



## RELLIS Academic Alliance Campus

# ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT 2021

**Includes crime statistics for 2018, 2019, and 2020**

In compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f), 34 CFR 668.46).

This Annual Security Report is available on the Texas A&M University – Central Texas Campus Safety Report website at: <https://www.tamuct.edu/police/clery.html>

Numerous links to websites are included. Email [clerycompliance@tamuct.edu](mailto:clerycompliance@tamuct.edu) for assistance if any link does not function.

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## **Preparation of the Annual Security Report and Disclosure of Crime Statistics**

Enacted in 1990, The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act was designed to assist the campus community in making decisions which affect their personal safety by requiring institutions of higher education to provide certain campus security information to current and prospective students and employees annually. The Higher Education Act of 1998 and the subsequent amendments of the implementing regulations (34 C.F.R.668.46) significantly expanded institutions' obligations under the Act. The Act was also renamed the "Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act" (hereafter the Clery Act).

The RELLIS Campus is owned by the Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) and located in Bryan, Texas. Recent construction of the RELLIS facilities created and expanded a campus where students participate in research and testing with multiple agencies in the TAMUS; federal, state and local governments; and private industry. Additional paths toward college degrees have also been established at RELLIS. Post-secondary degree education and training are being offered with programs through Blinn College and multiple universities under TAMUS. The educational program at RELLIS is comprehensively called the RELLIS Academic Alliance and includes plans for further facility expansion. Prior to 2016 statistics, RELLIS was included as a non-campus location in the Texas A&M University College Station Annual Security Report. TAMUCT first had students on the RELLIS campus in 2020.

TAMUCT recognizes the RELLIS Campus as a separate campus per the Clery Act.

The Texas A&M University – Central Texas University Police Department (UPD) is responsible for preparing and distributing the Annual Security Report to comply with the Clery Act. The Annual Security Report is published every year by October 1<sup>st</sup> and contains three years of selected campus crime statistics and certain campus security policy statements for the 2020 – 2021 academic year in accordance with the Clery Act. The 2021 Annual Security Report contains crime statistics for calendar years 2018, 2019, and 2020.

UPD composes the Annual Security Report and statistical information with input from various sources such as local law enforcement agencies, Student Affairs, and other campus personnel.

### **Annual Security Report Notifications**

Each year, an e-mail notification is distributed to all current students, faculty, and staff network email addresses providing the website to access this report. The full report can be found at <https://www.tamuct.edu/police/clery.html>.

Prospective employees are notified of the availability of the Campus Security Report on the "Employment Opportunities" webpage of the Human Resources website at <https://www.tamuct.edu/human-resources/employment-opportunities.html>.

Prospective undergraduate and graduate students are notified of the availability of the Campus Security Report after clicking the Admissions webpage at <https://www.tamuct.edu/admissions.html> through a return compliance email distributed after applying through the *ApplyTexas* One Application at [https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c\\_start.WBX](https://www.applytexas.org/adappc/gen/c_start.WBX) and selecting Texas A&M University – Central Texas.

Copies of the report may be requested by contacting:

University Police Department Clery Compliance Coordinator  
Founder's Hall, Room 103  
Killeen, Texas 76549  
254)501-5802  
Email: [clerycompliance@tamuct.edu](mailto:clerycompliance@tamuct.edu)

## **Campus Law Enforcement Policies**

### **Police Department Overview**

An infrastructure agreement is in place between the TAMUS and Texas A&M University to provide primary police and security and security services at RELLIS through the Texas A&M University Police Department (TAMUPD).

To provide a safe campus for our students, staff, faculty and visitors, the TAMUPD uniformed police officers provide patrol 24-hours a day, year round at the main campus who are available to response to RELLIS. Additionally, TAMUPD patrols the RELLIS campus as part of a normal random patrol pattern and TAMUPD security personnel patrol the RELLIS campus each evening, including weekends, for an eight hour period beginning at dusk.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is also established between the Blinn College Police Department (BCPD) and the TAMUPD to coordinate police service for the Academic Alliance and RELLIS. During normal business hours, BCPD provides a police officer dedicated to facilities at RELLIS that are occupied by Blinn students and employees and the RELLIS campus in general. The Blinn officer is located at the RELLIS campus in the Walter C. Schwartz Building (Blinn Academic Building), 1366 Bryan, TX 77807.

## **Enforcement Authority, Arrest Authority and Jurisdiction**

### **Jurisdiction**

TAMUPD is the primary police authority for RELLIS. TAMUPD police officer's are certified Texas peace officers as defined in article 2.12 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures. Pursuant to Section 51.203 of the Texas Education Code, police officers commissioned by a state institution of higher education have authority and jurisdiction in all counties in which property is owned, leased, rented, or otherwise under the control of the institution of higher education.

### Arrest Authority

As peace officers, TAMUPD's armed police officers have the same full authority to detain and arrest as municipal police officers. While TAMUPD security officers do not have authority to detain or make arrests, their presence and observations at various campus locations support and assist the work of the Patrol Division. BCPD officers at RELLIS also have authority to detain and arrest. Evening and weekend security personnel do not have arrest authority.

### Enforcement Authority

TAMUPD is computer linked to city, state and federal criminal justice agencies, which provide access to criminal records, wanted persons, stolen property, and vehicle information. All crimes occurring at RELLIS should be reported to TAMUPD or submitted to TAMUPD from BCPD officers or contract security. TAMUPD investigates and refers crimes for prosecution through the Offices of the County Attorney and District Attorney when appropriate. Criminal matters involving students may also be referred to the appropriate university's administration for disciplinary action.

### Working Relationships and Agreements

TAMUPD maintains an excellent working relationship with all area law enforcement agencies including the College Station Police Department, Bryan Police Department, Brazos County Sheriff's Office, BCPD and all four Brazos County Constable Offices. These working relationships are maintained through a written mutual aid agreement and MOUs specific to RELLIS. The agreements allows for cooperation in the performance of police protection including the investigation of alleged crimes, enforcement of laws, and communication between agencies pursuant to the agreement. Working relationships are also maintained through periodic communications among agency administrators and frequent contacts between line officers and investigators cooperating on specific cases. Through these relationships, TAMUPD may be provided information regarding student non-campus criminal activity, including student organization with non-campus housing.

TAMUPD also maintains excellent working relationships with many state and federal agencies on an as needed basis. These agencies include, but are not limited to, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, The United States Secret Service, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

A request is distributed to local law enforcement agencies annually to solicit cooperation in informing the institution about crimes. The request is specific to informing TAMUPD about situations reported to the given local law enforcement agency that may warrant an emergency response or timely warning notification.

## Monitoring Non-Campus Locations

There are no non-campus locations associated with the RELLIS cam

## Professional Standards

Providing excellent service and maintaining good relationships within the community is vital to achieving UPD's overall mission of keeping the campus safe and secure. All members of the Texas A&M community can expect to be treated in a courteous and professional manner by members of the department. UPD will not tolerate an employee who acts unprofessionally or who does not provide an appropriate level of service. Instances where UPD employees have been especially helpful or have exceeded expectations in service can also be recognized. The quality of UPD's service is dependent in part on feedback from the community. Please help the department improve by bringing complaints and compliments to the attention of any of the following individuals in a timely manner:

- Request the on-duty Police Supervisor by calling 979-845-2345. This individual is available 24-hours a day.
- Address written correspondence to: Chief of Police, UPD, TAMU 1231, College Station, Texas 77843-1231.

## Reporting Crimes

### Incident Reporting and Response

Criminal actions or any on-campus emergency at RELLIS should be reported immediately to TAMUPD or BCPD by dialing 911 or 9-911 from a campus phone, 911 from a cellular phone, or in person. When using a campus phone (landline) dial either 911 or 9-911 to reach an emergency operator. For non-emergencies contact UPD at 5-2345 from a campus phone or call 979-845-2345 from an off campus phone, campus payphone, or cell phone. Upon receipt of the call, the TAMUPD Communications Center personnel can supply information or dispatch officers as necessary. TAMUPD officers located at RELLIS can be contacted at 979-845-2345. Electronic crime reports can be filed with TAMUPD by emailing [upd@tamu.edu](mailto:upd@tamu.edu). The Blinn police officer located at the RELLIS Blinn Academic Building can also be contacted at 979-209-7600 or at 911 for emergencies occurring at or near the RELLIS campus.

