

# **Mississippi University for Women Annual Security & Fire Safety Report**



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## From the President-

To the University Community –

Mississippi University for Women is committed to providing a safe and ethical campus environment. The W has undertaken many important institutional efforts in recent years to address the safety and wellbeing of our university community.

I encourage you to review the information about campus safety measures, reporting crimes and other emergencies, and the procedures and policies designed to protect our campus community. One of our greatest priorities is providing a safe place to work, learn, live and visit for our faculty, staff, students and visitors. A truly safe campus can only be achieved through the cooperation of everyone. Thank you for all that you do to make this a great community to be a part of.



Nora R. Miller  
President



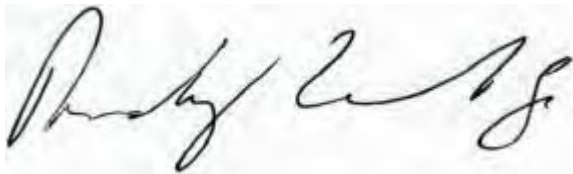


## From the Chief of MUW Police Department-

On behalf of our faculty and staff, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Mississippi University for Women. I want to thank you for your interest in our Annual Security and Fire Report. We publish this report because it contains valuable information on our campus community. Mississippi University for Women (MUW) works to maintain a safe and secure campus and to protect your property by providing full police safety services through the Police Department. We also share information you can use to reduce your chances of becoming a crime or accident victim. An informed community is a safer community.

Each year, MUW publishes the Annual Security and Fire Report which includes crime statistics and the fire safety report. This report also outlines MUW security policies and procedures. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with this report in order to become an informed member of our community and contribute to the University's effort to create and maintain a safe environment.

The MUW Police Department is committed to making our campus a safe place in which to live, work, and study.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Vibrock".

Randy Vibrock  
Chief of Police  
MUW Police Department



# BRIEF HISTORY OF CAMPUS CRIME REPORTING

## Jeanne Clery 1966-1986



**The Jeanne Clery Act**, a consumer protection law, requires all colleges and universities who receive federal funding to share information about crime on campus and their efforts to improve campus safety as well as inform the public of crime in or around university facilities. This information is made publicly accessible through the University's website and Annual Security and Fire Safety Report.

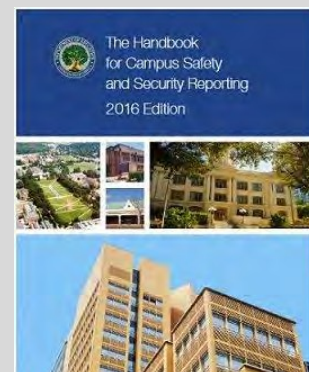
The Clery Act was named in memory of a student, Jeanne Clery, who was murdered and raped in her dorm room at Lehigh University in 1986. Her attacker was also a student at the University whom Jeanne did not know prior to the attack. Her parents championed laws requiring the disclosure of campus crime information, and the federal law that now bears their daughter's name was enacted in 1990.

The Clery Act requires colleges and universities to keep records and report on the nature, date, time, and place of crimes occurring on campus, including hate crimes. It also prescribes a number of security-related protocols for emergency response procedures, timely notifications for on-campus crimes and missing students, fire incident reporting, and the like. It is one of the most frequently modified sections of the Higher Education Act and has been amended many times since it was signed into law in 1990.

The Act is intended to provide current and future students, their families and staff, as higher education consumers, with accurate, complete and timely information about safety on campus so they can make informed decisions. Choosing a college or university is a major decision for students and their families. The issue of campus safety is a vital concern, which drives the nationwide law. In essence, the law requires colleges and universities to collect, report, and disseminate crime information to the campus community with the goal of maintaining a safe environment for students to learn, faculty to teach, and staff and administrators to work by increasing the awareness of crimes committed on campus.

### Questions about The Clery Act:

The Handbook for Campus Crime Reporting assists universities and colleges in meeting the regulatory requirements of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, or the Clery Act. The handbook covers such topics as Classifying and Defining Clery Crimes, Timely Warnings, the Daily Crime Log and Annual Disclosure Requirements. It can be found at U. S. Department of Education, Campus Security webpage, "The Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting".  
<http://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/handbook.pdf>



# 2019 ANNUAL SECURITY & FIRE SAFETY REPORT

## PREPARATION OF ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT & DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS

In accordance with the federal regulations The W prepares this report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. Within this report you will find crime, fire and security-related policies and procedures for the three most recent calendar years. This process includes collecting statistics obtained from multiple reporting sources and then reporting this information to the Mississippi University for Women community by October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The report is compiled using information maintained by the MUW PD, by other University offices such as Housing and Residence Life, Student Conduct, Campus Security Authorities (CSAs) and also information provided by local law enforcement agencies surrounding the University's campus.

The annual security and fire safety report is prepared by the MUW PD and Dean of Students Office. On an annual basis enrolled students and current employees of the University are notified via email by the MUW PD of the Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report. This email message provides an overview of the Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report, the address for the University Police Department website where the report can be obtained on-line and also how a hard copy "printed version" can be obtained. This information is also made available through multiple campus sources, such as speaking presentations and other venues. This information is also made available to prospective employees and students. The University's Student Handbook, which includes policies and procedures, informs our prospective and current students, faculty and staff about the general procedures for reporting crimes both on and off campus.

The Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report contains information regarding campus security and personal safety including topics such as: crime prevention, public safety authority, crime reporting policies, fire safety, disciplinary procedures and other matters of importance related to security on campus. The report also contains information about fire statistics in University residential facilities and crime statistics for the three previous calendar years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus; in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by the University; and on public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.

In compliance with the 1998 amendments to the Campus Security Act (now known as the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act) and Department of Education regulations, the crime and fire statistics published in this report illustrate the reporting of crime categories as specified below:

1. Reporting of specified hate crimes by category of prejudice against the victim (race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability)
2. Reporting of violation arrests and referrals to campus disciplinary action
3. Reporting of fires, death/injuries and property damage

Each of these statistical categories is further broken down by geographic area:

- **On-Campus** (includes On-Campus **Residential** facilities)
- **Non-Campus** property
- **Public Property** (includes property within campus or immediately adjacent to it)

Clery Act reporting is based on where the incident occurred. The Clery geography map color codes properties based on the reportable location definitions classified by the U.S. Department of Education. MUW's Clery geography map can be found at

[http://www.muw.edu/images/sa/police/2019CLERY\\_MAP\\_web.pdf](http://www.muw.edu/images/sa/police/2019CLERY_MAP_web.pdf)

The MUW PD makes annual requests to the City of Columbus Police Department and Lowndes County Sheriff's Department for crime statistics taken from the **public areas** within campus or immediately adjacent to the campus to be included in the Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report. The Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report includes crime statistics for the following *categories of crimes*, reported to campus security authorities and local law enforcement:

- murder/non-negligent manslaughter
- Manslaughter by negligence
- rape
- fondling
- incest
- statutory rape
- robbery
- aggravated assault
- burglary
- motor vehicle theft
- arson

Within the Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report the Violence Against Women Act offenses that are reported to campus security authorities and local law enforcement include:

- domestic violence
- dating violence
- stalking

Also included are statistics for the following categories of **violations arrests and referrals for campus disciplinary action**:

- liquor law violations
- drug law violations
- weapons (carrying, possessing, etc.)

The University distributes a notice of the availability of this Annual Security and Fire Safety Report by October 1 of each year to every member of the University community. Anyone, including prospective students and employees, may obtain a paper copy of this report by contacting the MUW PD at 662.241.7777 or by visiting the MUW PD Office located in McDevitt Hall on campus.

### **Additional Sources of Statistical Information**

Consistent with the U.S. Department of Education federal regulations, the MUW PD has developed, and periodically reviews, procedures to include on-campus statistics, and reports of required crimes made to the following campus security authorities: Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Dean of Students, student organization advisors, and the Office of Housing and Residence Life (including residence directors and residence advisors).





## ABOUT THE MUW POLICE DEPARTMENT

### **Mission and Core Values**

It is the mission of the MUW Police Department to safeguard persons and property through preparedness and vigilance. The department holds true to the customer-service policing philosophy. Its members shall continually strive for excellence in service, training and professional development. Core Values are: accountability, honesty, integrity, dependability, service to others before self and a genuine desire to pursue what is right, good and fair.

### **Role and Authority**

The MUW PD protects and serves the MUW campus twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year. The University Police department is responsible to the Vice President for Student Affairs and employs nine full-time sworn officers (which includes Chief of Police and Assistant Chief of Police), four full-time dispatchers, and one full-time office manager. MUW PD utilizes part-time officers who serve during special events and coverage on regular shifts. The department has two field training officers and one department training coordinator. Field training officers will ensure that all new officers will be properly trained and knowledgeable of department policies and procedures. The new officers will work with a field training officer for a designated period of time. The department training coordinator will seek out training opportunities for the department and maintain training records for all officers.

The MUW PD has complete police authority to apprehend and arrest anyone involved in illegal acts on-campus and areas immediately adjacent to the campus. If minor offenses involving University rules and regulations are committed by a University student, the campus police may also refer the individual to the disciplinary area of Student Affairs.

Major offenses such as rape, murder, aggravated assault, robbery and auto theft are reported to the police. Investigators from MUW PD, the city police, and/or the county may be deployed to solve these serious felony crimes. The prosecution of all felony offenses and some misdemeanors are conducted at the Lowndes County Circuit Court. The prosecution of most misdemeanors is conducted at the Lowndes County Justice Court.

MUW PD provides full police and environmental safety services to the campus community. The MUW PD force consists of sworn officers with full arrest powers who are on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and are certified by the state of Mississippi. These officers are vested with all the powers, authority and responsibilities of any officer of the state on property owned or operated by the University and property immediately adjacent to campus. There are dispatchers for every shift that officers are working.

### **Working Relationship with Local Agencies**

The MUW PD maintains a cooperative relationship with the City of Columbus Police Department, Lowndes County Sheriff's Department, and other surrounding police agencies. The University maintains a memorandum of understanding with the City of Columbus Police Department and Lowndes County Sheriff's Department. The MUW PD cooperates fully with other law enforcement agencies in cases that involve both on-campus and off-campus jurisdictions or when resources of an agency other than the MUW PD can be used to facilitate the resolution of an investigation. Local police agencies and MUW PD exchange information on a regular basis and work together during campus and community events.

## Crimes Involving Students and Student Organizations Off-Campus

The MUW PD relies on a close working relationship with the local law enforcement agencies to receive information about incidents that involve students and recognized student organizations.

When a student is involved in an off-campus offense, police officers may assist with the investigation in cooperation with local, state or federal law enforcement. City of Columbus Police and Lowndes County Sheriff's Department routinely work and communicate with campus officers on any serious incidents occurring on-campus or in the immediate neighborhood and business areas surrounding campus. MUW operates no off-campus student housing, but has one facility, Plymouth Bluff that can be rented by students and student organizations. However, some students live in the neighborhoods surrounding MUW. While the Columbus Police Department has primary jurisdiction in all areas off campus, MUW officers can and do respond to student-related incidents that occur in close proximity to campus. MUW officers have direct communication with the city police, fire department and 911 to facilitate rapid response to any emergency situation. MUW does not have any off-campus student organizations with off-campus housing.

## REPORTING CRIMES AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

The University has a number of ways for the campus community members and visitors to report crimes, serious incidents, and other emergencies to the appropriate University officials. Regardless of how incidents are reported, it is critical for the safety of the entire MUW community that incidents are reported immediately so that the MUW PD can investigate and determine if follow-up actions are required.

### Voluntary, Confidential Reporting

If you are the victim of a crime and do not want to pursue action within the University system or the criminal justice system, you may still want to consider making a confidential report. The purpose of the confidential report is to comply with your wish to keep the matter confidential, while taking steps to ensure future safety of yourself and others. With such information, the University can keep an accurate record of the number of incidents involving students, determine where there is a pattern of crime with regard to a particular location, method, or assailant, and alert the campus community to potential danger. Reports filed in this manner are counted and disclosed in the annual crimes statistics for the institution.

Under the law, campus pastoral and professional counselors, when acting as such, **are not** considered to be a campus security authority and **are not** required to report crimes for inclusion in the annual disclosure of campus crime statistics. As a matter of policy, however, MUW encourages its counselors, if and when they deem it appropriate, to inform the persons they are counseling of procedures to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics.

All verified and unverified confidential reports of sexual offenses that meet reporting criteria as determined by MUW PD and that are made to University staff are included in MUW campus crime statistics (see Prevention and Reporting of Sexual Assaults for more information about MUW policies and procedures concerning sexual offenses).

Crimes reported to counselors or MUW Health Center **are not** included unless the victim chooses to report to one of the other campus security authorities.

## Reporting to University Police

To maximize the safety of campus, the MUW PD strongly encourages anyone with knowledge about any crime, suspicious activity or unsafe actions/conditions on campus (either as a witness or as a victim) to make an immediate report to the MUW PD in person or by phone. Reporting does not mean legal action but it may help police officers stop further incidents as well as help them keep the community informed about criminal activity.

To make a report in person, go to the MUW PD, located in McDevitt Hall. To make a report by phone, call 662-241-7777 and describe the situation to the dispatcher. In emergency situations, including fires and medical emergencies, call 911. All 911 calls made from campus will go to the Lowndes County 911 Dispatch Center and the dispatcher on duty will contact the MUW PD dispatcher. It is best to contact 911 first and then, call 662-241-7777 in the event of an emergency.

University students requiring non-emergency medical care may contact the Student Health Center at 662-329-7289. Students seeking counseling services may contact the Counseling Center at 662-329-7748.

MUW employees requiring non-emergency medical care may contact the Student Health Center at 662-329-7289 or Baptist Memorial Hospital at 662-244-1000.

Students, faculty and staff members who are victims of interpersonal relationship violence may contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 or [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org) for counseling and advocacy and file a report with the university's Title IX Coordinator located in 301B – Welty Hall and contact number is 662-329-7100.

## Reporting to a Campus Security Authority (CSA)

### What is a CSA?

A CSA is a person referred to as a **campus security authority** by the Clery Act. CSA's are a vital part of data collection for the annual safety and security report.

The Clery Act requires MUW to provide an annual campus safety and fire report. In addition to input from law enforcement, certain positions are designated as Campus Security Authorities (CSA) for the purpose of providing information for this report. CSAs are usually found in departments responsible for, but not limited to, student and campus activities. The W has identified that all faculty and staff members are Campus Security Authorities.

### How Are CSAs Identified?

The law defines the following four categories of CSAs:

1. MUW PD sworn law enforcement personnel and department administrators.
2. Non-police people or offices responsible for campus security—community service officers, campus contract security personnel, parking enforcement staff, personnel providing access control and/or security at campus facilities, athletic events or other special events, safety escort staff, residential community assistants and other similar positions.
3. Officials with significant responsibility for student and campus activities—an Official is defined as any person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the University. To determine which individuals of organizations are CSAs, consider job functions that involve relationships with students. Look for Officials (i.e., not support staff) whose functions involve relationships with students. If someone has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, then they would be considered a CSA. Some examples of CSAs in this category **include, but are not limited to:** academic deans; student affairs / residential life

officials; coordinator of Greek Affairs (or related positions); athletic administrators, including directors, assistant directors and coaches; student activities coordinators and staff; student judicial officials; faculty and staff advisors to student organizations; student center building staff; student peer education advisors; and administrators at branch campuses.

4. Any individual or organization specified in an institution's statement of campus security policy as an individual or organization to which students and employees should report criminal offenses.

#### Campus Security Authority Reporting

It is imperative that we maintain an effective way to manage reports that Campus Security Authorities receive. The university requires CSA's to notify the MUW PD about crime information as soon as they become aware of it by completing this CSA Incident Report form. CSAs should not investigate crimes or attempt to determine whether in fact a crime occurred. Rather, a CSA's obligation is to simply report the information as soon as possible.

If you are in doubt as to whether a crime is reportable, please err on the side of reporting the matter. If you have any questions, please contact MUW PD at 662-241-7777.

#### **MUW Response to a Crime Report**

When you report a crime to the MUW PD, a MUW police officer will meet with you, listen to what happened and if necessary, make a preliminary report. Next, an investigator will review the report and conduct a follow-up investigation. If a suspect is found and you decide to press charges, information will be presented to the District Attorney, who decides if there is a legal basis to arrest the suspect. If there is an arrest to be made, you will be asked to sign an affidavit and a warrant will be issued. Any law enforcement officer can serve the warrant. If the subject lives on campus, it will be best if the warrant is served by MUW police officers. A court date will be set and you will have to be present to testify.

MUW encourages you to report criminal activity even if you do not want to take legal action in order to help us maintain accurate statistical records. The MUW PD is responsible for preparing the University's Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report and for compiling the crime and fire statistics included in the report. We like to keep the community informed as much as possible. The information you report may require the MUW PD to issue a W-Alert if they determine that the circumstances warrant such action. Also, see information below regarding another way in which to make a voluntary confidential reporting of forcible and non-forcible sexual offenses.

#### Anonymous Reporting

If you are interested in reporting a crime or incident anonymously, you can utilize the University's online reporting website, which can be accessed at [www.muw.edu/reporting](http://www.muw.edu/reporting).

