Campus Notification Procedures

Making Your Notifications Work for Your Campus

Mississippi State Legal Affairs Conference Spring 2024

For today...

- The Basics Of Timely Warning/Emergency Notifications
- What is *Your* Message On Safety and Notifications
- Who is Involved, and Who is Not
- But What About....
- Square Pegs and Round Holes
- Look to the Program Review Findings
- Document Your Decisions









What We Are Told Do...

TIMELY WARNINGS & EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS: SEPARATE AND DISTINCT REQUIREMENTS —

The Clery Act requires institutions of higher education to maintain two types of alerting systems for separate and distinct purposes. Below is a table breaking down the distinctions between these two types of alerts. Use this resource to understand which alert should be sent depending on the circumstances of the incident in question.

Timely Warning	Emergency Notification
When Clery crimes reported to a campus security authority or local law enforcement pose a serious or ongoing threat to the campus community	When there is confirmation of an immediate threat to the health and safety of the campus community
Only required for Clery crimes occurring within Clery geography that pose a serious or ongoing threat*	On-campus emergencies only
Date, nature, location of incident; prevention tips; how to report a similar occurrence	Information about the nature of the emergency and what changes one needs to make immediately as a result; evacuation procedures if necessary; assurance that an all-clear will be sent when emergency is over
Must reach entire campus community	Can be segmented, if appropriate
Case-by-case analysis if the factors above are present*	Procedure in place to confirm whether a significant emergency exists
Not prescribed by the Clery Act—should be an individual or office with authority and capability to issue campus-wide communication	Not prescribed by the Clery Act—should be an individual or office with authority and capability to issue campus-wide communication
Multi-modal system intended to reach the entire campus community; most commonly emails, website updates, and social media posts	Multi-modal system is best to ensure delivery; segmentation of messaging is permitted, if appropriate
	When Clery crimes reported to a campus security authority or local law enforcement pose a serious or ongoing threat to the campus community Only required for Clery crimes occurring within Clery geography that pose a serious or ongoing threat* Date, nature, location of incident; prevention tips; how to report a similar occurrence Must reach entire campus community Case-by-case analysis if the factors above are present* Not prescribed by the Clery Act—should be an individual or office with authority and capability to issue campus-wide communication Multi-modal system intended to reach the entire campus community; most commonly emails,

^{*}Some institutions have broader policies than the minimum requirements – refer to your own institutional policies to determine if your policy addresses incidents beyond Clery Act crimes or Clery geography.

What We Are Told Do...

- Policy Statement in the ASR
 - Summary of your existing procedures for administering timely warnings and emergency notifications
 - Describes the circumstances when you would issue a notification
 - Be precise in publishing who will be involved in the notification process

Take a Look at What Your Approach

Does the information in your ASR match what your actual procedures are?

Do you leave yourself some room for error?

Are you overpromising and underperforming?

Do you use a decision matrix and stock templates to speed up the process?

But Our Campus is Different...

- We don't have a police department
- There are no residential facilities
- Our gated campus doesn't allow unauthorized visitors
- What do we do with our non-campus properties?
- What about international campuses or study abroad

Every campus is indeed different- it is up to you and your administration to designate your procedures to fit what resources you do have

Constructive Criticism is Good

Ask Around....

University Coms outlets

Your Campus SGA

Working with Emergency Management

Title IX, Conduct, and Advocacy Groups

What messaging and training is going to be the most efficient and impactful?

Program Review Outcomesthe Scary Outcomes

- Liberty University
- Baylor
- UNC-Chapel Hill
- ABS

Document it all



These decisions can come fast and often times the information you have- may change throughout the process.



Have a "Next Day Form" handy to where you can document the decisions made, who made them, and on what grounds



Having this information can justify why the institution went in the directions they did at the time

Contact Info



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