TAMUPD calls for service are received in the UPD Communications Center where the information is entered into a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. The Communications Operator will request basic information regarding the call for service and the caller's contact information as an officer may need to subsequently reach the reporting party. A Police Officer will either be dispatched to the scene or to the office to take the call by telephone, depending on the type of call. The Police Officer may then issue a case number for the call and complete an incident or offense report. Copies of all incident and offense reports are kept with the TAMUPD Records division for a time period mandated by institutional and state records retention policies.

TAMUPD will respond as quickly and safely as possible to requests for assistance, whether it is an emergency or not. Response time is based on current activity and severity of the call. Crimes in progress, alarms, traffic accidents with injuries, and medical assists have a higher priority than other types of calls. University Police or Security officers in vehicles, on foot, or on bicycles will assist and may be contacted directly. For non-campus offenses, we encourage prompt reporting to the proper local law enforcement agency.

We cannot overemphasize the importance of prompt and accurate reporting of crime. If a crime is not reported promptly, evidence can be destroyed or the potential to apprehend a suspect is lost. Without accurate reports, leads could be missed and the investigation headed in the wrong direction. If a crime or emergency is witnessed, promptly report it to the TAMUPD and be prepared to answer questions as accurately as possible. The subsequent investigation can only be as thorough as the information received. If you are the victim of a crime, or have seen or received information of criminal activity or other emergency, please contact the TAMUPD immediately.

Campus Law Enforcement Telephone Directory:

Texas A&M University <http://upd.tamu.edu>

Blinn College Police <https://www.blinn.edu/police-emergency-management/index.html>

Emergencies-from on campus phones/Police/Fire/Medical	911 or 9-911
Non-Emergencies/General Assistance	979-845-2345
Blinn Police at RELLIS	979-209-7600
TAMUPD at RELLIS	979-845-2345

## Reporting Criminal Offenses to University Officials: Campus Security Authorities

Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to report any criminal offenses within the campus environment directly to TAMUPD or BCPD located at RELLIS. For non-campus offenses, we encourage accurate and prompt reporting to the proper local law enforcement agency. As an option, criminal offenses of which students and employees are aware may also be reported to the following Texas A&M University offices and personnel:

Name	Phone	Location
Director of Housing, Residence Life	979-862-3158	<a href="https://reslife.tamu.edu/contact">https://reslife.tamu.edu/contact</a>
Director of Texas A&M Health Family Care	979-776-8440	<a href="https://health.tamu.edu/care/family-care-bryan/index.html">https://health.tamu.edu/care/family-care-bryan/index.html</a>
Dean of Student Life	979-845-3111	Student Services Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
Women's Resource Center	979-845-8784	Student Services Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
Commandant & Head of School of Military Sciences, Corps of Cadets	979-845-2811	Military Science Building 102



Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer (LGBTQ) + Pride Center	979-862-8920	Student Services Building 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
Human Resources Employee Relations	979-862-4027	General Services Complex 1201
Office of the Dean of Faculties & Associate Provost	979-845-4274	YMCA Building 108
Assistant Vice President and Title IX Coordinator (for Texas A&M University)	979-458-8407	Medical Sciences Library 007
Chief Risk, Ethics and Compliance Officer	979-458-0308	Jack K. Williams Administration Building 302
Deputy Athletics Director, Student Athlete Experience/SWA/Chief Diversity Officer	979-845-4810	Kyle Field, W30.37.04
RELLIS Assistant Provost & Title IX Coordinator (for RELLIS Academic Alliance)	979-317-3402	Academic Complex Building 1, Room 117K, RELLIS Campus

Crime reports provided to these and other campus security authorities are used by the school to fulfill its responsibility to annually disclose accurate crime statistics and to issue or facilitate the issuance of timely warnings or emergency notifications. Campus security authority crime reports should include sufficient detail such as dates and locations, and where appropriate, personally identifying information, including name and contact information, if available. For additional information on the duties and responsibilities of the individuals and offices listed above, see the [CSA Powerpoint Presentation](#) link located on the following webpage: <https://upd.tamu.edu/Pages/CSA-Reporting.aspx>.

Students, faculty, staff, community members, and guests are encouraged to report all crimes and public safety related incidents to TAMUPD, BCPD at RELLIS, or the appropriate police agencies in an accurate and prompt manner when the victim of such crimes elects or is unable to make such a report. The TAMUPD Victim Services program provides information regarding victims' rights, as well as assistance in dealing with the traumatizing consequences of crimes, to those who make a report or who may be reluctant to report. TAMUPD officers provide TAMUPD Victim Services contact information to victims encountered in the field. TAMUPD, TAMUPD Victim Services, and the university offices listed above, will assist individuals reporting in notifying the proper law enforcement authorities, if the individual chooses. It is the goal of the institution to provide assistance wherever the report is made and include Clery countable crimes in the annual security report.



Although exempt from the reporting requirements of the Clery Act, pastoral and professionally licensed mental health counselors are encouraged, if and when they deem appropriate, to refer persons they are counseling to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the annual statistics and crime log, especially if the incident may pose an ongoing threat to the campus community. Each year, counselors are provided a reminder to review reporting options with student clients. Contracted counseling personnel available to employees are not provided the written reminder as they are referred using a network of local providers.

## Confidential and Anonymous Reporting of Crimes

TAMUPD encourages anyone who is the victim or witness to any crime to promptly report the incident to the police. Because police reports are public records under state law, TAMUPD cannot hold reports of crimes in confidence. However, victims of certain offenses are eligible for a pseudonym in which the victim's true identity will not be released. An individual who is involved in or witnesses an active or ongoing emergency should dial 911 and report the emergency immediately.

Voluntary confidential reports, for purposes of inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics and crime log, can generally be made by victims, witnesses, and others to the campus security authorities listed on the previous page and all other campus security authorities. Annual crime statistics and the crime log are confidential in that personally identifiable information is not included in the disclosure. Crimes can be reported anonymously by calling Crime Stoppers at 979-775-TIPS (8477). Concerning behavior, including crimes, can be reported anonymously to the Texas A&M University Special Situations Team via the Tell Somebody online reporting form. The form and more information can be found at <https://tellsomebody.tamu.edu/>. Reports submitted anonymously or with limited information may restrict the team's ability to follow up on the incident.

## Timely Warning Policy

The procedures disclosed in this section apply to incidents occurring at the RELLIS campus that warrant a Timely Warning (Crime Alert).

The TAMUPD coordinates with the main Texas A&M University campus, the Blinn Police Department (BCPD Chief of Police), and TAMUS (RELLIS Assistant Provost) to generate and issue Crime Alerts on behalf of the RELLIS campus using established procedures as described below.

The circumstances in which a Crime Alert will be generated include, but are not limited to, the receipt of a report to UPD or other campus security authority of a crime reportable under the Clery Act, that poses a serious or continuing threat to the campus community. The TAMUPD Chief of Police (or university official designated by the Chief of Police) or TAMUPD Assistant Chief(s) of Police are responsible for determining if a Crime Alert will be issued. Crimes that may warrant a Crime Alert include, but are not limited to, major incidents of arson, murder/non-negligent manslaughter, robbery, aggravated assault, sex offenses, or other crimes as determined necessary by the TAMUPD Chief of Police (or university official designated by the Chief of Police) or TAMUPD Assistant Chief(s) of Police. The determination will

be made on a case-by-case basis after due consideration of all available facts of the crime, such as the nature of the crime and whether or not a continuing danger to the campus community exists. If TAMUPD or other campus security authorities are not notified of a crime in a manner that would allow the department to provide timely notice, a Crime Alert may not be issued depending on the circumstances. All situations will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

TAMUPD is responsible for writing and issuing Crime Alerts for crimes occurring at the RELLIS campus. Personnel authorized to write and/or issue (send) a Crime Alert are: TAMUPD Chief of Police (or university official designated by Chief of Police), TAMUPD Assistant Chief(s) of Police, TAMUPD Public Information Officer, and TAMUPD Clery Act Compliance Officers. An internal or external review among two or more authorized personnel may occur if time allows. Anyone with information warranting a Crime Alert should report the circumstances immediately to TAMUPD, by phone (979-845-2345) or in person at UPD (1111 Research Parkway, College Station, TX 77843). BCPD 979-209-7600 and TAMUPD 979-845-2345 can also be contacted and/or dispatched to RELLIS by phone.