#### Emergency Phones

Although the ultimate goal of our department is to create a safe campus through initiatives and public cooperation, we recognize that emergencies occur and it is reassuring to know that help is a mere phone call away. Throughout our campus locations, there are six outdoor emergency phones strategically located on campus walkways, near residence halls and university buildings and near parking areas. These communication devices are highly visible and provide a fully-contained emergency communication device for anyone in urgent need of help. These phones are to be used for **EMERGENCIES ONLY**.



The following locations have **Code Blue Phones**:

- Callaway Hall
- Cromwell Hall
- Kincannon Hall
- Martin Hall
- Shattuck Hall

## TIMELY WARNINGS

Under the Clery Act, colleges and universities must use timely warnings and emergency notifications to inform the campus community of potential threats against which they can take preventive measures. These ongoing disclosure requirements, when implemented, can help to create and promote a safe campus environment.

The purpose of a timely warning is to notify the campus community of the incident and to provide information that may enable the community to take steps to protect themselves from similar incidents. The Chief of Police will issue timely warnings whenever there is a substantial risk to the safety of other members of the campus community. For incidents involving off-campus crimes, the MUW PD may issue a timely warning if the crime occurred adjacent to the campus or in a location frequented by the University population.

Timely warnings have a narrow focus with a concentration on the Clery Act specific crimes. A timely warning must be issued for Clery Act crimes that occur in the University's Clery Act geography. The warning must reach the entire campus.

Timely warnings are considered for the following classifications of Clery Act crimes:

### Criminal Homicide

- murder/non-negligent manslaughter
- Manslaughter by negligence

### Sex Offenses

- rape
- fondling
- incest
- statutory rape

- robbery
- aggravated assault
- burglary
- motor vehicle theft
- arson

Timely warnings may also be issued for other reported crimes as determined necessary by the Chief of Police or designee. The decision will be made in compliance with the Clery Act and in an effort to prevent similar crimes from occurring.

Decisions to disseminate a timely warning will be decided on a case-by-case basis in light of all the facts surrounding the crime and the continuing danger to the campus community. The purpose of the warning is to aid in the prevention of similar crimes by alerting the community about the incident and providing information on the actions the campus community can take to diminish their chances of being victimized.

A timely warning will be issued as soon as pertinent information is available. The amount and type of information presented in the timely warning will vary depending on the circumstances of the crime. If there is certain information that could compromise law enforcement efforts, it may be withheld from the timely warning notice. An effort will always be made to distribute a warning as soon as pertinent information is available so that the warning is a preventive tool, not solely a description of the incident.

Timely warning will include some or all of the following information:

- Date, time and location of the reported crime
- Summary of the incident
- Description of the suspect and/or vehicle, if available
- Special instructions or incident specific safety tips

In the event that a situation arises, either on-campus or off-campus, that constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat, a campus wide “timely warning” will be issued. The Chief of Police or designee will issue a timely warning notice for the University community to notify members of the community about incidents that occur on campus, where it is determined that the incident may pose an ongoing threat to members of the University community. The warning will be issued through the University’s messaging system called W-Alert to students, faculty and staff.

The W-Alert may encompass the following modes of communication:

- Text (SMS) message
- Email university email addresses
- Broadcast automated calling
- Social Media (Facebook and Twitter)
- University’s homepage website
- Electronic display boards

In the event of inclement weather, the MUW PD will be in constant contact with Emergency Management and will keep the University updated regarding inclement weather. Depending on the particular circumstances, **especially in all situations that could pose an immediate threat to the community and individuals**, a notice may be posted on the main page ([www.muw.edu](http://www.muw.edu)) of the University Website providing the community with immediate notification.

Anyone with information warranting a timely warning should report the circumstances to the MUW PD (662-241-7777) or in person to the dispatcher at the front gate.

## EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

MUW is committed to ensuring the campus community receives timely and accurate information in the event of a confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation occurring on the campus involving an immediate threat to the health and safety of the students and employees. The MUW PD is the department who will confirm the existence of a credible emergency event or threat. The University will use the emergency notification system through Blackboard Connect to provide alerts via W-Alert. This is the MUW emergency notification service available to all students, faculty and staff. It can be used to send emergency messages within minutes of the occurrence of an incident. Once the emergency notification has been made, more detailed follow-up information will be released to the campus community.

The Chief of Police or designee has the authorization to send emergency notifications. Once confirmation of an emergency event or threat, an emergency notification will be sent to the University community to notify members about the incident that occurred on campus, where it is determined that the incident may pose an ongoing threat to members of the University community. An emergency notification will be sent without delay and unless a notification will compromise efforts to assist a victim or contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate emergency.

The emergency notification will be issued through the University's messaging system called W-Alert to students, faculty and staff.

The W-Alert may encompass the following modes of communication:

- Text (SMS) message
- Email university email addresses
- Broadcast automated calling
- Social Media (Facebook and Twitter)
- University's homepage website
- Electronic display boards

Emergency notifications have a broad focus and may be issued without delay for the following list of emergencies, but not limited to:

- Natural disaster
- Weather
- Environmental
- Terrorist attack
- String of larcenies
- Power outage

Emergency notification will include some or all of the following information:

- Date, time and location of the reported crime
- Summary of the incident
- Description of the suspect and/or vehicle, if available
- Special instructions or incident specific safety tips
- Statement as to where additional information may be obtained

## COMMUNITY SAFETY BULLETIN

MUW Police Department provides information on crimes that have recently occurred in the campus area so that you may take the appropriate precautions. MUW Community Safety Bulletins are based on information that was reported to MUW Police Department. The reported information may not have been investigated or confirmed at the time the Community Safety Bulletin was issued.

All crimes reported to the MUW Police Department are recorded in the daily crime log. This crime log can be viewed at the MUW Police Department, located in McDevitt Hall.

Community Safety Bulletins will be issued via e-mail and posted to our website after an incident occurs that should be brought to the attention of the University community. Physical descriptions of the person(s) of interest may be included in Community Safety Bulletins only when they provide several details that might help distinguish the suspect's appearance from the general population.

Community Safety Bulletins are located and archived at [www.muw.edu/police/bulletins](http://www.muw.edu/police/bulletins)

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES

### Emergency Management at MUW

The MUW PD assists all departments and campus with developing, maintaining, and implementing emergency operations plans, developing and conducting exercises, and building partnerships with external response agencies. An emergency procedures flipchart is provided to the campus community. This document contains emergency response information for a wide range of events that could potentially occur on campus.

The University uses the emergency notification system through ReGroup to provide alerts via **W-Alert**. This is the MUW mass emergency notification service available to all students, faculty and staff. It can be used to send emergency messages within minutes of the occurrence of an incident. Once the emergency notification has been made, more detailed follow-up information will be released to the campus community via additional W-Alerts or Community Safety Bulletin.

### Steps to enroll to receive W-Alerts or to update information:

1. Go to MUW's home page, [www.muw.edu](http://www.muw.edu).
2. Click on the Banner Web icon on the top right hand side of the home page.
3. Enter your Banner ID (user ID) and pin then click the "Login" button
4. Click the "Personal Information" tab on the left hand side of the page.
5. Click on "W Alert Text Messaging Opt In/Out."
6. Enter your phone number +area code then select "Opt-In."
7. Then click the "Submit" button.

Additionally, the campus community is encouraged to download the SchoolDude Crisis Manager application to their phones. Crisis Manager is a mobile safety platform that provides emergency plans specific to the MUW campus.



**Here's how you can download the SchoolDude Crisis Manager application:**

1. Go to your smartphone's App Store.
2. Download "Schooldude CrisisManager" app to your smartphone.
3. Open app and follow instructions to create an account.
4. Once you have entered the app, click on the blue + at the top of the right of the page.
5. Wait for the list of crisis plans, then click to open the client plans.
6. Scroll to find Mississippi University for Women click the + to open it, then download the emergency guidelines.
7. Open the guidelines.

For additional information on the SchoolDude Crisis Management App or W-Alert, contact MUW PD at 662-241-7777.

The University maintains a Crisis Action Team (CAT), which may be activated by senior university officials for response to emergencies on the MUW campus. Team members and MUW PD have received training in Incident Command System (ICS), which is utilized when responding to these incidents.

**Drills, Exercises, and Training**

To ensure the campus's emergency management plans remain current and actionable, the campus conducts at least one large scale exercise annually. The exercise includes a full scale scenario that involves coordination with local and state agencies. In conjunction with the annual exercise, the campus will notify the campus community of the exercise and remind the campus community of the W-Alert system and emergency response procedures. In addition to the large scale university-wide exercise, various departments and colleges practice lockdown procedures throughout the year.

**2019*****Disaster Drill***

MUW nursing students participated in a disaster drill on September 6, 2019 that involved a simulated residence hall fire. The university administration also participated and simulated how a residence hall fire would impact the campus.

**2018*****Disaster Drill***

MUW nursing students participated in a disaster drill on September 18, 2018 that involved a simulated tornado at Propst Park in Columbus, MS. The university administration remained on campus during the drill and conducted a table top training based on how a tornado may impact the campus.

**2017*****Disaster Drill***

The University participated in a full scale exercise on September 7, 2017 that involved a chemical release on campus. The University's learning objectives were:

- Test W Alert System.
- Test MSWIN radio System, Including the MSWIN radios in the PD vehicles, handheld, and EOC.
- Test our MUW PD/Columbus PD communication and Interface throughout the exercise.
- Test our MUW Crisis Action Team (CAT) Communication (Tabletop during the Exercise at the EOC).
- Test "Shelter in Place" ability.

## SECURITY OF AND ACCESS TO MUW FACILITIES

On the MUW campus, academic and administrative buildings are open from 8:00am until 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Academic and administrative buildings close at 5:00pm. Academic buildings are scheduled to be open at night and on weekends only as needed. MUW PD officers routinely check all building entrances and exits to ensure the security of each building.

### Special Considerations for Residence Hall Access

On the MUW campus, all residence halls operate under a computerized Access Control System. All exterior doors are locked twenty-four hours a day. Identification cards are coded so that only students who are residents in a particular hall have authorized electronic access entry to that hall. The system will deny entry to all unauthorized persons and log that denied entrance. When a door is malfunctioning, personnel are summoned for immediate repair. Residents should always lock doors and windows.

Each on-campus resident receives the MUW Student Handbook each fall semester upon moving in to the residence halls, which includes information on safety and security. Only residents and their invited guests are permitted in the residence halls. It is the resident's responsibility to ensure that their guests are aware of the University and residence hall policies which can be found in the MUW Student Handbook. The MUW Student Handbook is also located online at <http://www.muw.edu/deanofstudents/resources> and is updated as needed throughout the year. Please refer to the online version of the MUW Student Handbook for the most up to date version.

### Security Considerations for the Maintenance of Campus Facilities

MUW is committed to campus safety and security. At MUW, locks, landscaping, and outdoor lighting are designed for safety and security. Outdoor lighting is inspected once a semester to ensure adequate lighting. Grounds-keeping personnel trim shrubs and trees in order to provide well-lighted routes on campus.

We encourage campus community members to promptly report any security concerns, including concerns about locking mechanisms, lighting, or landscaping, to the MUW PD at 662-241-7777.

## MUW'S RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING

### Commitment to Addressing Sexual Assault/Rape, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking

Mississippi University for Women seeks to foster an atmosphere of respect for all members of the University community. To this end, the University is committed to maintaining a working and learning environment free of sexual misconduct. Sexual misconduct encompasses any non-consensual behavior of a sexual nature that is committed by force or intimidation, incapacitation, or that is otherwise unwelcome. The term sexual misconduct includes, but is not limited to, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual intimidation, and sexual harassment.

The University's Sexual Misconduct Policy (2019) and Title IX Policy (2020) describes the prohibited conduct and sets forth the resources available. Offenders are subject to appropriate University disciplinary action up to and including termination or expulsion. The following information is taken directly from the 2019 policy, but the definitions of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking are the same in both policies. For additional information on the 2020 policy, see [www.muw.edu/titleix](http://www.muw.edu/titleix).

## **What is consent?**

Consent between two or more people is defined as an affirmative agreement – through clear actions or words – to engage in sexual activity. The person giving the consent must act freely, voluntarily, and with an understanding of his or her actions when giving consent.

**ANY FORM OF SEXUAL ACTIVITY REQUIRES CONSENT.**

### **EFFECTIVE CONSENT IS:**

Effective consent is the basis of this policy because effective consent maintains the value that all persons have the right to feel respected, acknowledged, and safe during sexual activity. The use of force to obtain sexual access or to induce consent violates this policy whether the force is physical in nature, violent, or involves threats, intimidation or coercion.

Lack of protest or resistance does not constitute consent, nor does silence mean consent has been given. Relying solely on non-verbal communication can lead to misunderstanding. Persons who want to engage in sexual activity are responsible for obtaining consent – it should never be assumed.

A prior relationship or prior sexual activity is not sufficient to demonstrate consent.

### **EFFECTIVE CONSENT IS NOT:**

Consent is not effective if it is obtained from force, threat of force, fraud or intimidation. Additionally, it is not consent if the initiator has sex with someone he or she knows, or reasonably should know, to be incapacitated by alcohol, drugs, sleep or illness. A person who is unconscious, unaware, or otherwise physically helpless cannot give consent to sexual activity.

**Age of Consent:** According to Mississippi Code Annotated § 97-3-65, an individual who is 17 years or older cannot receive consent from a child who is between the ages of 14 and 16, if the child is thirty-six (36) or more months younger than the person.

## **Defining Sexual Assault/Rape, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking**

Sexual misconduct is a broad term encompassing sexual behavior that is committed without effective consent and may vary in its severity. It can occur between strangers or acquaintances, including people involved in an intimate or sexual relationship. Sexual misconduct can occur between members of the same sex, and this policy applies regardless of the sexual orientation, gender status or sexual preference of the individuals engaging in sexual activity.

### **Dating violence**

The use of physical, sexual or emotional abuse or threats to control another person who is, or has been involved in, a sexual, dating, or other intimate relationship with the victim. Whether there was such a relationship will be gauged by its length, type, and frequency of the interaction.

### **Domestic violence**

The same as dating violence - committed by the victim's current or former spouse, current or former husband, current or former cohabitant, person similarly situated under domestic or family violence law, or anyone else protected under domestic or family violence law.

### **Non-consensual intentional sexual contact (or attempt to commit)**

Any intentional sexual touching with any object, by any person upon another, without consent and/or by force.

**Non-consensual sexual intercourse (or attempt to commit)**

Any sexual intercourse, however slight, by any person upon another without consent and/or by force.

**Sexual Assault**

Any form of sexual contact without the consent of all parties involved. Sexual contact is the intentional touching, whether with one's own body part, or an instrument or object, of another person, no matter how slight, in or on, an area of the body generally recognized as being a private part of the body; or the intentional touching of another person, no matter how slight, with one's own private body part anywhere on the other person's body. The amount or lack thereof, of clothing being worn by either person is of no consequence in determining whether a "sexual physical contact" has occurred, and the body part touched, or used to touch with, may be covered or clothed.

**Types of** sexual assault may include, but are not limited to:

- rape or attempted rape
- non-consensual, intentional contact with intimate body parts
- non-consensual oral sex
- lewd exposure of one's sexual organs, either in person, in print, or electronically, to another without his or her consent
- any sexual contact between two individuals that, because of the age of the parties, is prohibited under State law.

**Sexual exploitation**

Behavior which occurs when an individual takes non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for his/her own advantage or benefit or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the one being exploited, and that behavior does not otherwise constitute one of the other sexual misconduct offenses. Examples include, but are not limited to: non-consensual video or audio taping of sexual activity even if the sexual act is consensual; engaging in any form of voyeurism; any disrobing or exposing oneself to another without effective consent.

**Sexual harassment**

Is a form of sex discrimination prohibited by federal law under Title IX and Title VII. It is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature and can include unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal and nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature, such as sexual assault or acts of sexual violence.

Sexual harassment becomes unlawful when it creates a hostile environment where the harassing conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive so that it unreasonably interferes with, denies or limits an individual's ability to participate in or benefit from the University's work environment, educational programs and/or activities based on sex. A single instance of sexual assault may be sufficiently severe to constitute a hostile environment. Sexual harassment is also unlawful when there are: a) unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature; and b) submission to or rejection of such conduct results in an adverse educational or employment action. This is known as *quid pro quo* sexual harassment.

**Sexual misconduct**



Any non-consensual behavior of a sexual nature that is committed by force or intimidation, or that is otherwise unwelcome. This descriptive term includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, sexual exploitation and sexual intimidation.

### **Stalking**

A course of conduct directed at a specific person, or the act of making a credible threat, that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his, her, or others' safety, or to fear damage or destruction of his or her own property.

