Towards an Understanding of Community Safety

Fall 2003
The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

Campus Police Department and Division of Student Affairs
Crime Prevention is Everyone's Business

Campus Police Phone Numbers

Emergency: Police/Medical/Fire ..... 9-1-1
General Info ........................................ 652-4390
Chief of Police ..................... 652-4378

We encourage you to post these on-campus emergency phone numbers in strategic areas for easy access. Phone stickers are available by contacting Campus Police.

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey is housed on an open campus that cannot be patrolled at all times in all places. The college does not guarantee absolute safety to all students, employees, guests or visitors to the campus. Prudent preventative safety measures should be exercised at all times.

Prevention is the most effective means of dealing with crime.

You can help to diminish crime on campus by not tolerating it. When you see a crime, report it to the Campus Police. In addition, we offer you the following helpful hints:

- Secure your valuables, keep doors locked.
- Value your safety and the safety of others.
- Employ common sense and be aware of your surroundings.
- Plan your route. Take well-lighted, busy walkways whenever possible.
- Never take shortcuts through poorly lighted areas.
- Don't walk alone. Get a friend to walk with you, especially at night or, better yet, take advantage of Stockton's free escort service.
- If you must walk alone, walk near the curb. Avoid alleys, entryways, and shrubs where someone may be hiding.
- Have your keys ready before you get to your residence or car.
- If you discover that someone is following you, get to a well-lighted area and telephone the police.
- Never accept a ride from a stranger. We strongly recommend that you do not hitchhike.
- On campus students should not allow anyone into their residence halls or apartments without first asking for proper identification.
- For individuals who commute to the campus, keep any valuables in your car including clothing, loose change or other personal items out of sight.
- Be alert and cognizant of your surroundings. Watch out for suspicious persons and dangerous situations. Notify the police of all suspicious persons by calling 9-1-1.

Emergency Telephones

Remember, many victims of crime once said, "It can't happen to me." We hope that your stay at Stockton will be both an enjoyable and safe one!
The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey is a community located in the Township of Galloway which encompasses 1,600 acres (3 sq. miles) nestled within the pine barrens of New Jersey. As part of the larger community of Galloway Township, Stockton shares the same problems and interests including the problem of crime. It is therefore, incumbent on all users of the college to exercise prudence with respect to their personal safety and off the campus. The entire Stockton community, as well as guests visiting the college, are encouraged to use the official walkways when traveling through the campus. These walkways, equipped with lighting during the evening hours, are provided for your safety. It is recommended that you never walk alone, and use only the lighted walkways during the evening hours, when going from place to place on campus. The Campus Escort Service is available from dusk to dawn every day of the year. Call 652-4390 or ext. 4390 to arrange for an escort.

In order to provide a safe and secure environment at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, the college has in place a professionally trained, sworn and fully commissioned police force. The Police Department is assisted by the Office of Student and Educational Support Services, the Office of Housing and Residence Life, and the many offices and divisions of the college to address issues of safety and security on the campus. To discuss any such issue/s, please contact Stockton's Chief of Police at 652-4378 or ext. 4378. The police patrol the campus 24 hours a day, year round, in marked police vehicles, on bicycles and by foot, to respond to any emergency or call for service. For general information, please call the Police department at 652-4390 or ext. 4390.

Stockton is an open and accessible educational campus which also serves as the host site for several community and special interest groups. The physical condition of the college facilities, buildings and grounds are the responsibility of the maintenance staff who ensure that all repairs and upkeep are performed in a timely fashion. We encourage all individuals to assist us in keeping the facilities and buildings located on campus clean and safe. Please report any emergency, unsafe condition or situation which may cause imminent danger to yourself or others, to the police by dialing 9-1-1.

Community Living and Campus Life

The Office of Housing and Residential Life provides campus housing for approximately 38% of the full-time student population. On-campus housing is available in two distinctly different types, each with its own lifestyle.

The apartments consist of Housing I, a 256-unit, 1,012 bed garden style apartment complex organized into eight courts of 32 apartments, and Housing IV, a 63-unit, 250 bed apartment complex organized into eight buildings of 8 apartments. Both complexes are a ten-minute walk around Lake Fred from the main campus.

The two residence hall complexes offer a more traditional college lifestyle than the apartments. Housing II consists of 11, three-story buildings which are all connected into one building housing 522 students. Housing III consists of five, three-story buildings which are connected in a complex housing 300 students. Each floor in the residence halls is self-contained with a common entrance accessible only to student residents of the floor. Guests of students may access the floors only when accompanied by a resident of the floor. Guests are permitted when properly registered through the college's Guest Registration procedure. Student residents are issued a room key and a floor key to ensure maximum safety standards.