Crime Alerts are issued through email to students, faculty, and staff in a manner that is timely, that withholds the names of victims as confidential, and that will aid in the prevention of similar occurrences. Recipients include, but are not limited to, Texas A&M University students and employees located at RELLIS and students and employees that are part of the RELLIS Academic Alliance. Information regarding the Crime Alert may be forwarded to local media outlets through a formal press release. Crime Alerts contain sufficient information about the nature of an identified threat to assist members of the campus community in taking appropriate action to protect themselves or their property. Crime Alerts generally include:

- A readily understandable description of the type of crime or occurrence.
- The general location, date and time of the offense. Texas A&M University RELLIS Campus Annual Security Report 2021
- A physical description of the suspect(s), if available, when there is sufficient detail that would reasonably help identify a specific individual suspect or group of suspects.
- Possible connection to other incidents
- Date and time the alert was issued.
- Suggested measures which members of the community can take to help protect themselves.

It is important to note that in some cases law enforcement may need to withhold some facts if releasing the information would compromise an ongoing investigation or the identity of the victim. Victim names and other identifying information of victims are not included in Crime Alerts. An institution is not required to provide a timely warning with respect to crimes reported to a pastoral or professional counselor.

## Emergency Notification, Response and Evacuation

The procedures disclosed in this section apply to significant emergencies or dangerous situations occurring at the RELLIS campus. The institution does not have separate procedures for non-campus property.

### Emergency Notification System

The TAMUPD coordinates with the main Texas A&M University campus and Blinn College to generate and issue emergency notifications on behalf of the RELLIS campus using two emergency notification systems. Established procedures are described below.

The Texas A&M University emergency notification system (Code Maroon) is utilized to notify Texas A&M University students and employees and TAMUS member agency employees located at RELLIS of significant emergencies or dangerous situations occurring at the RELLIS campus. The Blinn College emergency notification system called Blinn Alert, is being utilized to notify Academic Alliance students and employees located at RELLIS of significant emergencies or dangerous situations occurring at the RELLIS campus. Authorization and access is coordinated for efficiency and distribution of identical communications.

The Code Maroon (and Blinn Alert) emergency notification system gives the campus the ability to communicate health and emergency information through one or all of the following mechanisms: SMS text message and email. Code Maroon also utilizes pop-up messages on equipped Texas A&M University-owned computers, Twitter, RSS, and a mobile app. Texas A&M University will use the Code Maroon (and Blinn Alert) system only to provide official notification of critical emergencies (i.e., situations that pose an imminent threat to the community). It is the policy of Texas A&M University to immediately notify the campus community, via the Code Maroon (and Blinn Alert) emergency notification system, upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on the RELLIS campus. Personnel from Texas A&M Office of Safety and Security or other designated employees determine whether or not a significant emergency or dangerous situation exists by evaluating information received from entities which may include, but are not limited to: law enforcement (including the Blinn Police Department), fire department, National Weather Service, Environmental Health and Safety, and other campus officials including personnel from RELLIS Campus Executive Leadership. The Office of Safety and Security advises RELLIS Campus Executive Leadership of emergencies or dangerous situations occurring at the RELLIS campus and the resulting Code Maroon (and Blinn Alert) messages, if any, as time allows.

The Code Maroon (and Blinn Alert) emergency notification system does not replace the Crime Alert requirement. They differ in that the Crime Alert requirement applies to Clery reportable crimes, while the emergency notification system addresses a much wider range of threats (i.e. gas leaks, tornadoes, active shooter, Texas A&M University RELLIS Campus Annual Security Report 2021 10 etc.). If an emergency notification is issued, the campus is not required to issue a Crime Alert based on the same circumstances; however, the institution must provide adequate follow-up information to the community as needed.

Texas A&M University will, without delay, and taking into account the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification, and initiate the Code Maroon (and Blinn Alert) notification system; unless issuing the notification will, in the professional judgment of responsible authorities, compromise efforts to assist victims or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency. The generation of a Code Maroon (and Blinn Alert) message and activation of the notification system is the responsibility of the Office of Safety and Security.

Employees authorized to make a final determination of a significant emergency or dangerous situation and determine the content of a Code Maroon (and Blinn Alert) are: TAMUPD Chief of Police, TAMUPD Assistant Chief(s) of Police, TAMUPD Patrol Supervisors (or TAMUPD officer designated by TAMUPD Patrol Supervisor), Associate Vice President for Safety and Security, Environmental Health and Safety Director, Environmental Health and Safety Assistant Directors, Emergency Management staff, and TAMUPD Dispatchers. If time allows, final message content will be approved at the highest level available. Upon notification from an authorized employee listed above, a designated individual will send the Code Maroon alert (and Blinn Alert). Individuals designated to send Code Maroon alerts include specific employees in: TAMUPD including TAMUPD Dispatchers, the Office of Safety and Security, and the Division of IT. TAMUPD Dispatcher are the designated individuals at Texas A&M University to send Blinn Alerts.

In circumstances where time is of the essence, certain employees are authorized to make a final determination of a significant emergency or dangerous situation, compose an alert (or select and modify one of the warnings that are pre-scripted for that purpose), and send the alert. These employees include: TAMUPD Chief of Police, TAMUPD Assistant Chief(s) of Police, Associate Vice President for Safety and Security, Emergency Management staff, and TAMUPD Dispatchers. An example of such an urgent message could include an alert issued for a tornado or for an active shooter.

Additionally, Texas A&M University administration (the Texas A&M University Associate Vice President for Safety and Security in the Office of Safety and Security) may, in rare cases, confirm an emergency or dangerous situation and generate and request issuance of a modified emergency notification to be distributed on behalf of the campus to Texas A&M University students and employees. These cases include: if the emergency prevents the local campus from issuing the alert or if a centralized global message is determined to be necessary by the President of Texas A&M University.

Victim names and other identifying information of victims are not included in emergency notifications.

Code Maroons are issued to the Texas A&M University campus community, including Texas A&M University students and employees at RELLIS, rather than to specific segments of the campus population. Blinn Alerts are issued to the Blinn College, Bryan campus community and Academic Alliance students and employees at RELLIS, rather than to specific segments of the campus population. In the event of a system problem, certain trained individuals from Texas A&M University Information Technology can be called upon to issue an alert from a remote location.

Texas A&M University conducts monthly pre-scheduled testing of the Code Maroon emergency notification system. These tests are launched by the Communications Division of UPD. After each test, or actual alert, Texas A&M University Information Technology will analyze and report on the functionality of each Texas A&M University RELLIS Campus Annual Security Report 2021 11 communication channel within the notification system. The report is provided to the Associate Vice President for Safety and Security and the Associate Vice President for Enterprise Platforms, Cloud, and Shared Services with communication of significant issues to their management. Any test may be cancelled by the Associate Vice President for Safety and Security. Reasons for cancelling monthly tests include the existence of real threats that could necessitate sending an emergency message, recent emergency messages that obviate the need for that month's test, etc.

The Blinn Alert System is tested each month to verify proper operation. The test is performed by a different member of the Blinn emergency management team, consisting of members of the BCPD, to familiarize the team with the system and procedures.