### **What to do if you have been the victim of sexual assault/rape, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking?**

The Title IX Coordinator oversees the University's compliance with Title IX including the review, investigation, and resolution of reports of discrimination, harassment, and sexual harassment including sexual misconduct. Any student or employee who wishes to file a claim related to Title IX or who has questions about the application of Title IX can contact:

**Title IX Coordinator**  
**Karen Clay (Interim)**  
**Welty Hall Room 301B**

**Email:** [kgclay@muw.edu](mailto:kgclay@muw.edu)  
**Office:** (662) 329-7100  
**Fax:** (662) 329-7297

**Office of Civil Rights**  
**U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services**  
**Health and Human Services**  
**61 Forsyth Street, S.W.**  
**Atlanta, GA 30303-8909**  
**Phone:** (404) 562-7886  
**Fax:** (404) 331-2867

Title IX Deputy Investigators consist of faculty and staff employees of the University who represent the four colleges and other segments of University life. They receive specific, specialized training related to their responsibilities of investigating complaints or reports of sexual misconduct. The Title IX Deputy Investigators may also advise students and employees, who wish to make a complaint under this policy and those who have been accused, of their rights and resources when dealing with sexual misconduct. See [www.muw.edu/titleix/deputies](http://www.muw.edu/titleix/deputies) for contact information.

### **University Procedures for Responding to Reports of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking**

The University will make every effort to investigate a complaint or report promptly through the process so long as such speed does not interfere with the quality of the investigation. Reports of sexual misconduct will be adjudicated within 60 calendar days of the date that the Title IX Coordinator is notified of the complaint, unless there are extenuating circumstances (i.e. uncooperative witness, break periods and periods when the University is closed).

The Title IX Coordinator will comply with law enforcement requests for cooperation and such cooperation may require the Title IX Coordinator to temporarily suspend the fact-finding aspect of the investigation while law enforcement is in the process of gathering evidence. The University promptly will resume its investigation as soon as it is notified by the law enforcement agency that it has completed the evidence gathering process.

Upon receiving a complaint or report of sexual misconduct, the Title IX Coordinator has the initial responsibility of determining whether there is sufficient evidence of a violation of the University's sexual misconduct policy which would justify proceeding with a formal investigation. The Title IX Coordinator shall make this initial preliminary investigation within ten (10) business days of receiving a complaint.

If the Title IX Coordinator finds (a) that the facts in the complaint or the report, even if taken as true, do not constitute a violation of the University's sexual misconduct policy; or (b) the complaint fails to assert facts that suggest sexual misconduct; or (c) the appropriate resolution or remedy has already been achieved, the Coordinator shall close the investigation and notify the reporting party of the findings and that the matter is closed.

If the Title IX Coordinator finds sufficient evidence of a violation of the University's Sexual Misconduct Policy, a formal investigation will be initiated.

### **Internal Disciplinary Procedures that will be followed once an incident of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking has been reported**

#### Informal Resolution of Sexual Misconduct or Sexual Harassment

Employees or students who believe they are victims of sexual harassment or misconduct have the option of proceeding informally or formally. Informal resolution may be appropriate if the conduct is isolated or non-threatening. Informal resolution is not an option for cases of sexual assault, including sexual or inappropriate touching of any kind.

If one chooses to proceed informally, the employee or student should contact the Title IX Coordinator to report the sexual harassment or misconduct and specify they wish to proceed informally. Resolution at the informal complaint process will be mediated by the Title IX Coordinator, or his/her designee, and may include an agreement in which one or more of the parties involved agree to accept discipline in the form of a warning, censure, probation, or other such disciplinary action as may be warranted by the circumstances of each case.

To the extent the parties are able to achieve a satisfactory resolution of the complaint through the informal resolution process, the complaint will be considered resolved. The reporting party and responding party will receive written notification of the outcome and disposition of the complaint. The fact that a complaint of sexual harassment or misconduct may be concluded at the request of the accusing party does not preclude the filing of a formal complaint by others, including appropriate University officials.

#### Formal Complaint Process

Responsible employees, except those who are to maintain confidentiality through their employment at the Health Center or Counseling Center, are required to immediately report incidents of sexual misconduct which come to their attention to the Title IX Coordinator. Students or third parties who witness, or are aware of suspected incidents of sexual misconduct are strongly encouraged to report the incident.

All individual complaints of sexual misconduct should be reported immediately to the University's Title IX Coordinator. Complaints may be made directly in person to the Title IX Coordinator or in writing by completing the Sexual Misconduct Complaint Form. Online reporting may be made anonymously. Complaints may also be made or reported in person to the Faculty, Chairs, Deans, or any University employee who, then, shall report the incident to the Title IX Coordinator.

#### Formal investigation

The Title IX Coordinator shall notify the reporting party when the formal investigation commences and provide a tentative time frame for the completion of the investigation and the decision. The Title IX Coordinator shall also prepare and send notice of the complaint to the responding party, which will include the tentative time frame for the completion of the investigation and the decision.

The reporting party and the responding party may have one adviser of their own choosing present for support and consultation during the investigation at any time the respective party is meeting with the Title IX Coordinator or the Deputy Investigators.

During the investigation, the Title IX Coordinator shall by himself/herself and/or with the aid of one or more of the Title IX Deputy Investigators collect all evidence relating to the complaint or report of sexual misconduct from all available sources. Interviews of the parties and any witnesses, if applicable, will be conducted. Each person interviewed will be asked to write a statement or sign a summary drafted by the investigator based upon the information given during the interview. Upon completion of the formal investigation, the Title IX Coordinator shall make a factual finding, based upon a preponderance of the evidence, as to whether or not a violation occurred and will prepare a written report in conformity with those findings.

If there is a finding of no violation of the University Sexual Misconduct Policy, the process is concluded. The Title IX Coordinator will give written notice of the findings and termination of the proceedings to the reporting party, responding party, and appropriate University Administrators.

If there is a finding of a violation of the University Sexual Misconduct Policy, the Title IX Coordinator will convene with the Sanctioning Official to determine the appropriate sanction(s) to be imposed. The Sanctioning Official shall be the Chief Student Affairs Officer, if a student is the Respondent; the Chief Academic Officer, if a faculty member is the Respondent; or the Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration, if a staff member or anyone else is the Respondent.

#### Notification of the Outcome

Once the Title IX Coordinator and Sanctioning Official decide upon an appropriate sanction, the Title IX Coordinator shall notify the reporting party and responding party in writing of the outcome of the investigation by email to the parties' University email account or by U.S. Mail. The notification shall include a summary of the investigative findings, the sanction(s) to be imposed, if applicable, and each party's right to appeal. The form of notice shall be at the discretion of the Title IX Coordinator and shall be that which is determined to be the most expedient and reliable method of informing the parties.

Any disclosure to persons other than the parties deemed necessary shall be in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws, including FERPA with regard to students.

Any sanction imposed may be suspended pending appeal.

#### Appeals

A party aggrieved by a decision of the Title IX Coordinator or by the sanctions imposed may file a Petition for Appeal within five (5) business days of notification of the final outcome.

The appeal must be sent to the Title IX Coordinator in writing and state clearly what the grounds are, that would justify consideration. General dissatisfaction with the outcome of the proceeding is not a basis for appeal. The written appeal must address one of the following criteria:

- An error in procedure, which prejudiced the process to the extent the participant was denied a fundamentally fair investigation as a result of the error. Only significant procedural errors that may have affected the decision or which relate to the sanction imposed will be considered.
- New evidence that was previously unknown and became available during the appeal process that could substantially impact the original finding or sanction. A summary of this new evidence and its potential impact must be included with the notice of appeal.
- Sanctions imposed are not appropriate for the violation the individual(s) committed.

- Clearly demonstrated investigator bias.

An appeal which does not clearly raise one of these four criteria will be dismissed without further consideration.

After receiving a Petition for Appeal, the Title IX Coordinator shall inform the other party of the appeal and give the non-appealing party an opportunity to respond within five (5) business days. The Title IX Coordinator shall also inform the Sanctioning Official of the appeal.

After receipt of the Petition for Appeal and any response, the Title IX Coordinator shall notify the appointed Title IX Deputy Investigator(s) who shall act as the final Appeals Officer.

The Appeals Officer shall review the appeal and any response to determine if the appeal meets any of the limited grounds and is timely. Appeals decisions are to be deferential to the original investigation, making changes to the findings only if there is clear error and to the sanction only if there is a compelling justification to do so. The original finding and sanction will stand if the appeal is not timely or does not meet one of the stated grounds. The Appeals Officer will render a written decision on appeal to all parties within seven (7) business days from receipt of the appeal. The Appeal Officer's decision to deny appeal requests is final.

If the Appeals Officer determines that new evidence should be considered, he/she will return the complaint to the Title IX Coordinator and/or Title IX Deputies who conducted the original investigation to reconsider in light of the new evidence only, and the parties will be notified in writing accordingly. The Title IX Coordinator and/or Title IX Deputies shall conduct any supplemental investigation in accordance with the procedures set out above with proper notice and opportunity to be heard conveyed to the parties.

If the Appeals Officer determines that a material procedural error occurred, he/she may return the complaint to the Title IX Coordinator and/or Title IX Deputies who conducted the original investigation with instructions to cure the error. In rare cases where the procedural error cannot be cured by the original investigators (as in a case of bias), the Appeals Officer may order a new hearing on the complaint with new investigators. The results of a new investigation may be appealed.

If the Appeals Officer determines that the sanctions imposed are beyond the articulated sanctioning matrix, the Appeals Officer will return the complaint to the original Sanctioning Official, who may then increase, decrease or otherwise modify the sanctions. This decision will be final. The Sanctioning Official will provide notification to all parties and any appropriate University officials.

#### **Possible sanctions or protective measures MUW may impose following a final determination of an institutional procedure**

The following matrix shall guide the Title IX Coordinator and the Sanctioning Official in determining sanctions and provide notice to the University community of the possible sanctions for an individual who is found responsible under this policy. **This matrix only provides guidance and is not meant to be exclusive as to other sanctions that can be imposed.**

Additionally, prior disciplinary actions of a same or similar nature against an individual may be taken into consideration when imposing sanctions. The sanctions of dismissal, suspension, and probation may apply to academic enrollment, participation in campus activities and organizations, and residence life.



Prohibited Behavior/Conduct	Range of Sanctions
Sexual Misconduct Constituting of Sexual Assault	Dismissal/Termination
Sexual Misconduct Not Constituting Sexual Assault	Dismissal/Termination Suspension Probation
Unwanted Sexual Touching	Dismissal/Termination Suspension Probation Community Service Educational/Counseling Consultation
Non-physical Sexual Harassment	Dismissal/Termination Suspension Probation Community Service Educational/Counseling Consultation
Discrimination	Dismissal/Termination Suspension Probation Community Service Educational/Counseling Consultation
Retaliation False Allegations	Dismissal/Termination Suspension Probation Community Service Educational/Counseling Consultation

### Protecting the confidentiality of victims

The University will work to safeguard the identities and privacy of those who seek help or who report sexual misconduct and is committed to creating an environment that encourages reporting. It is important to understand, however, that there are limits on confidentiality. Different people, depending on their positions, have different obligations with regard to confidentiality.

Communications with some individuals are confidential. Individuals should always confirm whether confidentiality applies to the communication. Generally, confidentiality applies when one seeks services from the following persons:

- Local rape crisis center
- Psychological counselor (including counselors at MUW's Counseling Center)
- Health care provider (including medical professionals at MUW Student Health Center)
- Personal attorney
- Religious/spiritual counselor

All University employees, other than those who work in the Health Center or Counseling Center, are not confidential resources and are considered "responsible employees." A responsible employee is one that has the authority to take action to redress the harassment; has the duty to report harassment or other types of misconduct to appropriate officials; OR is someone a student could reasonably believe has this authority or responsibility. Responsible employees have a duty to report incidents of sexual misconduct to the Title IX

Coordinator. Examples of a responsible employee are a faculty member, staff member, student employee or a resident advisor.

Information shared with a responsible employee will be disclosed only to those individuals who have an essential need to know in order to carry out their University responsibilities. As is the case with any educational institution, the University must balance the needs of the individual reporting an alleged offense with its obligation to protect the safety and well-being of the community at large.

Under the Clery Act, the University must issue timely warnings with respect to crimes that pose a serious or continuing threat of bodily harm or danger to members of the campus community. A reporting party (individual files a report of misconduct) or responding party's (individual accused of misconduct) name will never be disclosed and the University will make every effort to ensure that any other identifying information is not disclosed, while still providing enough information for community members to make safety decisions in light of the danger.

#### Protection Against Retaliation

The University prohibits retaliation against an individual for making a complaint of sexual misconduct, for resisting such behavior, or for otherwise using or participating in the complaint resolution process. Prohibited behavior includes any form of intimidation, threats, or harassment by the individual accused of misconduct or friends, family or other person acting in support or on behalf of that individual. Acts of retaliation are, by themselves, cause for disciplinary action. Concerns of retaliation should be communicated immediately to the Title IX Coordinator.

### OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS IMPACTED BY SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE OR STALKING

- **Get to a Safe Place**
- **Talk to Someone You Trust**  
MUW Counseling Center provides confidential, no-cost support and advocacy to all students regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. This includes assistance navigating resources.
- **Preserve Physical Evidence.**  
Physical evidence may be necessary to prosecute the offender and be helpful in obtaining an order of protection. If at all possible, do not bathe, wash your hands, use the restroom, drink, smoke, change clothing or brush your teeth following an assault.
- **Seek Medical Attention**  
Baptist Memorial Hospital-Golden Triangle can provide medical services and evidence collection. Alternative medical services are also provided on campus by MUW Health Center. FOR SEVERE INJURIES CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY.
- **Report the Incident**  
Victims are encouraged to report incidents of sexual misconduct to the MUW PD. This is not a requirement. Students have additional reporting options that can be discussed with the Title IX Coordinator, located in Room 405 in Cochran Hall or by calling 662-241-6083, by email [slcantrell@muw.edu](mailto:slcantrell@muw.edu).

Retaliation against anyone who reports sexual misconduct is strictly prohibited. Reports of retaliatory behavior will be addressed immediately. This Policy also recognizes the ultimate decision of the victim/survivor not to pursue any formal method of reporting sexual misconduct and/or to seek confidential counseling and assistance in lieu of these formal methods.

## How to Be an Active Bystander

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. Bystander intervention includes recognizing situations of potential harm, understanding institutional structures and cultural conditions that facilitate violence, overcoming barriers to intervene, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking action to intervene.

Bystanders play a critical role in the prevention of sexual and relationship violence. They are “individuals who observe violence or witness the conditions that perpetuate violence. They are not directly involved but have the choice to intervene, speak up or do something about it.” We want to promote a culture of community accountability where bystanders are actively engaged in the prevention of violence without causing further harm. We may not always know what to do even if we want to help. If you or someone else is in immediate danger, dial 911. This could be when a person is yelling at or being physically abusive toward another and it is not safe for you to interrupt.

Below is a list of some ways to be an active bystander

1. Watch out for your friends and fellow students/employees. If you see someone who looks like they could be in trouble or need help, ask if they are okay.
2. Confront people who seclude, hit on, try to make out with, or have sex with people who are incapacitated.
3. Speak up when someone discusses plans to take sexual advantage of another person.
4. Believe someone who discloses sexual assault, abusive behavior or experience with stalking.
5. Refer people to on- or off-campus resources listed in this document for support in health, counseling or with legal assistance.

## Risk Reduction

Risk reduction means options 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. With no intent of victim blame and recognizing that only abusers are responsible for their abuse, the following are some strategies to reduce one’s risk of sexual assault or harassment (taken from Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network, [www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)):

1. **Be aware of your surroundings.** Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you to find a way to get out of a bad situation.
2. **Try to avoid isolated areas.** It is more difficult to get help if no one is around.
3. **Walk with purpose.** Even if you don’t know where you are going, act like you do.
4. **Trust your instincts.** If a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable, it probably isn’t the best place to be.
5. **Try not to load yourself down** with packages or bags as this can make you appear more vulnerable.
6. **Make sure your cell phone is with you** and charged.
7. **Don’t allow yourself to be isolated** with someone you don’t trust or someone you don’t know.
8. **Avoid putting music headphones in both ears** so that you can be more aware of your surroundings, especially if you are walking alone.
9. **When you go to a social gathering, go with a group of friends.** Arrive together, check in with each other throughout the evening and leave together. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you to find a way out of a bad situation.
10. **Trust your instincts.** If you feel unsafe in any situation, go with your gut. If you see something suspicious, contact law enforcement immediately (local authorities can be reached by calling 911 in most areas of the U.S.).

11. **Don't leave your drink unattended** while talking, dancing, using the restroom or making a phone call. If you've left your drink alone, just get a new one.
12. **Don't accept drinks from people you don't know or trust.** If you choose to accept a drink, go with the person to the bar to order it, watch it being poured, and carry it yourself. At parties, don't drink from the punch bowls or other large, common open containers.
13. **Watch out for your friends, and vice versa.** If a friend seems out of it, is way too intoxicated for the amount of alcohol they've had or is acting out of character, get them to a safe place immediately.
14. **If you suspect you or a friend has been drugged, contact law enforcement immediately** (local authorities can be reached by calling 911 in most areas of the U.S.). Be explicit with doctors so they can give you the correct tests (you will need a urine test and possibly others).
15. **If you need to get out of an uncomfortable or scary situation** here are some things that you can try:
  - a. **Remember that being in this situation is not your fault.** You did not do anything wrong; it is the person who is making you uncomfortable who is to blame.
  - b. **Be true to yourself.** Don't feel obligated to do anything you don't want to do. "I don't want to" is always a good enough reason. Do what feels right to you and what you are comfortable with.
  - c. **Have a code word** with your friends or family so that if you don't feel comfortable you can call them and communicate your discomfort without the person you are with knowing. Your friends or family can then come to get you or make up an excuse for you to leave.
  - d. **Lie.** If you don't want to hurt the person's feelings it is better to lie and make up a reason to leave than to stay and be uncomfortable, scared or worse. Some excuses you could use are: needing to take care of a friend or family member, not feeling well, having somewhere else that you need to be, etc
16. **Try to think of an escape route.** How would you try to get out of the room? Where are the doors? Windows? Are there people around who might be able to help you? Is there an emergency phone nearby?
17. **If you and/or the other person have been drinking,** you can say that you would rather wait until you both have your full judgment before doing anything you regret later.

