

Boston College
Campus Safety and Security Policies
Reporting Crimes and Other Emergencies

Purpose

This Policy is promulgated to encourage the timely and accurate reporting of all criminal activity on the Boston College Campus to the Boston College Police Department.

Policy

Reporting Crimes to the Boston College Police Department. The Boston College Police Department is the official **reporting authority** at Boston College.

All members of the Boston College community, including all students, faculty and staff and their guests, are encouraged to report all crimes and other public safety concerns to the Boston College Police Department in a timely manner, when the victim of a crime elects to report or is unable to make such a report. Accurate and prompt reporting will facilitate timely initiation of warnings and other appropriate emergency response procedures, and will also help ensure the accuracy of crime statistics compiled in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure and Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (the “Clery Act”).

The Boston College Police Department accepts voluntary, confidential reports of crimes in cases where the victim or witness of a crime does not wish to pursue either judicial or disciplinary action. All such reports are included in the annual disclosure of crime statistics. A confidential report can help determine if there is a pattern of crime with regard to a particular location, method, or assailant, and can help alert the campus community to potential danger. Note that this Policy does not limit or affect the University’s protocols with respect to any required notifications to the Student Affairs Title IX Coordinator of an alleged incident of sexual violence involving a student. In addition, faculty and staff may have additional reporting obligations under other University policies, including the Protection of Minors on Campus Policy and the professional standards and business conduct policies.

Campus Security Authorities. Campus Security Authorities, as identified below, are **required** to immediately report to the Boston College Police any instance of the crimes listed below occurring within Boston College’s Clery geography of which they become aware, whether by direct observation, disclosure by a victim, witness, or perpetrator, or report by some other person who has learned of the crime. BC’s Clery geography includes (i) buildings and property on the BC campus, (ii) non-campus buildings and property owned or controlled by BC that are used in direct support of, or in relation to, BC educational purposes and frequently used by students, and (iii) public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the BC campus. Crimes that Campus Security Authorities must report to the Boston College Police are:

- Murder and non-negligent manslaughter
- Negligent manslaughter
- Robbery
- Aggravated assault
- Burglary
- Motor vehicle theft
- Arson
- All hate crimes involving bodily injury, larceny-theft, intimidation, simple assault, or vandalism of property
- All liquor, drug or weapons law violations resulting in an arrest.

In addition, all Campus Security Authorities are required to immediately report to the Student Affairs Title IX Coordinator any instance of the following crimes occurring on or near the Boston College Campus or elsewhere within Boston College's Clery geography of which they become aware, whether by direct observation, disclosure by a victim, witness, or perpetrator, or report by some other person who has learned of the crime:

- Rape
- Fondling
- Incest
- Statutory Rape
- Domestic violence
- Dating violence
- Stalking

The Student Affairs Title IX Coordinator shall ensure that these crimes are promptly reported to the Boston College Police Department for the purpose of compiling and reporting accurate crime statistics in accordance with the Clery Act.

All such reports should be made by Campus Security Authorities without investigation or other attempt to determine whether a crime, in fact, took place.

Campus Security Authorities at Boston College include the following: (i) all members of the Boston College Police Department; (ii) any individual who has responsibility for campus security but is not a member of the Boston College Police Department; (iii) any individual or organization specified in campus security policies as an individual or organization to which students and employees should report criminal offenses; and (iv) University officials having significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline, and campus judicial proceedings.

Counselors. Pastoral Counselors and Professional Counselors, as defined below, when acting as such, are not considered to be Campus Security Authorities and are not required to report crimes. The University encourages them if and when they deem it appropriate, to inform persons being counseled of the procedures to report crimes on a voluntary basis for inclusion into the annual crime statistics. A **Pastoral Counselor** is an employee of the University who is associated with a religious order or denomination, recognized by that religious order or denomination as someone who provides confidential counseling and who is functioning within the scope of that recognition as a Pastoral Counselor. A **Professional Counselor** is an employee of the University whose official responsibilities include providing psychological counseling and who is functioning within the scope of his or her license or certification.

Additional Information. The Boston College Police Department is fully operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. It is designed to remain operational during major emergencies, including those involving the loss of power and telecommunications.

Boston College Police emergency and nonemergency telephone numbers are listed in the print and electronic versions of the Boston College Communications Directory published by Information Technology and Human Resources. The telephone numbers are published in materials disseminated by the Police, including official reports and educational brochures, and are displayed on bulletin boards in campus residence halls. Boston College Police officers respond to and document all emergency calls and calls for service and, when necessary and/or required by law, the appropriate local police agencies are contacted for assistance. All telephone calls are recorded and available for immediate recall. These records are maintained for a minimum of 30 days.

Boston College Police Headquarters has a telephone system that allows the Police to maintain telephone service when other campus systems are out of service or are experiencing busy circuits and other problems.

A Boston Area Police Emergency Radio Network, or BAPER, radio system is in operation which allows the Boston College Police to communicate directly with all other police agencies within its normal level of

operations, as well as with a majority of the police agencies in the metro Boston area and eastern Massachusetts. At Boston College Police Headquarters and in police cruisers, local police calls are monitored over the BAPERN radio system. Additional police alerts are monitored over the Law Enforcement Agencies Processing Systems/National Crime Information Center, or LEAPS/NCIC, network, which also allows the Boston College Police to communicate with other police agencies locally and nationally regarding local problems. The on-campus Police operate on radio bands that enable direct communication with Facilities Services personnel, Residential Life staff, and an off-campus community liaison program, the Community Assistance Patrol, sponsored by the Office of Governmental and Community Affairs. Direct radio communication with a local ambulance service is also available when the service is responding to calls from Boston College.

Emergency intercoms, identified by blue lights, are located at various sites on campus. The intercoms connect a caller directly to the Boston College Police without the need to dial or use coins, and they enable the Police to respond immediately to the scene of the call.

The Boston College Police Public Blotter lists the arrests and incidents that take place on campus. The blotter is available at Police Headquarters for viewing by members of the University community and the public during normal business hours. The blotter does not contain information on crime victims, juvenile arrests or other information prohibited from release by law.

For additional information regarding the Boston College Police Department, see [Boston College Police -- Function and Responsibilities](#).