### **Registering for Emergency Notifications**

#### Students, Faculty, and Staff Access

The Code Maroon emergency notification system allows students, faculty and staff who have a Texas A&M NetID and password to register to receive text message alerts. Emergency alerts are automatically sent to all Texas A&M email (Gmail and Exchange) addresses. The system also pushes the emergency notification message to KAMU-FM radio, campus cable television, the classroom notification system, Emergency Alert System radios, campus digital signage, campus pop-up messages when connected to the Texas A&M network, Twitter and RSS. To register, visit: <http://codemaroon.tamu.edu>.

The Blinn Alert emergency notification system allows Academic Alliance students, faculty and staff to receive email and text message alerts. Emergency alerts are automatically sent to all Academic Alliance cell phone and email addresses registered with the TAMUS.

#### Public Access

Parents, family, and friends of Texas A&M can receive emergency alerts by subscribing to Code Maroon's RSS feed which can be accessed through email clients (Microsoft Outlook or Mozilla Thunderbird), various news readers (My Yahoo, Feedly and Flipboard), and internet browsers (Internet Explorer, Firefox, etc.).

Parents and other guests of Texas A&M University may register for text message alerts at the Code Maroon vendor's subscriber portal. A personal email address and private password are required to create a guest account and register one phone number to receive SMS text message alerts. The portal to register can be found at: <https://tamu.safety.info/Subscribers/>.

The public can receive Code Maroon alerts through Twitter, however, delivery by Twitter cannot be guaranteed since Texas A&M University does not manage this notification outlet. Twitter users can follow TAMUCodeMaroon to see alerts in your Twitter feed and/or receive push alerts on a mobile device through the Twitter mobile app. Once TAMUCodeMaroon is followed, click the Bell Icon on the TAMUCodeMaroon profile page to turn on push notifications for any mobile device with the Twitter app installed.

Also, anyone with a device that uses the Android or iOS operating systems can download the free Code Maroon app for receiving Code Maroon alerts on their device via push notifications. The app requires a connection to the internet to receive the alerts. The application is available for download on Google Play and Apple Store. <https://codemaroon.tamu.edu/MobileAppNotification.aspx>.

Setup instructions for the Code Maroon public access mechanisms described above can be found here: <http://codemaroon.tamu.edu>. The public cannot register for Blinn Alert.

### **Disseminating Information to the Larger Community**

In the event that a crisis occurs on RELLIS property, the TAMUS Office of Marketing and Communications will be notified as soon as possible. As chief spokesperson(s) for the campus, TAMUS Marketing and Communications staff will ultimately be responsible for providing strategic direction and implementing protocols as outlined in the emergency communications plan. TAMUS Marketing and Communications will work with the TAMUPD Public Information Officer and the RELLIS Director to prepare and disseminate internal and external messages, distribute news releases, respond to media inquiries, update the main university website with pertinent information, and share timely information as appropriate via digital channels. The TAMUS Office of Risk Management will serve in a liaison capacity when necessary. In addition, TAMUS Marketing and Communications will be responsible for planning, scheduling, and providing logistical support for news conferences as well as coordinating communication efforts with relevant entities and organizations. In case of an emergency, the Texas A&M University main website will be updated with current information pertaining to the incident at <http://www.tamu.edu>. Individuals receiving the emergency notification will also be advised with updated information, as needed, using the same method(s) as the original notification.

### **Emergency Preparedness**

The Director of the RELLIS Campus has primary responsibility for emergency preparedness at the RELLIS campus. Duties and responsibilities range from working with departments to write and exercise building evacuation plans, to developing and maintaining emergency response plans as deemed necessary.

The RELLIS campus Emergency Operations Plan is the primary plan that describes the general framework for emergency response and evacuation procedures at the campus. The RELLIS Campus Director in coordination with TAMUS Risk Management is responsible for maintaining and updating this plan. This plan shall be reviewed at least annually and updated based upon deficiencies identified during actual emergency situations, training and exercises, and when changes in hazards, resources, capabilities or organizational structure occur. A revised or updated plan will be provided to all departments and individuals tasked within this plan in addition to TAMUS Risk Management.

The Emergency Operations Plan will be tested and exercised at least annually utilizing a discussion-based level exercise or higher and tests of the emergency notification system. An operations-based exercise will be performed at least every three years. The agencies and emergency response entities that interface with RELLIS officials during an actual emergency situation will be invited to participate in the campus exercises. Actual emergency situations or false emergency alarms will not be used to meet the requirements for testing and exercising the RELLIS Emergency Operations Plan. The tests and appropriate follow-through activities are designed for assessment and evaluation of emergency plans and capabilities and are performed and documented. Tests may be announced or unannounced. Testing

reports and review documentation will include a description of the exercise, the date the test was held, the start and end time of the exercise, and whether the test was announced or unannounced. Texas A&M University Environmental Health and Safety, in cooperation with lead administrators for each occupied facility, oversee a building evacuation procedures for all occupied facilities on the RELLIS campus. Environmental Health and Safety works with each facility representative to maintain and test building evacuation procedures annually for occupied facilities on campus through emergency evacuation drills.

Emergency response and evacuation procedures are to be publicized annually in conjunction with a test through an email to the RELLIS campus community that will include, but may not be limited to, the following groups located at the RELLIS campus: Texas A&M University students and employees, TAMUS member Texas A&M University RELLIS Campus Annual Security Report 2021 13 agency employees, Blinn students and employees, and Academic Alliance students and employees. The email will communicate information about accessing the RELLIS Emergency Operations Plan and emergency contacts. A Code Maroon test distribution may also be used to publicize this information to Texas A&M University students and employees and TAMUS member agency employees.

## The Daily Crime Log

The Assistant Provost at RELLIS (or other trained personnel) publishes a Daily Crime Log for RELLIS that is available to the media, the public, and campus offices free of charge. This summary identifies the nature of the crime, location, date and time occurred, date the crime was reported to the TAMUPD, and disposition. A printed copy of this report may be viewed by the public during business hours at the Academic Complex Bldg. 1, Room 117K located at 1425 Bryan Ave., Bryan, TX 77807, or obtained by calling 979-317-3402. The RELLIS crime log is published online at: <https://rellis.tamus.edu/clery/>

## Security of and Access to Campus Facilities

### General Provisions

The Director of the RELLIS campus is responsible for determining access to the RELLIS campus. Access to facilities at RELLIS are the responsibility of TAMUS member agencies and department directors. For security and safety reasons, segregation or separation is required for certain activities located on the RELLIS campus. Applicable areas are secured by barriers and/or enhanced controls that may restrict public access.

It is unlawful for any person to trespass on the grounds of any state institution of higher education of this state or to damage or deface any of the buildings, statues, monuments, memorials, trees, shrubs, grasses, or flowers on the grounds of any state institutions of higher education as indicated in *Texas Education Code Section 51.204. Texas Penal Code Criminal Trespass Section 30.05 and Criminal Mischief Section 28.03 are State statutes that are similar in nature and are also widely utilized to help support Texas Education Code Section 51.204.*



The governing board of a state institution of higher education or its authorized representatives may refuse to allow persons having no legitimate business to enter on property under the board's control, and may remove any person from the property on his or her refusal to leave peaceably on request. Identification may be required of any person on the property. (*Texas Education Code Section 51.209*) The TAMUPD's Community Services Division, upon request, will prepare a security survey of the facility to determine security coverage and appropriate access control.

## Residence Halls

RELLIS has no residence halls. For Texas A&M University students located at RELLIS and residing on the Texas A&M University main campus, access to residence halls on the main campus is restricted to residents, their approved guests, and other authorized members of the university community. Exterior doors to on-campus residence halls and the White Creek Apartments are equipped with electronic card access that is connected to a centralized software system with 24 hour recording. Residents gain entry by swiping their card in the card access readers. Residents are cautioned against permitting strangers to enter the residence halls, and are urged to require individuals seeking entry to use their own access cards. Interior residence hall doors and the Gardens and White Creek Apartment (collectively known as University Apartments) doors are key locked with deadbolts and have "peepholes." Residence area exteriors are patrolled regularly by University Police and Security Officers.