### **Programs to Educate and Prevent Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking**

Individuals who have been victims of either sexual assault or sexual violence are encouraged to immediately contact the MUW PD at 662-241-7777 or by dialing 911 and seeking immediate medical attention. Keep in mind that medical examinations are time-sensitive and are critical in preserving evidence of sexual assault.

Campus and community services are available, even if University or criminal reports are not made. The University strongly encourages anyone who feels they have been the victim of sexual misconduct to seek emotional and physical support through confidential crisis intervention, healthcare, and counseling.

The University is also committed to providing preventive, informative and supportive programming for all members of the University community throughout the year. Campus-wide programs are designed to increase safety awareness, develop self-defense techniques, improve communication skills between all persons, and help prevent acquaintance and stranger rape, build self-esteem, and provide information related to bystander intervention and steps to take in the event of a sexual assault.

The university has an ongoing Title IX campaign which is known as "Know Your IX." This campaign included the creation of fliers, brochures, magnets, bathroom stall fliers and responsible employee training.

**Sex Offender Registration-Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act**

Upon release from prison, individuals convicted of sex crimes may be required to register with law enforcement agencies (under laws referred to as “Megan’s Law”). If registered sex offenders are enrolled at or employed at a postsecondary institution, the offenders must also provide this information to the state. The information is then provided by the state to campus police departments or to other law enforcement authorities in the jurisdiction where the institution is located.

The State of Mississippi maintains a statewide sex offender registry. This web address allows you to search by county for sex offenders in the MUW and surrounding areas. The Mississippi sex offender registry statute requires all sex offenders to register. To obtain Mississippi Sex Offender information, please go to the following web address: <http://state.sor.dps.ms.gov>

## **CAMPUS SECURITY POLICIES; CRIME PREVENTION AND SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAMS**

### **Behavioral Intervention Team**

The University utilizes a Behavioral Intervention Team which is a select group of trained staff and faculty across campus. The objective of the team is to identify, evaluate, and manage potentially threatening situations, including persons of concern, at the University.

This team has been trained by NaBITA, the National Behavioral Intervention Team Association. NaBITA is committed to providing education, resources and support to professionals in schools and in the workplace who endeavor every day to make their campuses and workplaces safer through caring prevention and intervention.

#### MUW’s Behavioral Intervention Team Mission Statement

“To proactively build and sustain community with a comprehensive, collaborative team that identifies behaviors that are a risk of harm to self or others. To promote campus safety by fostering a culture of reporting. To help and support via educational, rather than punitive means, according to an established protocol and transparent procedures. To provide training and education as we work together to promote student and community success and development. To assess, evaluate and evolve team function and protocols over time as best practices are identified and refined.”

### **Weapons Policy**

Institutions of Higher Learning, State of Mississippi  
Policy 1106

“The Board recognizes that the possession of pistols, firearms or other weapons on any of its institutional premises or at its institutions or student functions off-campus by persons other than duly authorized law enforcement officials, institutional security officials, other authorized persons and the institutional approved programs creates an unreasonable and unwarranted risk of injury or death to its institutions’ employees, students, visitors and guests and further creates an unreasonable and unwarranted risk of damage to properties of the institutions, employees, students, visitors, guests and properties of others. Because of such dangers, the Board hereby prohibits the possession of pistols, firearms or other weapons in any form by any person other than duly authorized law enforcement officials, institutional security officials and other authorized persons regardless of whether such person possesses a valid permit to carry such pistols, firearms or weapons.”

The possession of any weapon on campus is of serious concern to the University. Under most circumstances, possession of a weapon is a violation of university policy and state law. Any individual found in possession of a weapon may be subject to arrest and confiscation of the weapon. Additionally, students, faculty, and staff may be subject to disciplinary action. The MUW PD does not store weapons. An individual living on-campus that wishes to have access to a weapon for hunting or other legal purposes must make arrangements to store the weapon off-campus. If you have any questions, contact the MUW PD at 662-241-7777.

## **Student Code of Conduct & Judicial Process**

### GENERAL REGULATIONS OF STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

The following is a list of rights and responsibilities of the student body of Mississippi University for Women. Also contained herein are the sanctions that can be imposed as a result of an infraction. Proper procedures are also outlined here.

#### Standards of Student Conduct

All students shall be free to exercise all constitutional rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution, and the Constitution of the State of Mississippi. Nothing contained herein shall supplant, supersede, override, or infringe upon the authority of the aforementioned documents.

#### Student Rights and Responsibilities

1. Students at MUW are members of a community designed to encourage academic excellence. The privilege of belonging to this community requires that students assume responsibility for themselves and others. Every student must respect the rights and privileges of others and federal, state, and local statutes.
2. Upon enrollment at MUW, students must assume the responsibility for being fully acquainted with published rules and regulations and for complying with them in the interest of an atmosphere conducive to the pursuit of knowledge.
3. It is the responsibility of students to serve on University committees as appointed by University officials.

#### Primary Rights of Students

1. The right to read and study free from undue interference in one's room. One basic purpose of the University is the dissemination and application of knowledge. Unreasonable noise and other distractions inhibit the exercise of this right.
2. The right to sleep, the right to one's personal belongings, the right to free access to one's room and suite facilities during the period that the residence halls are open, and the right to a clean environment in which to live.
3. The right to redress of grievance. If the academic and residential communities are to function in the most educationally profitable manner, the right to initiate actions and referrals for impartial and fair adjudication of grievances is paramount. In exercising this right, the student further holds the right to be free from fear or intimidation, physical and emotional harm and to be without imposition of sanctions apart from due process.

#### Subordinate Rights of the Students



1. The right to personal privacy: all persons should have freedom from the interference with their personal activities within the parameters of university policies and the Student Code of Conduct and should be able to maintain privacy for other than academic reasons.
2. The right to host guests: All students should have an opportunity to maintain personal contacts and friendships with other persons to fulfill their needs for socialization (in accordance with residence life guidelines).

## CODE OF CONDUCT

### *Authority*

Section 615, of the Bylaws and Policies of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning delegates to the President of Mississippi University for Women “full authority in all matters concerning student affairs.” In accordance with this responsibility, the aim of disciplinary action is the redirection of student behavior toward the achievement of academic, community and student developmental goals. This Code of Conduct applies to all official university sanctioned activities including off campus programs.

The President has delegated this function to the Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) or designee(s). It is the responsibility of the Vice President for Student Affairs or designee(s) to initiate, implement, and supervise the disciplinary process for students.

MUW recognizes students as adults who are expected to obey the law and the rules and regulations of the University, to take personal responsibility for their conduct, to respect the rights of others, and to have regard for the preservation of state and University property, as well as the private property of others. Students whose conduct, whether on or off-campus, threatens to cause disorder, public disturbances, danger to themselves or others, or property damage will be disciplined. Those apprehended and proven guilty of violating the law or rules and regulations of the University may receive a maximum sanction of expulsion from the University.

In order to protect the university community and the educational mission of the institution the following actions will result in disciplinary review:

1. Academic Misconduct  
Any form.
2. Alcohol  
Possession, distribution, or use of alcoholic beverages on University-owned or controlled property or at a University-supervised activity.
3. Assault and Battery  
Physical abuse to any person or the threat to offer corporal injury to another person by force, creating a fear of imminent danger, on institutional premises or at an institutionally supervised or sponsored function.
4. Burglary  
Unauthorized Entry.
5. Disorderly Conduct  
Public inconvenience, annoyance or alarm, or reckless creating a risk thereof, by engaging in fights, threats, or in violent behavior; or making unreasonable noise or offensively coarse utterance, gesture or display; or abusive language. Disorderly conduct — including indecent or obscene conduct or expression on University-controlled property — is prohibited.
6. Disregard for University Authority

Failure to comply with directions of University officials acting in the performance of their duties, including failure of the student to respond to requests for conferences on matters pertaining to the student at the University, whether the request is by mail, telephone, messenger, or in person.

7. Disruption of Activities

Intentionally disrupting or obstructing teaching, research, student proceedings, administrative proceedings, disciplinary proceeding, or any other institutional proceeding. It shall be unlawful for students to assemble on campus for the purpose of creating a riot, destruction, or disorderly diversion which interferes with the normal operation of the University.

8. Drugs

Possession, use, manufacture, sale, or distribution of drugs, drug paraphernalia or narcotics, including stimulants and depressants, sedatives, tranquilizers, hallucinogens, marijuana or other illegal substances on University-owned or controlled property or at a University-supervised activity.

9. Evidence of Felony

If there is evidence that a student has committed a felony and is a potential danger to the university community.

10. Explosive Devices

Possession or discharge of explosive devices of any kind is prohibited on campus.

11. False Alarms and Arson

Misusing, tampering with, or otherwise disturbing without proper cause any fire safety and/or prevention or control equipment — including, but not limited to, thermal, smoke detectors or emergency fire alarms — in University buildings. The unauthorized possession, sale, furnishing, or use of any incendiary device shall be unlawful.

12. Fraud

Obtaining or attempting to obtain something of value, or preferential treatment through trickery, deceit, or threatening means. Furnishing false information to any representative of the institution in any way; misusing any University documents, records, or identification to forge, alter, lend, or sell with the intent to defraud; or passing a worthless check in payment to the University.

13. Gambling

Encouraging, promoting, or participating in gambling on campus is prohibited, except games or raffles approved by the Vice President for Student Affairs.

14. Harassment

Conduct (physical, verbal, graphic, written, or electronic) that is (1) unwelcome; (2) discriminatory on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, pregnancy, religion, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, veteran status or any other status protected by state or federal law; and (3) directed at an individual.

15. Hazing

Any action taken or situation created, whether on or off campus, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment or ridicule.

16. Littering

Dispersing litter of any form onto University grounds or facilities.

17. Off-campus Misconduct

Off-campus misconduct can be the subject of an administrative or conduct board hearing and disciplinary action.

18. Noise

Unapproved use or moving of stationary sound systems on campus in such a manner as would disrupt or disturb the normal functioning of the University.

19. Perjury

Failure to present factual or truthful testimony during an administrative hearing or conduct board hearing.

20. Reckless Conduct

Conduct that creates a substantial risk to another.

21. Residence Hall Violations
22. Sexual Harassment
23. Stalking  
Conduct that reasonably causes another to fear their safety is at risk.
24. Student Organizational Violations  
Any breach of university student organization policies.
25. Theft  
Unauthorized use, taking, or withholding of anything of value belonging to another individual.
26. Traffic & Parking  
Any violation of university rules and regulations regarding the operation and parking of motor vehicles.
27. Threats of Violence (against another person)
28. Trespass  
Unauthorized entry onto, or into, the property of others, including computers, computer accounts, and computer systems, and/or unauthorized possession of keys to University facilities.
29. Vandalism  
Abuse, damage, destruction, or defacement of University, state, federal, public, or private property.
30. Violating University Policies  
Violation of written University policies and/or rules and regulations relating to use of campus buildings and other University facilities or services that are disseminated to the campus community.
31. Violation of Ordinances or Laws  
Any violation of civil or criminal ordinances or laws which brings into question the student's integrity or brings discredit upon the University.
32. Weapons  
Possession or discharge of any weapon, ammunition, explosives, or any other offensive weapon on University property or at events sponsored or supervised by the University or any recognized University organization. Weapons will include any item that is designed to replicate or simulate actual firearms or other weapons.

## STUDENT JUDICIAL PROCEDURES

### Disciplinary Responsibility

- A. The Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) or designee(s) is assigned the responsibility for disciplinary matters concerning the behavior of students, groups, and/or student organizations. When a disciplinary matter is reported to the VPSA office, it will be reviewed promptly. If there is a basis for charges, written notification will be sent to those involved outlining initiated proceedings.
- B. Disciplinary procedures are initiated by an official incident report or valid complaint. The VPSA or designee(s) investigates to determine if there is sufficient cause to proceed with a pre-hearing meeting.
- C. MUW disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against a student charged with conduct that potentially violates both the criminal law and the Code of Conduct (that is, if both possible violations result from the same factual situation) without regard to the pendency of civil or criminal proceedings. At the discretion of the VPSA or designee(s), a proceeding under the Code of Conduct may be carried out before, simultaneously with, or following civil or criminal proceedings. Determinations made or sanctions imposed under the Code of Conduct shall not

be subject to change because criminal charges arising out of the same facts were dismissed, reduced, or resolved in favor of or against the criminal defendant.

## Judicial Procedures

### A. Pre-hearing Meeting

During the pre-hearing meeting, the VPSA or designee(s) will discuss the allegation(s) and inform the student, group, or registered student organization about their rights to defend the allegations. During the pre-hearing meeting, the student, group, or registered student organization will be informed of the hearing process and their appeal rights. Based on the alleged incident, the VPSA or designee(s) may determine that an administrative hearing will be conducted in lieu of a conduct board hearing.

### B. Administrative Hearing

An administrative hearing is conducted by the VPSA or designee(s). At least three business days before the hearing, written notification will be provided to the student, group, or registered student organization regarding the date, time, location of the hearing, allegations, and hearing procedures. The notification may be hand delivered or sent to the student's university email address. Based on the information presented during the administrative hearing, the VPSA or designee(s) will issue an appropriate sanction(s) as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. See *Hearing Procedures* below for the hearing process.

### C. Conduct Board Hearing

The Vice President for Student Affairs is assisted in the disciplinary proceedings by a Conduct Board. Each year, the VPSA or designee(s) will select 3 students, 3 faculty members, and 3 staff members to serve as members of the conduct board. The VPSA or designee(s) will select 1 member from the aforementioned groups (a maximum of 3) for a conduct board hearing. The VPSA or designee(s) will attempt to select a representative from each group i.e. faculty, staff, and students to serve on the panel for each hearing. At least three business days before the hearing, written notification will be provided to the student, group, or registered student organization regarding the date, time, and location of the hearing, allegations, and hearing procedures. The notification may be hand delivered or sent to the student's university email address. Based on the information presented during the conduct board hearing, the panel will recommend appropriate sanction(s) as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct to the VPSA or designee(s). The VPSA or designee(s) will then notify the student, group, or registered student organization of the final sanctions. See *Hearing Procedures* below for the hearing process.

## **Hearing Procedures**

### Student Notification

The student, group, or registered student organization shall be notified in writing by the VPSA or designee(s) of the allegations. The time, date, and location of the administrative or conduct board hearing will be outlined in the letter of notification. The letter of notification will include the following information:

1. That the student, group, or registered student organization may bring any witnesses to the hearing to present information on his/her behalf.
2. That the student, group, or registered student organization may be accompanied by an advisor during any time that she/he may appear before the VPSA, designee(s), or conduct board. If the

advisor is an attorney, the VPSA, designee(s), or conduct board must be notified 48 hours before to the hearing. The advisor is not allowed to participate in proceedings.

3. That the student, not the advisor, is responsible for presenting her/his case. Therefore, the advisor may not address the VPSA, designee(s), or conduct board members and/or speak during the proceedings.
4. While not required, if direct questioning is in the best interest of the proceedings, the accused shall be permitted to question witnesses testifying at the hearing. Questioning may be conducted indirectly through the VPSA, designee(s), or conduct board.
5. That the hearing shall be conducted in accordance with policy set forth in *Hearing Outline*.

The letter of notification may be hand delivered or sent to the university email address as recorded in the Office of the Registrar. The letter shall be sent at least three business days before the time designated for the students', groups', or registered student organizations' appearance before the VPSA, designee(s), or conduct board, unless a shorter period of notification is agreed to by the student.

#### Rights of the Victim

1. The right to be kept informed throughout the process by the VPSA, designee(s), or conduct board.
2. The right to have the presence of an advisor at the administrative or conduct board hearing.
3. The right to present witnesses and pertinent information for consideration.
4. The right to remain present throughout the administrative or conduct board hearing excluding conduct board deliberations, unless the victim is to be called as a witness. If the victim is to serve as a witness, the victims(s) will not be allowed to remain present during periods of questioning that may impede fair and objective response. (see *Hearing Outline* below for the hearing process).
5. The right to submit, orally or in writing, a victim impact statement to the VPSA, designee(s), or conduct board.
6. The right to have past unrelated behavior excluded from any administrative or conduct board hearing.
7. The right to be informed of the outcome of the administrative or conduct hearing.

#### Hearing Outline

- A. The purpose of the administrative or conduct board hearing is to reach a decision regarding the alleged responsibility for violation of University rules or regulations, to provide due process for the alleged, and to recommend a sanction. Such decisions may affect students, groups, and registered student organizations and their relationship to the University. Attendance at an administrative or conduct board hearing is limited to only those individuals directly involved or those requested by the VPSA or designee(s). The confidentiality of all student cases should be maintained.
- B. Rules and procedures for conducting disciplinary hearings are as follows:
  1. Call to order.
  2. Presentation of the charge(s).
  3. A call is made for the plea of the alleged to the charges. Alleged may plea responsible, not responsible, or no plea. Failure to appear could result in further disciplinary action. Notification must be made in writing to the VPSA, designee(s), or conduct board at least 48 hours prior to the administrative or conduct board hearing.

