade, mine, rocket, missile, or similar device and includes the unassembled components from which such a device can be made. (Reference KRS 237.030(1))

This includes possession of such items in residence halls, in vehicles, in any college building or facility, or anywhere on the grounds of the campus. **Possession of weapons is in itself grounds for dismissal.**

This policy applies to every student, faculty member, employee, and guest at the college.