## Parking Areas

RELLIS has two main parking areas and no parking garages. RELLIS campus has video surveillance of the main parking lots which may or may not be monitored. Parking areas are equipped with emergency phones and are readily visible and identifiable by the bright blue lights located on top of the phone cabinets. Instructions adjacent to the keypads direct customers to contact TAMUPD at 979-845-2345 for non-emergency assistance and to dial 911 for emergency assistance.

## Academic and Administrative Buildings

The RELLIS campus includes many public areas that are readily accessible. In general, the academic and administrative buildings at these locations are open to the public, at a minimum, during normal business hours. Individual facilities may have specific hours of operation, which can vary depending upon factors such as the time of the year and operational requirements. Access to some buildings, or portions of buildings, may be limited to authorized personnel at various times. Card swipe systems, locks and other means may be employed to limit access. Information about access to a specific facility can be obtained from the proctor for that facility. University Police Officers generally are not assigned to specific academic or administrative buildings at RELLIS. A BCPD officer is assigned to and present at the RELLIS campus during normal business hours. Contract security patrols RELLIS on a regular basis during evening and weekend hours.

## Maintenance of Campus Facilities

Contracted facilities personnel are responsible for maintaining the buildings, grounds, and custodial services for the Texas A&M University campus and at RELLIS. The group addresses maintenance, renovation, and repair projects for facilities, custodial and landscaping. Texas A&M's Utilities & Energy Services Department provides electricity, heating and cooling, running water, and waste disposal. Faculty and staff are encouraged to report maintenance problems to their respective building proctor or to maintenance personnel by submitting through AggieWorks, an online request system (<https://aggieworks.tamu.edu/>). After-hours or emergency repairs, should be directed to maintenance personnel through the 24 hour Communications Center at 979-845-4311. Police personnel at RELLIS closely monitor any security-related maintenance problems, and report their findings to the appropriate university official. If necessary, they will stand-by until the problem is corrected. Contract security survey campus lighting nightly and monitor those areas having defective fixtures and report the deficiencies to the appropriate personnel for corrective action. Police personnel check the operations of the emergency telephones on a scheduled periodic basis.

## Alcoholic Beverages, Illegal Drugs, and Weapons

### Education Programs

In accordance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, Texas A&M University reviews its programs, services, and policies to prevent unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and illicit drugs. The results of the biennial review are published at <https://nokwv2p4iir3h3frsml79d3t-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/dfsca.pdf>. Drug and alcohol programs are provided to Texas A&M University students and employees located at RELLIS by Texas A&M University, College Station as described in the biennial review.

### Alcohol Policy

The following alcohol policy applies at the RELLIS campus.

All members of the campus community and guests are required to comply with federal and state laws regarding the possession, use, and service (including sales) of alcoholic beverages. Except as permitted or expressly authorized by state law, alcoholic beverages may not, in any circumstance, be used by, possessed by, or distributed to any person under 21 years of age.

The TAMUS strictly prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution (including sales), possession, or use of alcohol on TAMUS property, while on official duty, and/or as part of any TAMUS activities ([System Policy 34.02, Drug and Alcohol Abuse](#)). Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages on property under control of the TAMUS will not be permitted except in special use buildings and facilities that may be designated by the chief executive officer of the member, approved by the chancellor, and subsequently reported to the board on an annual basis ([System Policy 34.03, Alcoholic Beverages](#)).

The purchase, service (including sales), possession, and consumption of alcohol beverages in facilities under the control of the TAMUS shall in all respects comply with state law ([System Policy 34.03, Alcoholic Beverages](#)). All purchases of alcoholic beverages by any member must comply with guidelines

as established in [System Policy 34.03, Alcoholic Beverages](#) regarding the purchase's source of funds, purpose, and required documentation.

Consequences for policy violations could result in sanctions by the institution and/or criminal charges/arrest by TAMUPD or other law enforcement agencies for state law violations.

The following services are provided to Texas A&M University students and employees located at RELLIS. Health Promotion (979-845-0280), in the Offices of the Dean of Student Life (979-845-3111), is committed to promoting responsible decision making regarding alcohol and other drugs through educational programming, resources, and referrals. The Work/Life Solutions Program by GuidanceResources (1-866- 301-9623) manages the alcohol, drug abuse, and rehabilitation program for employees and provides licensed counseling and referral services.

## Illegal Drug Policy

The following illegal drug policy applies at the RELLIS campus.

Federal law prohibits the unlawful possession, use, sale, or distribution of drugs. Texas state law prohibits the possession, use, sale, manufacture, or delivery of a controlled substance without legal authorization. A controlled substance includes any drug, substance or immediate precursor covered under the Texas Controlled Substances Act, including but not limited to opiates, barbiturates, amphetamines, marijuana, and hallucinogens. The possession of drug paraphernalia is also prohibited under Texas state law. Drug paraphernalia includes all equipment, products and material of any kind that are used to facilitate, or intended or designed to facilitate, violations of the Texas Controlled Substances Act. According to [System Policy 34.02, Drugs and Alcohol Abuse](#), all students and employees are expected to abide by federal and state laws pertaining to controlled substances and illicit drugs. More specifically, student codes of conduct governing students at the RELLIS campus prohibit using, possessing, being under the influence of, manufacturing, or distributing illegal drugs or illegally obtained/possessed controlled substances. Alleged violations of federal and state laws may result in criminal charges. Institutional conduct charges may be pursued against those alleged to have violated institutional policies and/or state/federal laws concerning controlled substances.

The following services are provided to Texas A&M University students and employees located at RELLIS. Health Promotion (979-845-0280), in the Offices of the Dean of Student Life (979-845-3111), is committed to promoting responsible decision making regarding alcohol and other drugs through educational Texas A&M University RELLIS Campus Annual Security Report 2021 16 programming, resources, and referrals. The Work/Life Solutions Program by GuidanceResources (1-866- 301-9623) manages the alcohol, drug abuse, and rehabilitation program for employees and provides licensed counseling and referral services.

## Weapons Policy

The following weapons policy applies at the RELLIS campus.

In accordance with [Texas Penal Code Ch. 46.03](#), it is a felony to intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly possess a firearm, location restricted knife, club, or prohibited weapon on the physical premises of a school or educational institution, to include any grounds or buildings on which an activity sponsored by a school or educational institution is being conducted, or a passenger transportation vehicles of a school or educational institution. The following exception applies. A license to carry holder under Chapter 411, Texas Government Code, may carry a concealed handgun on or about the license holder's person while the license holder is on the premises of the TAMUS offices (where the TAMUS offices has operational responsibility) or in a TAMUS vehicle, unless prohibited by state law or federal law. Concealed carry is prohibited in any premises where TAMUS offices, as directed or approved by the chancellor as necessary for institutional safety, gives effective notice on a temporary basis pursuant to [Section 30.06, Texas Penal Code](#). The open carry of handguns on TAMUS offices' land or premises is prohibited. Licensed peace officers are authorized by law to carry firearms at all times. [TAMUS Rule 34.06.02.S1](#) contains additional weapons policy information.

## Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, and Stalking

In accordance with federal law and [Texas A&M University System Regulation 08.01.01 Civil Rights Compliance](#) (System Regulation 08.01.01), Texas A&M University – Central Texas prohibits discrimination and harassment including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, (as those terms are defined for the purposes of the Clery Act) and/or related retaliation. The following are statements of policy that address discrimination, harassment (including, but not limited to, sexual harassment<sup>1</sup> and sex-based misconduct<sup>2</sup>), complicity, and retaliation<sup>3</sup>. The policies apply whether this

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<sup>1</sup> Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination. Unwelcome conduct on the basis of sex (of a sexual nature or otherwise): (1) by an employee of the university who conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the university on an individual's participation in that unwelcome sexual conduct; (2) determined by a reasonable person to be so severe and pervasive and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the university's education program or activity; or (3) sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking based on sex. For the purposes of defining sexual harassment specified in (2): severe means of sufficient seriousness to interfere with the rights, privileges, and legal activities of an individual, as well as actions that would be deemed by a reasonable person to be extreme or life-threatening; pervasive means conduct existing in or spreading over a large area of an activity or program over a period of time; and objectively offensive means behavior determined by a reasonable person to be offensive (actions that cause unreasonable harm or distress to another individual or group of people). Includes complaints based on sex, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity.