4. Information will be presented against the alleged, which may include testimony of witnesses and supporting information on the charges. The alleged may ask questions of these witnesses present or rebut any information presented.
5. The alleged may present a response which may include testimony of witnesses and supporting information.
6. All witnesses will be called separately and may not hear each other's testimony.
7. Examination and questioning by the VPSA or designee(s) (administrative hearing) or members of the conduct board (conduct board hearing) will follow both the presentation by the University and the defense of the alleged.
8. The decision is reached by the VPSA or designee(s) (administrative hearing) or members of the conduct board (conduct board hearing) as to whether the student, group, or registered student organization are responsible for the violation. These deliberations (conduct board hearing) will be closed to all, but the members of the board; however, the University Counsel may assist the conduct board. The deliberations may extend beyond the scheduled hearing date.
9. The conduct board will present a written finding and recommended sanction(s), if any, to the VPSA or designee(s).
10. The VPSA or designee(s) has sole discretion in the application of sanctions and will use the recommended sanctions in the final determination of sanction(s). The VPSA or designee(s) will in turn so inform the alleged, in writing, as soon as possible of the findings and sanction(s).

#### Appeals

- A. The student, group, or registered student organization can appeal the decision of an administrative or conduct board hearing in writing to the VPSA or designee(s) within five business days from the date of receiving notification. All appeals must be based on one or more of the followings factors:
  1. An error in procedure, which prejudiced the process to the extent that the participant was denied a fundamentally fair hearing as a result of the error. Procedural flaws alone are not grounds for an appeal. Significant procedural errors that may have affected the verdict or sanction will be considered.
  2. The emergence of new evidence that could not have been previously discovered and that, had it been represented at the initial hearing, would have substantially affected the original decision of the hearing body.
- B. The student, group, or registered student organization must indicate in their correspondence to the VPSA or designee(s) the basis for the appeal. Based on the merit of the appeal, the VPSA or designee(s) will decide the appeal. The decisions of the VPSA or designee(s) shall be made in writing to the student, group, or registered student organization granting or denying their request. The decision of the VPSA or designee(s) is final, except in those cases where a student, group, or registered student organization receives expulsion as a sanction.
- C. Appeals will depend on the hearing officer and may be heard by the VPSA, designee(s), or by the President of the University.



## **Parental Notification Policy**

The University will utilize Parental Notification when deemed necessary and permissible under state and federal law including FERPA. Parental Notification is listed as a sanction option within the MUW Student Code of Conduct.

## **Missing Student Policy**

The term “missing student” is defined as any MUW student residing in an on-campus student housing facility who is reported missing from his or her residence. Reports of missing students should be made to representatives of any of the following: the MUW PD (662-241-7777), Vice President for Student Affairs (662-329-7129), Director of Student Life (662-241-6974), or Director of Housing and Residence Life (662-329-7127). Whenever a MUW student is believed to be missing, the University will initiate steps to locate him or her or to determine why the student has not been seen. Students are under no obligation to notify the University of plans to spend time away from their residences; however, if circumstances indicate that an investigation is warranted, concerned parties should contact the MUW Police Department. Upon notification, the MUW Police Department will make inquiries within the University and beyond.

If the University determines that the circumstances of the missing student require a police investigation, the MUW PD will notify the local police and the sheriff's department. If the police determine that the student should be classified as a missing person, they will initiate their own investigation. The University will support their investigation by providing whatever technical support is appropriate, including notices, photos, schedules and any other information relevant to the search for the missing student.

All students residing in on-campus student housing facilities have the option of identifying a contact person or persons whom the University will notify if the student is determined to be missing by the Police Department or local police department. The contact information will be confidential, accessible only to authorized campus officials and law enforcement and may not be disclosed except in a missing person investigation. When a student who resides in an on-campus student housing facility is determined to have been missing for 24 hours, the University will:

- Notify the contact person if the student has designated one, within 24 hours.
- Notify the student's custodial parent or guardian and/or other designated contact person within 24 hours if the student is under 18 years of age and is not emancipated; and
- Inform the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction in the area that the student is missing within 24 hours.

## **Daily Crime and Fire Log**

The MUW PD maintain a combined Daily Crime and Fire Log of all incidents reported to them. This log records on-campus, residential, public property and non-campus incidents. This log can be found at the MUW PD located in McDevitt Hall and individuals may request a printed copy.

## **Crime Prevention and Safety Awareness Programs**

During student orientation sessions, crime prevention programs are conducted by the MUW PD. The police department informs students about residence hall safety and campus safety. Crime Prevention Programs and Sexual Assault Programs are offered on a continual basis.

Periodically during the year, the MUW PD, in cooperation with university organizations and departments, presents crime prevention awareness sessions. The most important thing that is stressed during these

sessions is personal safety. Students are encouraged to look out for themselves and their fellow students. They are asked to be aware of their surroundings so that they will not become victims.

The University uses various mechanisms to inform students and employees about prevention of crime. Below is a list of our ways to inform the campus.

**Safety Presentations:** Addresses all issues of personal safety, including alcohol/drug awareness, prevention of sexual assaults and property crimes, travel safety tips, state/local laws, etc. Safety presentations, accompanied by printed materials are made to the following groups:

- **New Student Orientation**
- **Residence Hall Students**
- **Other Campus Groups or Organizations** - such as MUW employees, nursing students, students with disabilities, international students, student government and specific campus organizations.

**Rape Awareness, Education and Prevention:** The Counseling Center can provide programs on rape awareness, education and prevention such as sexual assault awareness week, safe spring break week, alcohol awareness week, and suicide prevention week.

**Crime Stoppers of Northeast Mississippi:** The MUW PD participates in the local Crime Stoppers program wherein callers may anonymously give information concerning crimes and receive money rewards for their help.

**Community-Oriented Policing:** Upon request by University divisions, departments and organizations, MUW PD Officers attend meetings to provide up-to-date crime prevention information and to hear the concerns of University community members about crime and safety issues. These officers will offer safety programs in the community. University officers are willing to partner with the YMCA and the Boys and Girls Clubs and other organizations to talk about making good decisions, mentoring and conflict resolution when requested.

**MUW PD Website:** The MUW PD maintains a website at <http://www.muw.edu/police> for quick and up-to-date information on police, fire safety and emergency procedures. The University is encouraged to take a few minutes to browse the site. If you have any questions or feel there needs to be more information on the website, call the MUW PD at 662-241-7777.

**Community Awareness Programs:** Members of the MUW PD are active participants in University and community sponsored awareness programs such National Night Out on Crime.

**Night Owls:** Campus communities nation-wide are concerned over issues involving personal safety in the university environment. The purpose of the program will be to provide a measure of safety for those that are uncomfortable or apprehensive about walking alone between points on campus. The Night Owls – campus transport program provides prompt, courteous, safety escorts to the students, faculty and staff of Mississippi University for Women Sunday through Thursday nights during the academic year between the hours of 7:00PM to 2:00AM. To contact a Night Owl, contact **(662) 241-7777**.

## MUW'S POLICIES GOVERNING ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

### MUW's Alcohol and Drug Policy

#### Purpose

To provide appropriate developmental/educational experiences for students who violate the university's policy regarding drug and alcohol and to support the sections of the Student Code of Conduct which relate to drugs and alcohol.

Mississippi University for Women does not currently provide drug/alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation programs for students. Referral to community treatment facilities may be made in appropriate cases. For a list of drug and alcohol programs in the community, contact the MUW Counseling Center.

Mississippi University for Women will impose sanctions against individuals who are determined to have violated rules prohibiting the use, possession, or distribution of illegal drugs or alcohol. Sanctions for students using or possessing illegal drugs or alcohol include disciplinary probation, and in appropriate cases, suspension from the University. The university reserves the right to contact parents of students who violate rules and regulations regarding the use, possession, or distribution of alcohol, when deemed appropriate. In addition, residence hall students will be removed from the housing system for the use or possession of illegal drugs. Referral for criminal prosecution may be made in appropriate cases.

Individuals involved in the sale or distribution of illegal drugs will be suspended from the University and referred to the appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution.

All employees, including students, agree as a condition of employment to abide by this policy. Sanctions against employees for use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol in the workplace include termination of employment. Additionally, employees are required to notify the institution of any drug convictions resulting from a violation in the workplace no later than five days of the conviction.

#### Policy

It is the policy of Mississippi University for Women to maintain a safe and healthful environment for its students, faculty, and staff. Therefore, the university has established policies for students concerning alcohol use on campus. It is a violation of the Mississippi University for Women Student Code of Conduct for a student to possess, consume, or sell alcohol on campus. It is incumbent on students to become knowledgeable of these policies, whether for individual decision-making or for the planning of programs and events for student organizations.

#### **Alcoholic Beverages**

- A. No student may consume or possess any alcoholic beverages, containers, or bottles in the residence halls, at student events in university buildings, or on any property or public location belonging to Mississippi University for Women.
- B. The possession, sale, distribution or furnishings of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in the residence halls, at student events in university buildings, or on any property or public location belonging to Mississippi University for Women for any student function.
- C. Students who behave in an intoxicated manner as a result of the use of alcohol or require staff assistance shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- D. The playing of games (or competitions) involving the use or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on the campus or at events sponsored or supervised by the university.
- E. Common source containers are prohibited in residence halls and on University owned property.
- F. Possession of any alcohol paraphernalia is prohibited.

G. Empty alcoholic beverage containers (bottles, can, etc.) are prohibited in/on University owned or controlled property.

## **MUW Alcohol-Related Offenses**

### Alcohol Policy Infraction

A student who is found guilty of an alcohol policy infraction will receive sanctions. Sanctions may include but are not limited to the following:

First Offense – The student will attend a meeting with the Vice President for Student Affairs or designee(s). The student will receive a verbal reprimand, educational program, description of the consequences for future infractions, and will be placed on administrative probation.

Second Offense – The student will be required to complete an education program, community service, and administrative probation will be extended or reissued.

Third Offense - The student will be suspended from the university for a specific period of time. A student suspended under this portion of the policy will be placed on indefinite administrative probation when he/she re-enrolls.

### **Drinking Age Law, Mississippi**

Effective Oct. 1, 1986, it is illegal for any person under the age of 21 to possess or be sold, given, or furnished beer or light wine. This law has serious consequences for persons who provide or sell beer and light wine to individuals under 21, as well as for underage drinkers.

### **Drug-Free Schools/Campuses**

Mississippi University for Women acknowledges and adheres to the laws of the state of Mississippi. The University also complies with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989. In compliance with federal and state laws, at Mississippi University for Women the following will apply:

#### **Drugs**

- A. The possession of any drug controlled by federal or state laws on or off campus is prohibited.
- B. In compliance with state and federal law, it is illegal to possess, consume, use, or distribute (or intend to distribute or use) any drug controlled by federal or state laws on the campus of Mississippi University for Women or at events sponsored or supervised by the University.
- C. The manufacture, intent to manufacture, to furnish, or intent to furnish drugs controlled by federal or state law is prohibited.
- D. The sale, intent to sell, purchase, intent to purchase, deliver, or intent to deliver drugs controlled by federal or state law is prohibited.
- E. Possession or use of any drug related paraphernalia is prohibited. The University reserves the right to initiate judicial action if drug violations occur on or off-campus. Students found to be in violation of the drug policy will be subject to disciplinary action which may result in suspension or expulsion.
- F. Over the counter or prescription medications should not be used in any way except the manufacturer's intended purpose or as prescribed.

## **MUW Drug Related Offenses**

### Drug Policy Infraction

A student who is found guilty of a drug policy infraction will receive sanctions. Sanctions may include but are not limited to the following:

First Offense – The student will attend a meeting with the Vice President for Student Affairs or designee(s). The student will receive a verbal reprimand and an educational program. If the student is living on campus, he/she will be suspended from the residence halls. The student will be placed on administrative probation. Students found guilty of selling or distributing controlled substances may be suspended.

Second Offense – The student will be suspended for a specific period of time.

### **Drugs Risks and Consequences**

The use, misuse, and abuse of alcohol and other drugs, both legal and illegal, can have serious consequences to health and well-being. Alcohol and other drug use can lead to psychological and/or physiological dependence and addiction. Information on specific health risks associated with alcohol and other drugs is summarized below and is available in more detail at the following campus locations: MUW Health Center and MUW Counseling Center.

Alcohol is a central nervous system depressant that can impair coordination, inhibitions, self-control, memory, judgment, and reflexes. Large quantities may produce staggering, slurred speech, mood changes, unconsciousness and possibly death. Prolonged use can damage many organs of the body including the heart, liver, stomach, and pancreas.

Marijuana can increase heart rate, interfere with sexual development, may cause a reduction in male fertility and disrupt the female menstrual cycle. It can increase the risk of disease/damage to the body's respiratory system, impair eye-hand coordination and other essential functions needed to operate a motor vehicle safely. It can also impair the body's immune system.

Cocaine can cause feelings of depression, inability, impatience and pessimism. It can also cause severe weight loss, anxiety, hallucinations, increased heart rate and blood pressure. Cocaine has caused death by convulsion, failure of the respiratory system, and by heart attack.

Over-the-counter and prescription drugs can also cause drug tolerance, dependence, and addiction. The potential for misuse and abuse is increased with these drugs as they are easily obtainable, safe as far as ingredients and manufacturing, and the user may tend not to follow specific instructions for dosage and frequency. Many legal drugs also have a long shelf life leading to their use after they are no longer needed or for self-medication without medical supervision.

Interaction between various drugs, legal and illegal, may have serious consequences to the user. Various combinations of drugs may work at cross purposes within the body, and the combined effects of two or more drugs may be more potent than the effect of a single drug.

Club drugs such as MDMA (Ecstasy), GHB, LSD, Rohypnol, Ketamine and Methamphetamine can cause serious health problems and possibly death. Many of these drugs are tasteless and odorless. The chemicals, drug sources and pharmacological agents used to manufacture these drugs often vary, making it difficult to determine all of the effects, symptoms and health risks associated with club drugs. Confusion, depression, impaired motor function, amnesia, psychotic behavior, cardiac failure and permanent neurological and organ damage are some known effects associated with the use of these drugs.

### **Drug and Alcohol Educational Programs**

The University provides programs to prevent the illicit use of drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees. The programs provide services related to drug use and abuse including dissemination of

informational materials, educational programs, counseling services, referrals and college disciplinary actions.





# ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS

## CLERY ACT CRIMES

Reported Crimes	MS University for Women Campus						Non-Campus Property**			Public Property			Total		
Offense Type	2017		2018		2019		2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
(Includes Attempts)	Res.	Campus	Res.	Campus	Res.	Campus									
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1		0
Aggravated Assault	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Other Reported Crimes</b>															
Larceny	4	10	2	11	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	11	8
Simple Assault	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Auto Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
DUI	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
<b>Offense Type</b>															
<b>Liquor Law Violations</b>															
Arrest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0
MUW PD Referral	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Judicial Referral	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Drug Law Violations</b>															
Arrest	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
MUW PD Referral	1	1	0	3	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	7
Judicial Referral	2	2	0	3	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	6
<b>Weapons Law Violations</b>															
Arrest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MUW PD Referral	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Judicial Referral	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Hate Crimes</b>															
Hate Crime	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA) CRIMES

VAWA	MS University for Women Campus						Non-Campus Property**			Public Property			Total			
Offense Type	2016		2017		2018		2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2019
(Includes Attempts)	Res.	Campus	Res.	Campus	Res.	Campus										
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Dating Violence	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
Stalking	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

\*\* Non-Campus Property includes MUW Tupelo Nursing branch,) and study aboard trips.

### Violence Against Women Act – Definitions

*Domestic violence* means a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed by:

- a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim,
- a person with whom the victim shares a child in common,
- a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner,
- a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies (under VAWA) or
- any 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 relationship shall be determined based on the consideration of the following factors:
  - The length of the relationship
  - The type of 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:

- fear for their safety; or
- suffer substantial emotional distress.

The Title IX Coordinator will assist students in all remedial measures including changing academic, living, transportation, and working situations if requested and reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement.

All violations of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, and stalking are adjudicated as outlined in the Sexual Misconduct Policy of MUW. The standard of evidence will be a preponderance of evidence.