In addition to trained staff, there are ten professional staff members responsible for the overall management and supervision of the housing complexes. Five of these professional staff members live on campus.

Safety in On-Campus Housing

As with any living arrangement, the responsibility of ensuring a safe environment relies on students to exercise prudent preventative safety measures. All guests must be registered with the Office of Housing and Residence Life by their student host. All students, and their visitors, must share responsibility for their own personal safety and the security of their personal belongings by taking simple common-sense precautions.

- Apartment and Residence Hall doors should be locked at night or any time the room is unoccupied. Valuable items such as stereos, cameras, and televisions should be marked with engraving instruments provided by the Campus Police, Operation Identification Program, free of charge.

- Bicycles can be registered and engraved by our Campus Police. In addition, all bicycles should be secured with a sturdy lock. Students with cars must park them in the lots provided and should keep them locked at all times. Never leave anything of value in clear view of a person walking by. Secure all valuables in your trunk.

- Students should report all suspicious individuals whom they believe do not belong in the residence halls or any unusual incidents in and around the residence halls and apartments. These incidents should be reported to the Housing and Residence Life staff as well as Campus Police.

- Stockton recognizes the importance of establishing and enforcing acceptable community standards and behaviors on and off campus. Members of the college community should know that they will be held accountable for their off-campus actions and/or behaviors as they relate to established laws and regulations of federal, state, and local agencies, as well as policies of the college. Students should be aware that off-campus law enforcement officers have legal access to the campus at all times. These officers often work with our Campus Police as liaisons during investigations involving off campus activities.

- We encourage those individuals residing off-campus to adopt the safety measures and preventative crime hints outlined in this brochure to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of crime on and off campus.
It is understandable that parents and students have concerns today regarding safety on university and college campuses. The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey addresses these concerns and continues to meet its responsibility to provide a campus environment which is safe for all members of the community. Moreover, students, faculty and staff should know that we will continue our efforts to make the campus as free as possible from any threat to their safety and well-being.

Although Stockton has been fortunate in that we have not experienced a significant number of serious crimes, it would be unrealistic to state that such incidents would not occur on campus. In accordance with Public Law 101-542: The "Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crimes Statistics Act" (formerly the Campus Security Act), The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey is required to provide information relating to our crime statistics and security measures to all persons upon request. This act requires all colleges and universities to report incidents that fall under the following categories:

- Murder
- Burglary
- Aggravated Assault
- Robbery
- Rape
- Vehicle Theft

This act also requires all colleges and universities to report the number of arrests for the following crimes occurring on campus:

- Liquor Law
- Drug Abuse
- Weapon Possession

The college's department of Campus Police submits the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) monthly to the New Jersey State Police Uniform Crime Reporting Unit. Crime statistics from the last three years at Stockton are as follows:

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*Please note that the 2002 statistics are reported as per guidelines provided for in the 2002 Stockton Campus Police Annual Report.
Community Policing

Police Officers are always available to talk with any community members or groups on campus. These officers take the lead in educating the community about the police department and the various services it provides that can be used to prevent crime and promote a safer community. All incoming freshmen, and transfer students residing on campus will be scheduled for a mandatory safety meeting with the police. Commuting students can also arrange to meet with the police by contacting the department directly or through the Office of Student Development, Coordinator of Commuter Affairs. Working together, we can make our community a safer place in which to live, work and learn.

For more information please call the police at 652-4390 or at extension 4390.

Alcohol/Drug Intoxication Correlates With Campus Crime and Injury

In the recently published Harvard School of Public Health's College Alcohol Study, it was found that heavy episodic alcohol use, or binge drinking, by students is by far the single most public health problem confronting American colleges. The study found that binge drinkers produced problems for themselves and for others on campus. Binge-drinking was associated with elevated risks for various alcohol-related educational, interpersonal, health, and safety problems for the individual drinker. Students who were not binge drinkers but lived on campuses with large numbers of binge drinkers were at heightened risks for experiencing secondhand risks, ranging in severity from common annoyances to vandalism and assaults.

Richard Stockton College recognizes the need for education and responds by providing a comprehensive Alcohol/Drug Education Program. The college employs a full-time certified Alcohol/Drug Counselor as well as several student Peer Educators to assist with educational programs and counseling for our college community.

For more information, please contact:
Patrick Shields at 652-4987.

An Environment for Excellence

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Pomona, New Jersey 08240-0195

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey is an equal opportunity college. It does not discriminate in admission or access to its programs and activities or in treatment or employment of individuals on the basis of race, gender, national origin or ancestry, age, religion, disability, affectional or sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, and/or liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States.