<sup>2</sup> Sex-based misconduct is unwelcome conduct on the basis of sex that is severe, persistent, or pervasive enough to create a work, educational, or campus living environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, abusive, or offensive. Sex-based misconduct is explicitly prohibited under System Regulation 08.01.01. Aiding another in the commission of sex-based misconduct is also prohibited by System Regulation 08.01.01. Sex-based includes, but is not limited to, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking based on sex. Sexual exploitation is defined as a situation in which an individual(s) takes non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for his or her own advantage or benefit, or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the one being exploited. For example, sexual exploitation could include such actions as secretly videotaping sexual activity, voyeurism, invasion of sexual privacy, exposing one's genitals or causing another to expose one's genitals, and knowingly exposing another person to a sexually transmitted infection or disease. Sexual exploitation is a form of sex-based misconduct. Includes complaints based on sex, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity.

<sup>3</sup> Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured under civil rights laws and regulations, or because the individual has made a

conduct occurs on or off campus and when notice of potential misconduct is received by university.

## **Procedures for Reporting Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Stalking, and Related Retaliation**

Individuals have the option of notifying on-campus and local law enforcement authorities to report sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking. Below is a list of local law enforcement agencies. Reports should be filed with the agency where the incident occurred.

Agency	Phone
University Police Department	979-845-2345
Bryan Police Department	979-361-3888
College Station Police Department	979-764-3600
Blinn College Police Department	979-209-7600
Brazos County Sheriff's Department	979-361-4980

The RELIS Assistant Provost and Title IX Coordinator (AP/TIX) (or designee) is available to receive and investigate reports of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking; assist in securing medical attention; participate in evidence preservation and collection; conduct criminal investigations of crimes; and inform the individual of legal and administrative options both on and off campus. Criminal investigations may occur independent from a conduct proceeding and are handled in accordance with the Texas Penal Code, the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, and information from the Brazos County and District Attorney Offices. Law enforcement will help individuals understand the process of obtaining protective orders, restraining orders, or similar lawful orders issued by the courts.

Texas A&M University – Central Texas employees are mandatory reporters who must report all known information about an alleged or suspected incident of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, or complicity that is experienced by, observed by or made known to an employee in the course and scope of their employment as soon as possible<sup>4</sup>. Student workers are not required to report conduct prohibited by this policy if the student worker experiences, observes, or becomes aware of the prohibited conduct outside the context of their employment.

An employee is also not required to report an incident where: (1) the employee was a victim of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking; (2) the incident about which the employee received information was due to a disclosure made at a sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking public awareness event sponsored by the university or by

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report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing. The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment does not constitute prohibited retaliation, nor does the filing of a mandatory report as required by System Regulation 08.01.01. In addition, a university official who files a mandatory report or charges an individual with making a materially false statement in the course of an investigation has not engaged in prohibited retaliation. Retaliation is explicitly prohibited under System Regulation 08.01.01. Aiding another in the commission of retaliation is also prohibited under this regulation.

<sup>4</sup> Exceptions include confidential employees and are described in the “Confidentiality/Privacy” section of this report.

a student organization affiliated with the university; or (3) the person has either learned of the incident during the course of their employer's review or process, or has confirmed with the designated office overseeing the review or process, that the incident has been previously reported.

An employee's failure to report alleged or suspected discrimination, harassment, retaliation, or complicity may result in disciplinary action, including termination of employment. An employee must be dismissed if, in accordance with disciplinary processes, the employee is determined to have knowingly failed to make a required report, or that employee, with the intent to harm or deceive, knowingly made a report that is false. Notwithstanding the above mandatory reporting requirement for employees, anyone may report matters which they believe are criminal to the appropriate local law enforcement agency.

Students and third parties are strongly encouraged, but not required, to report conduct prohibited by this policy.

At the Texas A&M University – Central Texas campus, reports that a student, an employee, or a third party has engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy should be made to:

RELLIS Title IX Coordinator's Office (RELLIS TIXC): 979-317-3402 | [civilrights@rellis.tamus.edu](mailto:civilrights@rellis.tamus.edu)

Website Reporting Form: <https://go.pardot.com/l/548402/2020-06-03/9w8zy6>

The Assistant Provost & Title IX Coordinator's (AP/TIX) responsibilities include, but are not limited to, (1) overseeing Texas A&M University – Central Texas civil rights protections program; (2) ensuring all complaints of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and complicity are promptly, thoroughly, and equitably reviewed, investigated, and resolved in accordance with System Regulation 08.01.01, and (3) identifying and addressing any patterns or systematic problems that arise from the review of such complaints. The Title IX Coordinator or designee shall decide whether this policy shall be applied to such conduct on a case-by-case basis.

Some conduct, while inappropriate and unprofessional, does not rise to the level of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, or complicity. These behaviors will be forwarded by RELLIS TIXC to be addressed by the appropriate disciplinary authority, e.g., Supervisor, Student Conduct, Residence Life, etc., under rules or regulations other than this policy.

The TIXC's office is the department designated by the university to receive, investigate, and resolve all reports alleging discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and/or complicity. However, reports that the following individuals have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy: the Texas A&M University System Chancellor; the Texas A&M President; a Chief Operating Officer; an employee who reports directly to the Chancellor, President, or Chief Operating Officer, or the Title IX Coordinator should be made to:

Texas A&M System Ethics and Compliance Office (SECO)

301 Tarrow, 6<sup>th</sup> floor

College Station, TX 77843

979-458-6120

[civilrightsreporting@tamus.edu](mailto:civilrightsreporting@tamus.edu)

Additional options for reporting to the university include:

- Submitting an anonymous report through <https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/19681/index.html>
- Submitting an electronic report through [civilrights@rellis.tamus.edu](mailto:civilrights@rellis.tamus.edu)

Individuals may file a complaint at any time with any local, state or federal civil rights office, including, but not limited to, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Texas Workforce Commission's Civil Rights Division, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights and the U.S. Department of Justice.

Texas A& M University – Central Texas has procedures in place to inform individuals of their rights to file criminal charges as well as the availability of services on and off campus. A complainant<sup>5</sup> may request assistance from and/or will be assisted by TIXC in notifying law enforcement authorities if the complainant so chooses. A report to law enforcement is separate from a report to the university. An individual wishing to simultaneously pursue a law enforcement investigation and a university resolution of conduct prohibited by this policy should make a report to both entities. Individuals are notified of their right to report the incident to campus police and local police immediately, but always have the right to decline to notify such authorities. Reporting to law enforcement does not preclude an individual from pursuing disciplinary remedies with the university.

Although a report of conduct prohibited by this policy may be made at any time, regardless of when the conduct occurred, a report should be filed as soon as possible after the actions that caused the report. Prompt reporting assists investigators in the collection and preservation of evidence.

The filing of a report will not stop, delay, or affect pending personnel or disciplinary actions. This includes, but is not limited to, performance evaluations or disciplinary actions related to an employee or student who is not performing at acceptable levels or standards or who has violated System policies or regulations or university rules or SAPs.

The university's response to allegations of conduct prohibited by this policy will be prompt and equitable. The response is intended to stop/prevent recurrence of any harassment and remedy discriminatory effects of the conduct, as appropriate. A substantiated allegation of prohibited conduct will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or separation from the university. Third parties who commit prohibited conduct may have their relationship with the university terminated and/or their privileges of being on university premises withdrawn.