## CRIME STATS – LOWNDES COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

### Lowndes County Sheriff Department Statistics – 2019

Number of Occurrences by Offense		
01/01/2019 TO 12/31/2019		
Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
911	ABUSIVE CALLS/EMERGENCY PHONE	3
AAGA	ATTEMPTED AGG. ASSAULT	1
ABD	ATTEMPTED BURGLARY-BREAKING AND ENTERING DV	3
AC	ANIMAL CRUELTY	3
ACAH	ALLOWING CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AFTER HOURS	1
ACK	ANIMAL CRUELTY, KILL OR INJURE	3
ACO	ATTEMPT TO COMMIT AN OFFENSE	3
AGGA	AGGRAVATED ASSAULT, MANIFEST EXTREME INDIF. TO	4
AGGW	AGG. ASSAULT W/WEAPON OR OTHER MEANS TO PROD.	8
ALEO	ASSAULT ON LAW ENFORCEMENT / SCHOOL OFFICIAL	
ALSU	ACCIDENT, LEAVING SCENE (VNATTENDED VEHICLE)	5
ANIML	ANIMALS-DEAD ANIMALS	L
ARS	ARSON	5
ATTA	ATTEMPTED ARSON	
AVA	ABUSE, NEGLECT, EXPLOITATION OF VULNERABLE ADUL	
AVPI	ABUSE OF VULNERABLE PERSON WITH PAIN OR INJUR	
BGBE	BURGLARY-BREAKING AND ENTERING DWELLING	4
BLD	BURGLARY AND LARCENY OF A DWELLING	28
BRF	BOMB REPORT, FALSE	
BUR	BURGLARY	51
BURC	BURGLARY-COMMERCIAL BLG., CARS, ETC.,	77
BURD	BURGLARY-DWELLING HOUSE	13
BURDO	BURGLARY-DWELLING HOUSE-OCCUPIED	2
BURT	BURGLARY TOOLS, POSSESSION	
CCDF	CREDIT CARD, INTENT TO DEFRAUD	2
CCDF2	CREDIT CARD, INTENT TO DEFRAUD-FELONY (MORE/25)	9
CCFF2	Credit Card-Intent to Defraud Felony	2
CCW	CARRY CONCEALED WEAPON	
CD	CARELESS DRIVING	19
CHA	CHILD ABUSE	24
CHEND	CHILD ENDANGERMENT	6
CL5273	COMPUTER LURING OF PERSONS UNDER EIGHTEEN FOI	

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### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2019 TO 12/31/2019

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
CNC	CONTRIBUTING TO THE NEGLECT OF A CHILD	
CNCF	CONTRIBUTING TO NEGLECT OF A CHILD-FELONY	
CONT	CONTRIBUTING/DELINQUENCY/MINOR	
CONWI	CONCEALED WEAPON-CARRYING OF	3
CR	CHILD RESTRAINT LAW	
CYBER	CYBERSTALKING	18
CYBERSTALK	CYBERSTALKING-EMAIL/COMMUNICA TION TO EXTORI	6
DBSHT	DRIVE-BY SHOOTING	1
DOST	DOG STEALING	
DMOL	DRIVING IN MORE THAN ONE LANE	
DOC	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	15
DOCB	DISORDERLY CONDUCT, BUSINESS	4
DOF	DISTURBANCE OF FAMILY	9
DOOL	DOG AT LARGE	21
DOGV	DOG, VICIOUS	4
DOWSR	DRIVING ON WRONG SIDE OF ROAD	2
DPO	DISOBEYING A POLICE OFFICER	6
DRAG	DRAG RACING	
DTCD	DISOBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE	17
DTP	DISTURBING THE PEACE	12
DUII	DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE-1 ST OFFENSE	18
DUI2	DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE-2ND OFFENSE	6
DUI3	DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE-3RD OFFENSE (FELONY)	4
DUI4	DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE-4TH OR SUBSEQUEN1	6
DUIR	DRIVING UNDER THENFL/REFUSAL TO TAKE TEST	5
DV	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	84
DV/AGG/4	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-A GORAVATED ASSAULT BY STRi	
DWOL	DRIVING WITHOUT HEADLIGHTS	
ECFSP	ENTICEMENT OF A CHILD TO MEET FOR SEXUAL PURPC	
ECVDSC	ENTICEMENT OF A CHILD TO PRODUCE VISUAL DEPICT	
EDL	EXPIRED DRIVERS LICENSE	
ELT	EXPIRED LICENSE TAG	3

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### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2019 TO 12/31/2019

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
EMB	EMBEZZLEMENT	5
EMBMISD	EMBEZZLEMENT	
EMBUC	EMBEZZLEMENT UNDER CONTRACT	3
EXPLCH	EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN	3
FALSE	FALSE INFORMATION	8
FAP	FALSE PRETENSE-FELONY	5
FDIM	FAILURE TO DIM HEADLIGHTS	
FMOC	FRAUD BY MAIL OR OTHER MEANS OF COMMUNICATIO	
FMV(A)	FLEEING OR ELUDING IN A MOTOR VEHICLE	
FMV(B)	FLEEING OR ELUDING IN A MOTOR VEHICLE	8
FMVT	FELONY TAKING OF A MOTOR VEHICLE	17
FNDL	FONDLING	
FORGF	FORGERY-Over \$100.	
FR	FRAUD	19
FSTOP	FAILURE TO STOP MOTOR VEHICLE WHEN OFFICER SIG	4
FSTREP	FRAUDULENT STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATION	
FTC	FOLLOWING TOO CLOSELY	
FTO	FAILURE TO OBEY A P.O.	17
FTY	FAILURE TO YIELD RIGHT OF WAY	3
FUID	FRAUDULENT USE OF I.D.	2
FYBL	FAILURE TO YIELD TO BLUE LIGHT	16
FYEV	FAILURE TO YIELD EMERGENCY VEHICLES	3
GL	GRAND LARCENY-MORE \$500.00	83
GTA	GRAND THEFT AUTO	2
HAR	HARRASSMENT	44
HF	HARBORING A FUGITIVE	
HIV	KNOWINGLY EXPOSING ANOTHER PERSON TO HIV	
HOJ	HOLDING FOR OTHER JURISDICTION	1
IDPO	INTERFERE W/DUTIES OF POLICE	
IDT	IDENTITY THEFT	15
IE	IMPROPER EQUIPMENT	18
LU	IMPROPER LANE USAGE	2

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### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2019 TO 12/31/2019

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
IP	IMPROPER PASSING	
PP	IMPROPER PARKING OR STOPPING	
IS	IMPROPER SIGNAL	2
ISV	IMPROPER START OF A VEHICLE	
IT	IMPROPER TURN	2
KID	KIDNAPPING	
KIDC	Kidnapping-child under ten (10)	
LITR	LITTERING	2
LLV	LEASH LAW VIOLATION	
LSA	LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT	34
LTSI	LEAVING THE SCENE, W/INJURIES	1
LTSU	LEAVING THE SCENE, UNATTENDED	2
MM	MALICIOUS MISCHIEF	155
MMF	MALICIOUS MISCHIEF-FELONY	17
MOLSI	MOLESTING-TOUCHING CHILD FOR LUSTFUL PURPOSE	7
MSP	STOLEN PROPERTY - MOVEMENT OF	2
MVIN	MOTOR V.I.N.-CHANGE OR MUTILATION OF	
NC	NO CHARGE	586
NDL	NO DRIVERS LICENSE	14
NHL	NO HEADLIGHTS	3
NI	NO INSURANCE	36
NLT	NO LICENSE TAG	4
NME	NO MOTORCYCLE ENDORSEMENT	
NOH	NO CRASH HELMET	
NTS	NO TURN SIGNAL	5
OJ	OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE	2
OT	OBSTRUCTING TRAFFIC	2
PCH	PHONE CALLS, HARASSING	2
PCH2	PHONE CALL, HARASSING	12
PCH3	PHONE CALLS, HARASSING	
PCOC	POSSESSION OF COCAINE	8
PD	PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS	28

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### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2019 TO 12/31/2019

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
PFAWP	PHOTOGRAPHING OR FILMING ANOTHER WITHOUT PEF	
PFIPO	PROVIDING FALSE INFORMATION TO LAW ENFORCEME	1
PL	PETIT LARCENY-LESS \$500.00	151
PMEMI	POST MESSAGES ELECTRONICALLY TO CAUSE INJURY	4
PMETH	POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE	27
PMETHF	POSSESSION OF METHAMPHET AMINE	2
PMETHLT	POSSESSION METHAMPHET AMINE LIT .1 GRAM	7
POCLT	POSSESSION OF COCAINE LESS THAN .1 GRAM	4
POCS	POSS. OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	13
POCSM	POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE (MISD)	9
POFM	POSSESSION OF FIREARM BY MINOR	4
POM	POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA	29
POMI	POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA- 1ST OFFENSE	3
POMMT	POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA MORE THAN 1 OUNCE	7
POMMTK	POSSESSION MARIJUANA MIT KILO	1
POMV	POSS. OF MARIJUANA, VEHICLE	21
POP	POSSESSION OF PARAPHERNALIA	20
POPI	POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA-SALE OF	10
PSFA	POSSESSION, SALE, TRANSFER OF STOLEN FIREARM	3
PSP	STOLEN PROPERTY - POSSESSION	7
PT	PEEPING TOM	1
PWINT	POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE	
RA	RESISTING ARREST	21
RD	RECKLESS DRIVING	18
RIC	RACKETEERING	
ROB	ROBBERY	4
ROBAR	ROBBERY-ARMED	5
RP	RAPE	3
RPIR	RAPE-ASSAULT WITH INTENT TO RAVISH	
RPST	RAPE-STATUTORY	4
RRL	RUNNING A RED LIGHT	3
RSPF	STOLEN PROPERTY-RECEIVING FELONY (MORE THAN \$	

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### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2019 TO 12/31/2019

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
RSS	RUNNING A STOP SIGN	8
SA	SIMPLE ASSAULT	91
SABT	SIMPLE ASSAULT BY THREAT	72
SAOM	SIMPLE ASSAULT ON A MINOR	6
SAPA	SIMPLE ASSAULT, POINTING & AIM	11
SAPO	SIMPLE ASSAULT ON A POLICE OFF	
SAPOF	Simple Assault on a Police Officer-Felony	
SAWI	SIMPLE ASSAULT WITH INJURIES	7
SB	SEATBELT VIOLATION	3
SDL	SUSPENDED DRIVERS LICENSE	35
SDLIC	SUSPENDED DRIVERS LICENSE, DUI	
SEX MINOR	SEX WITH MINOR UNDER 14	3
SH02	SHOPLIFTING, 2ND OFFENSE	1
SH03	SHOPLIFTING, 3RD OFFENSE OR \$250 OR MORE	
SHOP	SHOPLIFTING-LESS THAN \$250.00	18
SHTDH	SHOOTING INTO DWELLING HOUSE	5
SIGL	FAILURE TO SIGNAL LANE CHANGE	
SOFTS	SEX OFFENDER - FAILURE TO REGISTER NEW ADDRESS	
SORF	SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION FAILURE	
SPI	SPEEDING 10-20 MPH OVER LIMIT	5
SP2	SPEEDJNG 21-30 MPH OVER LIMIT	8
SP3	SPEEDING 30+ MPH OVER LIMIT	2
SPEED	SPEEDING	4
ST	SWITCHED TAG	2
STLK	STALKING	10
SXBAT	SEXUAL BATTERY	10
TLPO	THREATENING THE LIFE OF A POLICE OFFICER	
TOBPM	TOBACCO, POSSESSION BY MINOR	2
TOU	THEFT OF UTILITIES	3
TRAFFIC	TRAFFICKING OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES	
TRES	TRESPASSING	94
TRESE	TRESPASS UPON ENCLOSED LAND OF ANOTHER	

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**Number of Occurrences by Offense**

01/01/2019 TO 12/31/2019

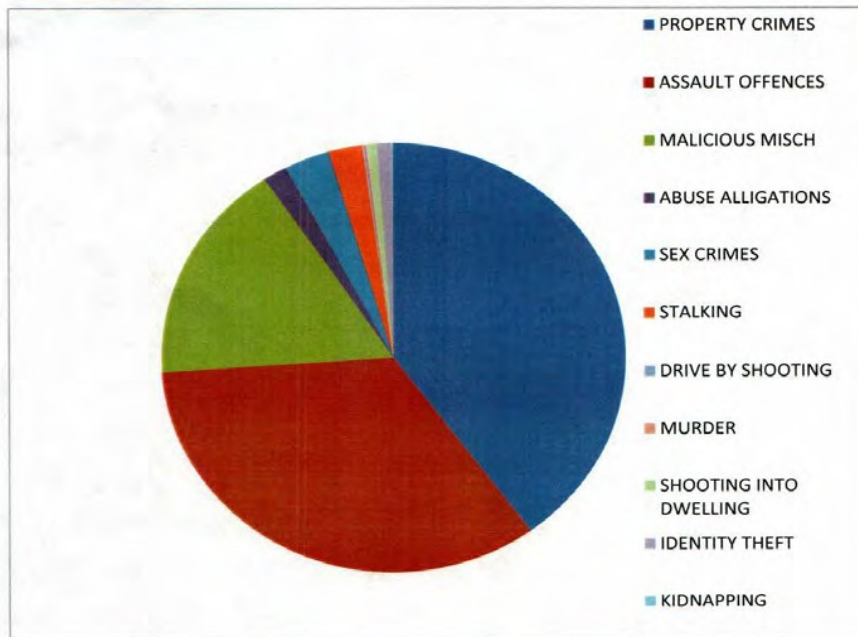
Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
TRESL	TRESPASSING UPON LANDS OF ANOTHER	4
TRESW	TRESPASSING-WILLFUL	6
TRLL	TRESPASS LESS THAN LARCENY (JOY RIDING)	
UFORG	UTTERING FORGERY	2
UNK	UNKNOWN OFFENSE	22
UPPD	UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS NOT PERMITTED TO DRIVE	6
UUDL	UNAUTHORIZED USE OF DRI/LIC	1
VAG	VAGRANCY	
VIO	VIOLATION OF PROBATION	2
VOCO	VIOLATION OF COURT ORDER	
WARRANT	WARRANTS - SERVE OR OTHER	9
WPFLN	WEAPON,POSSESSION OF BY FELON	9

**Total of All Offenses: 2,627**

## Lowndes County Sheriff Department Statistics – 2018

CRIME STATS FROM 1/1/18 THRU 12/31/18

PROPERTY CRIMES	513
ASSAULT OFFENCES	437
MALICIOUS MISCH	214
ABUSE ALLIGATIONS	22
SEX CRIMES	40
STALKING	31
DRIVE BY SHOOTING	2
MURDER	2
SHOOTING INTO DWELLING	9
IDENTITY THEFT	13
KIDNAPPING	1





## Lowndes County Sheriff Department Statistics – 2017

Number of Occurrences by Offense		
Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
911	ABUSIVE CALLS/EMERGENCY PHONE	31
ABD	ATTEMPTED BURGLARY,BREAKING AND ENTERING BY	3
ABPS	ALCOHOLIC BEV., POSS UNDER 21	1
ABSE	ALCOHOLIC BEV.,SEL.GIV,UNDER21	1
AC	ANIMAL CRUELTY	3
ACAB	ALLOWING CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AFTER HOURS	1
AGGA	AGGRAVATED ASSAULT,MANIFEST EXTREME INDIE TO	9
AGGP	AGGLASSAULT ON POLICE,FIRE,SCHOOL OFF WITH WEA	3
AGGW	AGGLASSAULT W/WEAPON OR OTHER MEANS TO PROD	13
ALARM	ALARM	3
ALEO	ASSAULT ON LAW ENFORCEMENT / SCHOOL OFFICIAL	3
ALSU	ACCIDENT, LEAVING SCENE(UNATTENDED VEHICLE)	3
ANI	ANIMAL-DEAD ANIMALS	1
ARB	AVOIDING A ROADBLOCK	2
ARS	ARSON	4
ATTA	ATTEMPTED ARSON	2
BCNSF	BAD CHECK, INSUFFICIENT FUNDS,CLOSED ACCT	1
BGBE	BURGLARY-BREAKING AND ENTERING DWELLING	9
BGYBD	BURGLARY-BREAKING OUT OF DWELLING	2
BGYDW	BURGLARY-INHABITED DWELLING-AT NIGHT W/DLTY	2
BLD	BURGLARY AND LARCENY OF A DWELLING	54
BUR	BURGLARY	80
BURC	BURGLARY-COMMERCIAL BLDG.,CARS,ETC...	128
BURD	BURGLARY-DWELLING HOUSE	6
BURDO	BURGLARY-DWELLING HOUSE-OCCUPIED	4
BWAH	SELLING,GIVING,ETC,BEER OR WINE AFTER HOURS	1
BWPS	BEER/WINE, POSS UNDER 21	1
BWSE	BEER/WINE,SELL/GIVE TO MINOR	1
BWSP	BEER/WINE,SELLING W/O PERMIT	2
CCCF	CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT A CRIME-FELONY	1
CCDE	CREDIT CARD, INTENT TO DEFRAUD	6
CCDEF	CREDIT CARD, INTENT TO DEFRAUD-FELONY(MORE/25)	4

