



W Police Department

Community Safety Bulletin

Bulletin Issued: Feb. 21, 2025

On Thursday, Feb. 20 at approximately 4:50 p.m., a witness reported shots fired near campus to a University staff member. The W Police Department, Columbus Police Department and the Lowndes County Sheriff's Department were immediately notified.

It was established that a shooting incident took place at Fourth Ave. and 10th St. S. and the suspect fled by foot in the general direction of campus. The University immediately ordered a campus-wide lockdown via WAlert. Local law enforcement agencies quickly collaborated to secure and patrol campus. Once confirmed the suspect did not pose a threat to the campus community, the lockdown was lifted. At this time, the Columbus Police Department is investigating the incident and has identified a suspect.

In the event of a campus lockdown, remain calm while immediately ceasing all activity. Lock and/or barricade all doors. Turn off all lights and shut or pull blinds/shades. Remain quiet, silencing cell phones, in a secure and hidden area. Until directed otherwise, continue lockdown procedures.

If you see any suspicious activity at anytime or feel threatened in any given situation, please call The W Police Department at (662) 241-7777 or 911.

W-Alert Reminder: In the event that a situation arises, either on or off campus, that constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat, a campus wide "timely warning" will be issued. The warning will be issued through the University's text messaging system called W-Alert to students, faculty and staff. Take a moment to ensure you are signed up for the W-Alert at www.muw.edu/police/preparedness/walertssignup.

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