RELLIS TIXC conducts an initial review and preliminary assessment of all reports/complaints that are received by RELLIS TIXC to assess and address the safety and well-being of the complainant, respondent, and the community. As part of the initial review, RELLIS TIXC will take the following step: (1) inform the individual reporting of the right to file a complaint with law enforcement (if applicable) in addition to filing a complaint with RELLIS TIXC, (2) provide assistance in notifying campus police or appropriate law enforcement authorities if the individual so chooses, (3) inform the individual of the right to decline to contact law enforcement, and (4) inform the individual of the right to file a complaint with state and federal agencies. RELLIS TIXC will offer the opportunity to request supportive measures to provide for the safety of the individual and campus community.

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<sup>5</sup> The individual(s) who is alleged to have been subjected to discrimination.



RELLIS TIXC will also take steps to advise about (1) the importance of preserving evidence, if applicable, that could assist in proving that a criminal offense occurred or may be helpful in obtaining a protective order or assist in an investigation, (2) the university's procedures for investigation and options for formal and informal resolutions, and (3) the university's prohibition against retaliation. At this time, RELLIS TIXC will determine whether the complainant is a minor, elderly, or disabled and, if required, contact the appropriate agency in accordance with the Texas law.

RELLIS TIXC provides a written notification of available resources, rights, and options to each individual reporting discrimination, harassment, or retaliation (whether the offense occurred on or off campus) regardless of whether the individual chooses to report the incident to local law enforcement or chooses to pursue informal or formal remedies through the university or criminal remedies through law enforcement. The written notification includes information regarding:

- the importance of preserving physical evidence that may assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred or may be helpful in obtaining a protective order;
- procedures about how and to whom the alleged offense should be reported;
- the option to notify proper law enforcement authorities including on-campus and local police;
- the option to be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement if the victim chooses;
- the option to decline to notify such authorities;
- the rights of individuals and the institution's responsibilities for orders of protection, no contact orders (mutual no contact restrictions), restraining orders, or similar lawful orders issued by criminal, civil, or tribal court or the institution;
- information about how the institution will protect confidentiality;
- existing on-campus and community resources/contacts (counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services available to students, faculty, and staff);
- the options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, transportation, and working situations or supportive/protective measures;
- protection from retaliation; and
- an explanation of procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

Individuals reporting to RELLIS TIXC also receive the written notification.

## Guidelines or Suggestions to Follow After an Incident of Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence or Stalking (as applicable to the specific incident)

- Go to a safe place as soon as you can.
- Contact the Police Department at 911 (911 or 9-911 using an on-campus phone).
- Get medical attention as soon as possible to make sure you are physically well and to collect important evidence in the event you may later wish to take legal action. Baylor Scott & White Medical Center in College Station (979-207-0100, <https://www.bswhealth.com/specialties/forensic-medicine/>) is the community's designated forensic nursing facility offering a 24/7 program with trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) and a forensic unit that provides detailed physical examinations, evidence collection, and

expert testimony. CHI St. Joseph Regional Hospital in Bryan (979-776-3777) also conducts forensic exams. Go to the hospital's emergency room and request to be seen by a SANE. A forensic examination can also be performed for victims of domestic violence.

- Try to preserve all physical evidence. Do not wash, use the toilet, swim, brush teeth, or change clothing if you can avoid it. If you do change clothes, put all clothing you were wearing at the time of the attack in a paper, not plastic, bag.
- Preserve evidence by saving text messages, instant messages, social networking pages, communications, pictures, or other documents, if any, that would be useful to police or investigators.
- Personnel are available to help explain options, give information, and provide emotional support. Personnel include: Title IX Coordinator 979-317-3402, Student Counseling 979-845-8017, Student Health Services 979-776-8440, UPD Victim Services 979-458-9767, and the Brazos Valley Sexual Assault Resource Center 979-731-1000.

## Medical Treatment

It is important to seek immediate and follow-up medical attention for several reasons: first, to assess and treat any physical injuries sustained; second, to test for sexually transmitted infections or pregnancy and treat or take preventive measures; and third, to gather and preserve evidence that may assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred or is occurring or may be helpful in obtaining a protective order. Physical evidence should be collected immediately, if possible, within the first 24 hours. It may be collected later than this, but the quality and quantity of the evidence may be diminished. If victims do not opt for forensic evidence collection, health care providers can still treat injuries and take steps to address concerns of pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted infection.

## Confidentiality/Privacy and Confidential Reporting Options

Students and employees have the option to disclose incidents to confidential reporters<sup>6</sup> who are employees designated or permitted by the university to receive complaints of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and maintain confidentiality. Confidential reporters include, but are not limited to, licensed health care personnel and certain mental health providers (professional psychologists/counselors) who receive reports when acting the course and scope of their employment as part of their official employment. When an individual shares information with a confidential reporter, the confidential reporter cannot legally disclose the communication to another person or the institution except under very limited circumstances. Such information could be disclosed when: (1) the individual gives written consent for its disclosure; (2) there is a concern that the party poses an imminent danger to themselves or others; (3) the information concerns conduct involving suspected abuse or neglect of a minor under the age of 18, the disabled, or the elderly; or (4) required by law.

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<sup>6</sup> See page \_\_\_ for confidential reporter definitions

Confidential reporters are required to provide general non-identifying information as required to comply with the Clery Act or other applicable laws/regulations, and must report de-identified statistics to the Title IX Coordinator for any type of sex-based incident made known to them, and may not include any information that would violate that person's expectation of privacy. Publicly available recordkeeping, including Clery Act reporting and disclosures, must not include personally identifying information. Incidents are shared in a way that does not identify the individuals. For example, licensed healthcare providers share de-identified information regarding conduct that may be a statistic in the Clery Annual Security Report and/or disclosed in the daily crime log without identifying the individuals concerned. Additionally, researchers are deemed confidential only when the research project is federally funded and the identity of research subjects on the specific project are deemed confidential by law

At the RELLIS campus, the following are considered confidential reporters: Mental health providers for students – counseling (979-845-8017), health care personnel for students – Student Health Services (979-776-8440); and mental health provider for employees and the employee's benefits-eligible dependents (979-845-4141). At Texas A&M University – Central Texas the following are considered confidential reporters: Mental health providers for students – SWACC (254-501-5955); Student Support Advocate (254-501-5978); and mental health provider for employees and the employee's benefits-eligible dependents – The Work/Life Solutions Program by Guidance Resources (1-866-301-9623).

All other employees informed of possible discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and/or complicity should advise the reporting party that they cannot keep the information confidential and are required to report it to the university. Employees should inform the reporting party where confidential guidance can be obtained, such as the student counseling center or employee assistance program. To the extent possible, the university will protect the privacy of all parties to the report (see definition of private<sup>7</sup>).

Employees receiving a complaint under this policy may not disclose the identity of the complainant to any law enforcement authority unless:

- expressly authorized by the complainant;
- imminent threat to health or safety exists; or
- required by law.

Requests from complainants to withhold any name, or a request not to investigate or seek action against the respondent, will be considered by the university in the context of the university's duty to provide a safe and nondiscriminatory work, educational, and campus living environment. This may require that the university take actions when the complainant requests no action, such as when violence is involved, when the threat of violence exists, or when required by law, as in the case of elderly, disabled, or child abuse. A request to withhold information or not to investigate the alleged misconduct may limit the university's ability to respond.

Although individuals reporting sexual assault are not required to file criminal charges, the following

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<sup>7</sup> Private - that which affects, characterizes, or belongs to an individual person, as opposed to the general public. With respect to this regulation, private means restricting information to those with a reasonable need to know.

program is offered in the State of Texas. In accordance with the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 57, when reporting certain sex offenses to a Texas law enforcement agency, victims may use a pseudonym to protect their identity. The offenses applicable to this program are identified in Chapter 62 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, defined by the Texas Penal Code, and include sexual assault. The pseudonym will replace the victim's name in all public files and records concerning the offense, including police records, press releases, and records of judicial proceedings.