Page: 1

### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2017 70 125102907

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
CCFD	Credit Card-Intent to Defraud Felony	1
CCW	CARRY CONCEALED WEAPON	1
CD	CARELESS DRIVING	14
CHA	CHILD ABUSE	6
CHEND	CHILD ENDANGERMENT	9
CNC	CONTRIBUTING TO THE NEGLECT OF A CHILD	2
COMPRD	COMPUTER FRAUD	1
CONT	CONTRIBUTING/DELINQUENCY/MINOR	5
CONW	CONCEALED WEAPON-CARRYING OF	2
CR	CHILD RESTRAINT LAW	1
CWFAC	POSS, FURNISH, CONTRABAND ITEMS WITHIN FACILITY	6
CYBERSTALK	CYBERSTALKING-EMAIL/COMMUNICATION TO EXTORT	28
DBSHT	DRIVE-BY SHOOTING	1
DECP	DESTROYING COUNTY PROPERTY	2
DGST	DOG STEALING	1
DOC	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	38
DOCB	DISORDERLY CONDUCT, BUSINESS	7
DOF	DISTURBANCE OF FAMILY	21
DOGL	DOG AT LARGE	8
DOGN	DOG, NUISANCE	3
DOGV	DOG, VICIOUS	15
DOWSR	DRIVING ON WRONG SIDE OF ROAD	8
DPO	DISOBEYING A POLICE OFFICER	9
DRAG	DRAG RACING	1
DTCD	DISOBEY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE	2
DTP	DISTURBING THE PEACE	16
DUI1	DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE-1ST OFFENSE	19
DUI2	DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE-2ND OFFENSE	4
DUI3	DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE-3RD OFFENSE (FELONY)	4
DUIR	DRIVING UNDER THE INFL/REFUSAL TO TAKE TEST	2
DUMP	DUMPING, UNAUTHORIZED - FELONY	1
DV	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	101



### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2017 TO 12/31/2017

Offense Code	Offense Description	Count
DV-3RD	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-3RD OFFENSE	1
DV2	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 2ND OFFENSE	2
DWCL	DISCHARGE WEAPON IN CITY LIMITS	1
DWOL	DRIVING WITHOUT HEADLIGHTS	1
EDL	EXPIRED DRIVERS LICENSE	8
ELT	EXPIRED LICENSE TAG	10
EMB	EMBEZZLEMENT	7
EMBU	EMBEZZLEMENT UNDER CONTRACT	2
ESCF	ESCAPE-FELONY	2
EXPLCH	EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN	3
FALSE	FALSE INFORMATION	11
FAP	FALSE PRETENSE-FELONY	1
FDIM	FAILURE TO DIM HEADLIGHTS	3
FI	FIGHTING	1
FMOC	FRAUD BY MAIL OR OTHER MEANS OF COMMUNICAT	6
FMV(A)	FLEEING OR ELUDING IN A MOTOR VEHICLE	4
FMV(B)	FLEEING OR ELUDING IN A MOTOR VEHICLE	12
FMVT	FELONY TAKING OF A MOTOR VEHICLE	34
FNDL	FONDLING	4
FORG	FORGERY-Under \$100.	2
FORGF	FORGERY-Over \$100.	1
FPLT	FALSE PRETENSE LESS THAN	1
FR	FRAUD	11
FRCK	FALSE REPORTING OF A CRIME	1
FSTOP	FAILURE TO STOP MOTOR VEHICLE WHEN OFFICER SIG	5
ETA	FAILURE TO APPEAR	1
FTO	FAILURE TO OBEY A P.O.	37
FTY	FAILURE TO YIELD RIGHT OF WAY	1
FUID	FRAUDULENT USE OF I.D.	37
FYBL	FAILURE TO YIELD TO BLUE LIGHT	5
FYEV	FAILURE TO YIELD EMERGENCY VEHICLES	4
GL	GRAND LARCENY-MORE \$500.00	57

### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2017 TO 12/31/2017

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
GTA	GRAND THEFT AUTO	4
HAR	HARRASSMENT	30
HINDPROS	HINDERING PROSECUTION	2
HINDPROSM	HINDERING PROSECUTION-MISDEMEANOR	1
HIV	KNOWINGLY EXPOSING ANOTHER PERSON TO HIV	1
HMRF	HOME REPAIR FRAUD	1
HOJ	HOLDING FOR OTHER JURISDICTION	2
IDT	IDENTITY THEFT	17
IE	IMPROPER EQUIPMENT	16
ILT	IMPROPER LICENSE TAG	1
ILU	IMPROPER LANE USAGE	2
INDX	INDECENT EXPOSURE	1
INTIM	INTIMIDATING JUDGE,JUROR,WITNESS,ATTORNEY,ECT	3
IT	IMPROPER TURN	2
KID	KIDNAPPING	3
KIDC	Kidnapping-child under ten (10)	1
LITR	LITTERING	4
LLV	LEASH LAW VIOLATION	3
LSA	LEAVING THE SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT	20
LYCO	LICENSE TAG, COVERED OR DEFACED	1
LTLT	LARCENY - LESS THAN (JOY RIDING)	1
LTSF	LEAVING THE SCENE, FIXTURES	1
LTSU	LEAVING THE SCENE, UNATTENDED	8
MFGMAR	MANUFACTURE OF MARIJUANA	1
MM	MALICIOUS MISCHIEF	212
MMF	MALICIOUS MISCHIEF-FELONY	16
MOLS1	MOLESTING-TOUCHING CHILD FOR LUSTFUL PURPOSE	3
MURD	MURDER	1
NBL	OPERATING A BUSINESS WITHOUT A LICENSE	2
NC	NO CHARGE	623
NDL	NO DRIVERS LICENSE	27
NHL	NO HEADLIGHTS	1

### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2017 TO 12/31/2017

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
NI	NO INSURANCE	24
NTL	NO LICENSE TAG	6
NTS	NO TURN SIGNAL	7
OT	OBSTRUCTING TRAFFIC	3
OUV	OPERATION OF UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLE	1
PAM	POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL BY A MINOR	3
PARKO	PARKING-OBSTRUCTING TRAFFIC	1
PCH	PHONE CALLS, HARASSING	20
PCH2	PHONE CALL, HARASSING	9
PCOC	POSSESSION OF COCAINE	19
PD	PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS	25
PL	PETIT LARCENY-LESS \$500.00	166
PMEMI	POST MESSAGES ELECTRONICALLY TO CAUSE INJURY	1
PMETH	POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE	39
PMETHF	POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE	3
PMETHLT	POSSESSION METHAMPHETAMINE L/T .1 GRAM	1
PMETHWL	POSSESSION OF METH WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE	1
POCLT	POSSESSION OF COCAINE LESS THAN .1 GRAM	6
POCM	POSSESSION OF COUNTERFEIT MONEY, INSTRUMENT	1
POCS	POSS. OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	15
POCSM	POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE (MISD)	31
POM	POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA	52
POM1	POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA-1ST OFFENSE	1
POMV	POSS. OF MARIJUANA, VEHICLE	33
POMVF	POSS. OF MARIJUANA , VEHICLE-FELONY	2
POP	POSSESSION OF PARAPHERNALIA	29
POP1	POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA-SALE OF	20
POWS	POSSESSION OF WEAPON BY STUDENT	1
PSBWC	PASSING SCHOOL BUS WITH CHILDREN LOADING/UNLC	2
PSFA	POSSESSION, SALE, TRANSFER OF STOLEN FIREARM	4
PSP	STOLEN PROPERTY - POSSESSION	4
PSPM	STOLEN PROPERTY-POSSESSION-MISDEMEANOR	1

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### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2017 TO 03/31/2017

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
PWINT	POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE	1
RA	RESISTING ARREST	12
RD	RECKLESS DRIVING	12
ROB	ROBBERY	4
ROBAR	ROBBERY-ARMED	6
RP	RAPE	4
RPST	RAPE-STATUTORY	5
RSS	RUNNING A STOP SIGN	2
SA	SIMPLE ASSAULT	150
SABT	SIMPLE ASSAULT BY THREAT	86
SAOM	SIMPLE ASSAULT ON A MINOR	6
SAPA	SIMPLE ASSAULT, POINTING & AIM	13
SAPO	SIMPLE ASSAULT ON A POLICE OFF	3
SAPOF	Simple Assault on a Police Officer-Felony	3
SAWI	SIMPLE ASSAULT WITH INJURIES	5
SB	SEATBELT VIOLATION	6
SDL	SUSPENDED DRIVERS LICENSE	20
SH	SOCIAL HOSTING	1
SHO2	SHOPLIFTING, 2ND OFFENSE	1
SHO3	SHOPLIFTING, 3RD OFFENSE OR \$250 OR MORE	1
SHOP	SHOPLIFTING-LESS THAN \$250.00	15
SHTDH	SHOOTING INTO DWELLING HOUSE	8
SIGL	FAILURE TO SIGNAL LANE CHANGE	1
SP1	SPEEDING 10-20 MPH OVER LIMIT	6
SP2	SPEEDING 21-30 MPH OVER LIMIT	3
SP3	SPEEDING 30+ MPH OVER LIMIT	1
SPEED	SPEEDING	2
ST	SWITCHED TAG	3
STLK	STALKING	9
STLK1	STALKING	1
STLKF	Stalking-Felony	1
SXBAT	SEXUAL BATTERY	9

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### Number of Occurrences by Offense

01/01/2017 TO 12/31/2017

Offense Code	Offense Description	Counts
T00PM	T00PM TOBACCO, POSSESSION BY MINOR	1
TOU	TOU THEFT OF UTILITIES	2
TPE	TPE TAMPERING WITH PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	1
TRES	TRES. TRESPASSING	90
TRESE	TRESE TRESPASS UPON ENCLOSED LAND OF ANOTHER	1
TRESL	TRESL TRESPASSING UPON LANDS OF ANOTHER	4
TRESW	TRESW TRESPASSING-WILLFUL	10
TRLL	TRLL TRESPASS LESS THAN LARCENY (JOY RIDING)	1
UCDF	UCDF UTILITY CUSTOMER, DEFRAUD OF	1
UFORG	UFORG UTTERING FORGERY	2
UNK	UNK UNKNOWN OFFENSE	30
UPPD	UPPD UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS NOT PERMITTED TO DRIVE	6
UUE	UUE UNLAWFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY (METER TAMPERING)	1
VIO	VIO VIOLATION OF PROBATION	1
VNCO	VNCO VIOLATION OF NIGHTCLUB ORDINANCE	1
VOCO	VOCO VIOLATION OF COURT ORDER	5
WARRANT	WARRANT WARRANTS - SERVE OR OTHER	27
WPFLN	WPFLN WEAPON, POSSESSION OF BY FELON	14
Total of All Offenses:		3,169

## CRIME STATS – CITY OF COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

### City of Columbus Police Department Statistics – 2018

AL  
EN  
EF

**COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
601 MAIN STREET  
COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI 39701  
Phone: (662) 244-3500

Frederick C. Shelton  
Chief of Police

Robert Smith  
Mayor

July 7, 2020

The following statistics covers January 1, 2019 – December 30, 2019, for the following crimes:

Murder	3
Sexual Battery/Rape	30
Armed Robbery	16
Agg. Assault	41
Burglary	338
Dwelling-	95
Commercial -	46
Auto -	166

Three murders:  
2019023714 -Will be presented for the February 2020 GJ  
2019025612 -Will be presented for the February 2020 GJ  
2019039351 -Still Open

Total of Violent Crimes Reported: 90 without burglaries and 428 including burglaries

Total Number of Felony Arrests: 130

**\*\*The most felony arrests are the burglaries arrest.\*\***

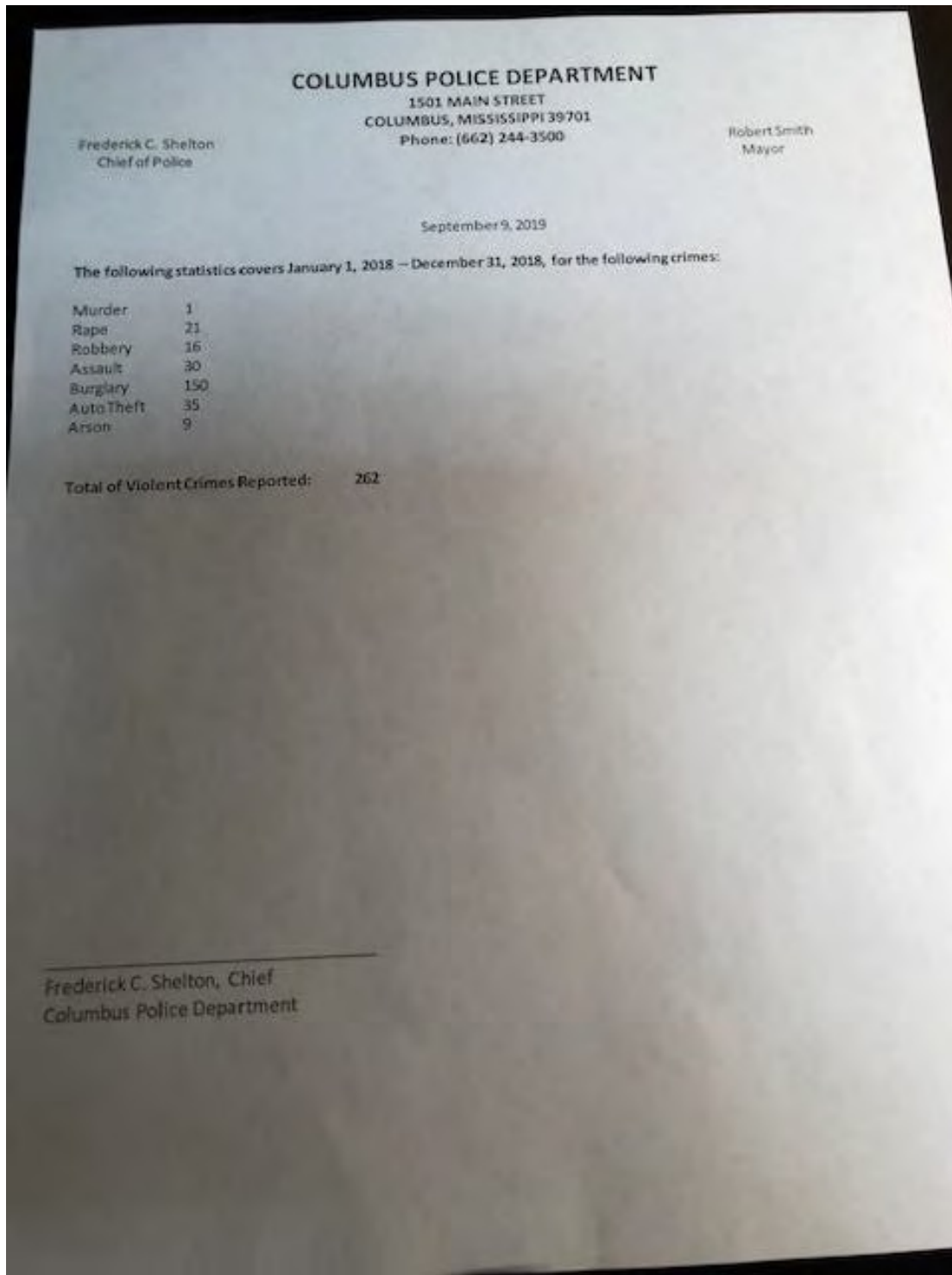
Frederick C. Shelton, Chief  
Columbus Police Department





## CRIME STATS – CITY OF COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

### City of Columbus Police Department Statistics – 2018



## City of Columbus Police Department Statistics - 2017

The following statistics covers September 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016, for the following crimes:

Murder	5
Rape	5
Robbery	19
Assault	13
Burglary	225
Theft	12
Auto Theft	6
Arson	1

Total of Violent Crimes Reported:	286
Total Crimes Reported:	1655

The following statistics covers the year 2017 for the following crimes:

Murder	2
Rape	12
Robbery	47
Assault	30
Burglary	531
Theft	45
Auto Theft	23
Arson	5

Total of Violent Crimes Reported:	695
Total Crimes Reported:	4273

The following statistics covers January 1, 2018 – March 31, 2018, for the following crimes:

Murder	0
Rape	2
Robbery	10
Assault	6
Burglary	80
Theft	9
Auto Theft	6
Arson	2

Total of Violent Crimes Reported:	115
Total Crimes Reported:	914

## City of Columbus Police Department Statistics - 2017

### COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

1501 MAIN STREET

COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI 39701

PHONE: (662) 244-3500

Frederick C. Shelton  
Chief of Police

Robert Smith  
Mayor

June 7, 2018

#### VIOLENT CRIMES REPORTED FOR 2015, 2016 AND 2017

	2015	No. of Incidents	
	Aggravated Assault	86	
	Forcible Rape	29	
	Murder	3	
	Robbery	35	
		153	6.22 incidents per 1000 residents

	2016	No. of Incidents	
	Aggravated Assault	63	
	Forcible Rape	35	
	Murder	7	
	Robbery	55	
		160	6.50 incidents per 1000 residents

	2017	No. of Incidents	
	Aggravated Assault	50	
	Forcible Rape	29	
	Murder	2	
	Robbery	47	
		128	5.20 incidents per 1000 residents

City of Columbus Population	24600
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\* Data gathered from Columbus Police Department Records Management System (PTS Incidents)

Frederick C. Shelton  
Frederick C. Shelton, Chief  
Columbus Police Department

## HOUSING REPORT

### Types of student housing available

On Campus Housing	Physical Address	Double Rooms	Single Rooms	Suites	Gender
Callaway Hall	1204 College Street Columbus, MS 39701	X	X	X	Female
Columbus Hall	1206 College Street Columbus, MS 39701	X	X	X	Male
Goen Hall*	1200 6 <sup>th</sup> Avenue South Columbus, MS 39701	X	X	X	Female
Grossnickle Hall	100 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue South Columbus, MS 39701	X	X	X	Female Male
Frazer Hall*	603 Serenade Drive Columbus, MS 39701	X	X	X	Male
Hasting/Simmons Hall	1210 College Street Columbus, MS 39701	X	X	X	Female
Jones Hall	604 Serenade Drive Columbus, MS 39701	X	X	X	Female
Kincannon Hall	1100 6 <sup>th</sup> Avenue South Columbus, MS 39701	X	X	X	Female Male
University Housing**	900 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue South Columbus, MS 39701	X	X	X	Female Male

*\*Goen Hall and Frazer Hall are occupied with students who attend Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science which is a junior and senior high school.*

*\*\*University Housing is an apartment complex owned by the university and managed through the Resource Management office. These apartments are for faculty and staff. However, when availability arises, students can apply for an apartment through this office.*

All campus residence halls are single gender within a room or suite. Housing for married students or family housing is not available in the residence halls.

### Policies on housing assignments and requested assignment changes

Students are able to request a roommate when they complete the housing contract. Every effort is made to honor mutual roommate requests. Students who do not request a roommate will be matched with a roommate by the use of Simple Campus Housing software that is utilized for all housing contracts.

Students are allowed to change rooms during the school year. The student who is seeking a room change request must meet with the residence hall director within their residence hall. The residence director will work the Director of Housing and Residence Life to accommodate most room change requests as long as space is available and mutual agreement is met among other students that will be affected by the room change.

## **Policy on admission of visitors in student housing facilities**

The residence halls are intended for use by residents of the building and their invited guests. A guest is identified as a person visiting a resident of the residence hall at the resident's invitation. Housing and Residence Life has outlined the following Visitation Policy:

### Visitation Policy

Mississippi University for Women considers the safety and security of students, employees, and guests to be a minimal prerequisite for the establishment of a residential learning environment. It is the intention of the university to allow on-campus residents visitation freedoms and privileges while taking every precaution and effort to ensure a safe and secure residential environment. It is also the intention of the university to take whatever action may be needed to prevent, correct, and if necessary, discipline behavior that violates this policy.

### Host & Guest Expectations

- For the purpose of this policy, a guest is defined as any individual who is not a resident, as assigned by the Office of Housing and Residence Life, of the residence hall being visited. Guest excludes university employees or contractors in the official performance of their duties.
- The host must meet the guest in the main lobby of the residence hall and escort the guest at all times.
- Guests traveling with a resident within the residence hall must properly check in with the front desk. Guest must show a government issued picture ID, such as MUW student ID or driver's license, at the front desk in order to check in. Desk attendant will collect the name, student ID number or driver's license #, host name, room number, and contact number(s).
- Residents may register up to 2 guests at a time during visitation hours (1:00pm-1:00am/Sunday through Saturday).
- Prior to the end of visitation hours, hosts must escort guest(s) to the front desk to check out. This must be completed prior to 1:00AM which is the end of visitation.
- In co-residential halls, residents are required to check in with the front desk prior to visiting a resident of the opposite gender. The guest resident must be escorted by the host resident at all times and will be required to check out at the front desk at the conclusion of visitation hours.
- Guests must only enter/exit the residence halls by way of the main lobby door(s). Entry/exit through other doors is strictly prohibited.
- Hosts will be responsible for all actions of the guest. Guests are required to adhere to all policies of the Office of Housing and Residence Life and Mississippi University for Women. Failure to adhere to these policies will result in referral to the Residence Director.
- Visitation log will remain at the front desk in each residence hall. Once guest returns, the date and time of checkout will be recorded.

### Approved Lobby Door Locations

- A). Grossnickle Hall –First floor front entrance entering to main lobby.
- B). Callaway Hall –Front entrance facing College Street and Back Entrance facing Parking Lot.
- C). Columbus Hall -Front entrance facing College Street and Back Entrance facing Parking Lot.
- D). Hasting/Simmons Hall –Front entrance by Shattuck Hall & Back Entrance facing Parking Lot.
- E). Jones Hall –Front Entrance entering main lobby.
- F). Kincannon Hall –Front Entrance entering main lobby.

### Registering an Overnight Guest of the Same Gender

- Residents wishing to host a guest for an overnight visit must complete an Overnight Guest Registration Form at the front desk by no later than 10:00pm of the night prior to the first night of



the visit. The form will require the name, contact number, and signature of the host resident; the name, contact number, date of visitation, and signature of the guest (upon arrival); signature of roommates/suitemates. Once this is completed the form must be returned to the front desk in order to be signed by the Residence Director.

- Residents are allowed overnight guests of the same gender who have been properly registered for a maximum of 4 nights during a given month.
- The host must meet the guest in the main lobby of the residence hall and escort the guest at all times.
- Hosts shall be responsible for all actions of the guest. Guests are to adhere to all policies of Housing and Residence Life and Mississippi University for Women. Failure to adhere to these policies will result in referral to the Residence Director.
- The Office of Housing and Residence Life reserves the right to remove any guest from the residence halls.
- Remember that as an assigned occupant of the room, you are responsible for the behavior of guests and visitors in your room. You can only occupy and place belongings in your assigned room.
- Residents must allow residence hall staff entrance into their room during a social gathering to ensure adherence to all university policies and procedures. Refusal to allow entry into the room could result in the involvement of Mississippi University for Women Police Department as well as serious disciplinary action.

### **Measures to secure entrances to student housing facilities**

Every residence hall is equipped with an electronic card access system that permits access to the hall by residents of the building only. The system is operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Adjustments to access hours may be made during fall move in day and hall closings.

Each residence hall has an operational front desk which is worked by Desk Assistants. Residents must check their guest in and out at the front desk of each building.

Students may only enter their assigned building by swiping their student ID card at the card reader, located at all front doors and some other doors at particular halls. If a student's ID fails to unlock the door of their assigned residence hall, the student may gain entry with the assistance of a roommate, housing staff member on duty, or by contacting MUW PD.

Students who want to visit a resident of another building or have a visitor to their room, must follow the Housing and Residence Life Visitation Policy.

### **Type, number, and description of security training provided to student housing employees**

The Housing and Residence Life professional staff and student staff receive a variety of security trainings throughout the year which includes:

- ✓ On Duty protocol training (annually)
- ✓ Risk management training (annually)
- ✓ Community Standards/Disciplinary Protocol training (annually)
- ✓ Fire Safety Training (annually)
- ✓ Safety/Security protocols (annually)
- ✓ Crisis Response/Emergency training (annually)

Residence Directors (professional staff) and Resident Advisors (student staff) receive a manual specific to their jobs and participate in on-going trainings during the year.

## **Type and frequency of programs designed to inform student housing residents about housing security and enforcement procedures**

Resident advisors are required to hold floor meetings each semester and additional floor meetings as needed to address safety and security along with all housing policies.

## **ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY REPORT**

### **Fire Safety**

The MUW PD works closely with Facilities Management as well as the Columbus Fire Department. The goal of the MUW PD and Columbus Fire Department is to educate MUW community about fire and life safety, to prevent fire emergencies and to reduce alarms.

The State Fire Code prohibits anyone from tampering with fire and safety equipment in the residence halls or in any campus building. Tampering includes pulling false fire alarms, discharging fire extinguishers, removing exit signs, and interfering with smoke detectors. Interference with smoke detectors mandates immediate attention. Students responsible will be assessed for damages and for the hourly rate of the repair person's labor. All violators are subject to disciplinary action and possible criminal prosecution. The maximum civil penalty for malicious use of fire and safety equipment will be enforced.

### **Fire Statistics for On-Campus Student Housing Facilities**

In accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, Mississippi University for Women is providing mandatory fire safety information as part of this Annual Report. All reports of fires and fire alarms are maintained in a database within the MUW PD. Data collected includes, but is not limited to, the building name, alarm location, time and date, the number and cause of each fire, any and all injuries, any fatalities and dollar values for property damage by the fire.

### **Description of On-Campus Student Housing Fire Safety Systems**

Every University student residence has:

- An interior alarm is located in each room, hallway and lobby area. There are smoke and heat detectors. The detectors are auditory and visual with strobes.
- There is a yearly inspection of all fire alarm systems, sprinkler systems and all fire suppression equipment. All records of the tests are kept at Facilities Management.
- The fire alarm panel triggers an alarm directly to the MUW PD, who in turn, contacts the Columbus Fire Department.
- Sprinkler systems are in every residence hall.
- Columbus Hall and Grossnickle Hall are equipped with fire doors.

### **Residence Hall Fire Drills**

MUW residence halls are required to conduct periodic fire drills each semester. Failure to respond appropriately to fire alarms will necessitate the scheduling of additional drills and disciplinary action against the resident(s) involved. If a resident fails to respond to a fire alarm, he/she may incur a fine as well as be subject to further disciplinary action. Housing and Residence Life Staff and University Police reserve the right to enter student rooms to locate the source of the problem and to ensure that everyone has evacuated the building.

## Annual Disclosure of Fire Statistics for Each On-Campus Student Housing Facility

### Year – 2018

Residence Hall	Date of Fire	Cause of Fire	# of persons w/fire related injuries	# of fire related deaths	Property damage
Callaway Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Columbus Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Frazer Hall*	0	0	0	0	0
Goen Hall*	0	0	0	0	0
Grossnickle Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Hasting/Simmons Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Jones Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Kincannon Hall	0	0	0	0	0
University Housing**	0	0	0	0	0

*\*Goen Hall and Frazer Hall are occupied with students who attend Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science which is a junior and senior high school.*

*\*\*University Housing is an apartment complex owned by the university and managed through the Resource Management office. These apartments are for faculty and staff. However, when availability arises, students can apply for an apartment through this office.*

### Year - 2017

Residence Hall	Date of Fire	Cause of Fire	# of persons w/fire related injuries	# of fire related deaths	Property damage
Callaway Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Columbus Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Frazer Hall*	0	0	0	0	0
Goen Hall*	0	0	0	0	0
Grossnickle Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Hasting/Simmons Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Jones Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Kincannon Hall	0	0	0	0	0
University Housing**	0	0	0	0	0

*\*Goen Hall and Frazer Hall are occupied with students who attend Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science which is a junior and senior high school.*

*\*\*University Housing is an apartment complex owned by the university and managed through the Resource Management office. These apartments are for faculty and staff. However, when availability arises, students can apply for an apartment through this office.*

### Year - 2016

Residence Hall	Date of Fire	Cause of Fire	# of persons w/fire related injuries	# of fire related deaths	Property damage
Callaway Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Columbus Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Frazer Hall*	0	0	0	0	0
Goen Hall*	0	0	0	0	0
Grossnickle Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Hasting/Simmons Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Jones Hall	0	0	0	0	0
Kincannon Hall	0	0	0	0	0
University Housing**	0	0	0	0	0

*\*Goen Hall and Frazer Hall are occupied with students who attend Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science which is a junior and senior high school.*

*\*\*University Housing is an apartment complex owned by the university and managed through the Resource Management office. These apartments are for faculty and staff. However, when availability arises, students can apply for an apartment through this office.*

### Prohibitions on Portable Electrical Appliances, Smoking and Open Flames

Housing and Residence Life have policies that outline cooking appliances and fire prevention within the residence halls.

#### Cooking and Appliance Policy

Due to the nature of residence hall living, the physical facilities of the halls, and the concerns for fire and safety standards, only microwave cooking is permitted in student rooms (unless the suite is equipped with a kitchenette). MicroFridges (combination microwave, refrigerator, and freezer) are provided and the proper use of the MicroFridge is the responsibility of each student. Students are not allowed to have an additional refrigerator/microwave in his/her room. Cooking appliances (such as percolators, toasters, toaster ovens, electric skillets, crock pots, and hot plates) are not allowed in student rooms. George Foreman grills or similar products are also not permitted.

#### Fire Prevention

Below are residence hall policies and guidelines:

- Candles, oil lamps, and other open-flame or continuous burning objects are not permitted (even for decoration purposes).
- Students may not place or store furniture, trash or personal belongings in the hallways.
- Keep posters and other combustible decorations to a minimum.
- Incense is not permissible. Air freshener is acceptable as a plugin or spray.
- Check electrical cords and appliances to insure they are in proper working order. Extension Cords are not allowed, only surge protectors can be used. Only one surge protector may be used per outlet (surge protectors may not be plugged into other surge protectors).
- Check electrical outlets and surge protectors to ensure they are not overloaded. Residence hall staff reserves the right to confiscate any electrical outlet or surge protector for health and safety reasons.
- Stairwell, hallway and fire doors should never be propped open.

- Halogen lamps, lava lamps, multi-plug adapters, and bulbs are prohibited in resident rooms.
- To avoid fire hazard, live Christmas trees are not permitted in residence hall rooms or in the residence common areas.
- Low-heat bulbs and flame retardant materials may be used to decorate residence hall rooms.

Students violating any of the above guidelines may face disciplinary action.

### **Student Housing Fire Evacuation Procedures**

#### In case of a fire:

- Sound the fire alarm.
- Evacuate the building.
- Call the MUW PD at extension (662) 241-7777.

#### When an alarm sounds:

- Feel the door from top to bottom with your hands. If it is hot, do not open it!
- If the door is cool, crouch low and open it slowly. If there is heavy smoke, close the door quickly.
- If the hallway is clear, exit via the nearest stairwell.
- Do not use the elevator.
- If you encounter heavy smoke in the stairwell, do not proceed; but try to go to a different stairwell.

#### If trapped in a room:

- Stuff towels or clothing under the door.
- Open windows – attract someone’s attention.
- Stay near the window for fresh air.

### **Campus Building Fire Evacuation Procedures**

If you discover a fire in a campus building:

- Immediately pull the nearest fire alarm as exit the building.
- When evacuating the building, remember to feel doors before opening them to be sure that there is no fire danger on the other side. If you must enter a smoke-filled room or hallway, stay low, keeping one hand on the wall to avoid disorientation and crawl to the nearest exit, keep head near the floor.
- Once safely away from danger, call 911 and 662-241-7777 to report the fire.
- Leave the building at once but stand by to direct emergency teams to the location of the fire.

### FIRE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Keep doorways, corridors and stairwells clear and unobstructed. Keep the fire doors closed.
- Make sure that all electrical appliances and cords are in good condition and UL approved.
- Do not overload electrical outlets. Use fuse-protected multi-outlet power strips and extension cords when necessary.
- Extinguish all smoking materials properly and thoroughly.
- Never store flammable substances in your room or apartment. Unauthorized use of candles and live holiday decorations are not permitted in University buildings.
- Be aware that transmitting a false alarm is a criminal offense that endangers the lives of both building occupants and emergency personnel. It is also an offense to prop open fire doors or to tamper in any way with alarm equipment, electromagnetic locks, or other safety devices or to block or obstruct paths of egress.

*Note: If a member of the MUW community finds evidence of a fire that has been extinguished and the person is not sure whether MUW PD or the City of Columbus Fire Department has already responded, that person should notify the MUW PD or the City of Columbus Fire Department, who will investigate and document the incident.*

#### **FIRE RESPONSE DOS AND DON'TS**

- DO treat every alarm as an emergency. If an alarm sounds, exit the building immediately.
- DON'T assume that a fire alarm is a drill or test. All building alarm systems are tested as required by law, but these tests are announced in advance.
- DO remain in your room if you cannot get out of the building because of heat or smoke. Call the POLICE and FIRE DEPARTMENT right away. Keep the door closed and wait for assistance from the Fire Department. If smoke is entering around the door, stuff the crack under the door with sheets, clothes, or blankets. If possible, open the window and wave a brightly colored garment or towel from your window---the Fire Department will be looking for this sign.
- DO close the door behind you if it is safe to leave your room.
- DON'T waste time collecting personal valuables. Take your keys so that you can reenter your room if exit from the building is not possible.
- DON'T use an elevator during a fire emergency: ALWAYS USE THE STAIRS.

#### **Fire Safety Education and Training Programs for Students, Staff, and Faculty**

The Housing and Residence Life professional staff and student staff receive a variety of security trainings throughout the year which include fire safety.

#### **Fire Incident Reporting**

Students, faculty and staff are instructed to call 911 to report a fire emergency. Immediate notification for a non-emergency incident (example: fire is out, evidence that something burned, etc.) shall be made to: MUW PD: 662-241-7777

Housing and Residence Life: 662-329-7127

Dean of Students: 662-329-7129

#### **Plans for Future Improvements in Fire Safety**

All Mississippi University for Women buildings meet or exceed City of Columbus and State of Mississippi fire safety requirements. In addition, as the University renovates buildings, additional fire suppression and detection devices are being added to bring our buildings above, or beyond, current requirements.





## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**MUW Police Department**

Emergency: 911

662-241-7777

Building: McDevitt Hall

**MUW Health Center**

662-329-7289

Building: Eckford Hall

**MUW Counseling Center**

662-329-7748

Building: 11<sup>th</sup> Street South & 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Blue House)

**Dean of Students Office**

662-329-7129

Building: Cochran Hall, Room 400

**Title IX Coordinator**

662-329-7100

Building: Welty Hall Room 310B

**Division of Student Affairs**

662-329-7129

Building: Cochran Hall, Room 400

**Housing and Residence Life**

662-329-7127

Building: Cochran Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

**MUW Facilities Management**

662-329-7396

Building: Physical Plant Warehouse