## Resources, Rights, and Options

Following an allegation of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and/or related retaliation the complainant, the respondent, and other affected individuals have certain resources, rights, and options available to them. Parties with an inquiry or complaint are informed of resources, rights, and options in writing when TIXC receives notification of an incident whether it occurred on or off campus and regardless of whether the individual elects to pursue a criminal complaint or disciplinary measures. Other personnel likely to receive reports of conduct prohibited by this policy in the Student Affairs, Human Resources, and UPD, may also provide resources, rights, and options in writing. Available assistance information is also shared through prevention and awareness education and can be found on the Title IX webpage at <https://rellis.tamus.edu/academicalliance/campus-life/safety-and-rights/>. Additional information about any of the resources, rights, and options discussed in this section can be requested from RELIS TIXC.

## Law Enforcement

Agency	Phone	Agency	Phone
Name	Phone	Address	Website
Texas A&M University Police	979-845-2345	1111 Research Parkway College Station, TX	<a href="https://upd.tamu.edu">https://upd.tamu.edu</a>
Bryan Police Department	979-361-3888	303 East 29 <sup>th</sup> Street Bryan, TX	<a href="http://www.bryantx.gov/police">www.bryantx.gov/police</a>
College Station Police Department	979-764-3600	800 Krenk Tap Road College Station, TX	<a href="http://www.cstx.gov/police">www.cstx.gov/police</a>
Brazos County Sheriff's Department	979-361-4980	1700 Highway 21 West Bryan, TX	<a href="http://brazoscountysheriff.org">http://brazoscountysheriff.org</a>

Blinn College Police Department	979-209-7600 (same for Blinn officer located at RELLIS)	2423 Blinn Blvd., Building S, Room 106, Bryan, TX	<a href="https://www.blinn.edu/police-emergency-management/index.html">https://www.blinn.edu/police-emergency-management/index.html</a>
TAMUCTPD	254-501-5805	1001 Leadership Place, Room 103, Killeen, TX	<a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/police/index.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/police/index.html</a>

### Counseling (Confidential)

Name	Phone	Address	Website
TAMU Psychology Clinic (upper-level RELLIS students)	979-845-8017	Milner Hall, Suite 101 425 Ross Street Texas A&M University Campus	<a href="http://liberalarts.tamu.edu/psychology/about/psychology-clinic/">liberalarts.tamu.edu/psychology/about/psychology-clinic/</a>
Mental Health Counseling (Blinn students)	979-845-4427	Schwartz Building, Suite 230 RELLIS Campus	<a href="http://www.blinn.edu/counseling-services/index.html">www.blinn.edu/counseling-services/index.html</a>
Work/Life Solutions Program by Guidance Resources	866-301-9623		<a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/human-resources/benefits/employee-assistance.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/human-resources/benefits/employee-assistance.html</a>
SWACC	254-501-5955		<a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html</a>
Student Support Advocate	254-501-5978		<a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html</a>

### Medical and Health Services

Name	Phone	Address	Website
Texas A&M Health Family Care (upper-level TAMUS students)	979-776-8440	2900 E. 29 <sup>th</sup> St. Bryan, TX 77802	<a href="http://health.tamu.edu/care/locations/index.html">health.tamu.edu/care/locations/index.html</a>
Baylor Scott & White (Blinn students)	979-691-2409	700 Scott & White Drive,	<a href="http://sw.org/location/college-station-hospital">sw.org/location/college-station-hospital</a>

		College Station, TX	
Baylor Scott & White Medical Center	979-207-0100	700 Scott & White Drive College Station, TX	<a href="https://www.bswhealth.com/locations/college-station/">https://www.bswhealth.com/locations/college-station/</a>
CHI St. Joseph Health College Station Hospital	979-764-5100	1604 Rock Prairie Road College Station, TX	<a href="https://www.chistjoseph.org/locations/college-station-hospital">https://www.chistjoseph.org/locations/college-station-hospital</a>

### Support, Advocacy, Legal Assistance and Other Resources

Name	Phone	Address	Website
Student Affairs	254)501-5909	TAMUCT Campus, Warrior Hall 105	<a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/index.html</a>
Student Success	254)501-5836	TAMUCT Campus Warrior Hall 212	<a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-success.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-success.html</a>
Student Financial Assistance	254)501-5854	TAMUCT Campus Founders Hall 108	<a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/financial-aid/index.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/financial-aid/index.html</a>
Access and Inclusion	254)501-5836	TAMUCT Campus Warrior Hall 212	<a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/access-inclusion.html</a>
Student Wellness & Counseling Center	254)501-5955	TAMUCT Campus Warrior Hall 207L	<a href="https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html">https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html</a>
National Sexual Assault Hotline	800)656-4619 24/7 hotline		<a href="https://www.rainn.org/">https://www.rainn.org/</a>
Student Conduct Office (RELLIS)	979-317-3402	1425 Bryan Rd. Bryan, TX 77807 ACB1, Ste. 117	<a href="https://rellis.tamus.edu/academicalliance/campus-life/safety-and-rights/">https://rellis.tamus.edu/academicalliance/campus-life/safety-and-rights/</a>
Student Services (RELLIS)	979-317-3402	1425 Bryan Rd. Bryan, TX 77807 ACB1, Ste. 117	<a href="https://rellis.tamus.edu/academicalliance/resources/">https://rellis.tamus.edu/academicalliance/resources/</a>

Sexual Assault Resource Center	979-731-1000		<a href="http://sarcbv.org">sarcbv.org</a>
National Domestic Violence Hotline	800)799-7233 TTY 800)787-3224 24/7		<a href="https://www.thehotline.org/">https://www.thehotline.org/</a>
University Police Department Victim Services	979-458-9767	1111 Research Parkway College Station, TX	<a href="http://upd.tamu.edu/pages/victimsadvocate.aspx">upd.tamu.edu/pages/victimsadvocate.aspx</a>
Bryan Police Department Victim's Assistance	979-209-5312	302 South Texas Ave Bryan, TX	
College Station Police Department Victim Advocacy & Assistance	979-764-5004	2611 Texas Ave. S. College Station, TX	<a href="https://cstx.gov/departments___city_hall/police/about/operational/victim">https://cstx.gov/departments___city_hall/police/about/operational/victim</a>
Brazos Valley Family Violence Unit	979-775-7400	300 E. 26 <sup>th</sup> St., Suite 105 Bryan, TX	<a href="http://Brazoscountytexas.gov/index.aspx?NID=112">Brazoscountytexas.gov/index.aspx?NID=112</a>
Twin City Mission Domestic Violence Services	979-775-5355	2505 S. College Ave. Bryan, TX	<a href="http://twincitymission.org/domestic-violence-services">twincitymission.org/domestic-violence-services</a>
Twin City Mission Bridge (Homeless Support)	979-822-1492	410 S. Randolph Ave. Bryan, TX	<a href="http://www.twincitymission.org/">www.twincitymission.org/</a>
Family Promise (Homeless Support)	979-268-4309		<a href="http://www.familypromisebcs.org/about-us/">www.familypromisebcs.org/about-us/</a>



## Institutional Rights and Options (Interim Measures)

The institution is obligated to offer and provide assistance to students, employees, and third parties in obtaining a range of supportive measures. Supportive measures are intended to restore or preserve equal access to the workplace and educational programs or activities without unreasonably burdening the other party; stop and prevent the reoccurrence of discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation; and support the complainant and respondent during the investigation and resolution process. Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, non-punitive individualized services. Supportive measures are offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the complainant or the respondent.

In all complaints of discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation, RELLIS TIXC promptly contacts the parties to discuss the availability of supportive measures, considers the parties' wishes with respect to supportive measures, informs the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint, and explains to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.

RELLIS TIXC is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of supportive measures. In addition to facilitating supportive measures, RELLIS TIXC can provide parties with access to university officials with information about counseling, medical, mental health, victim advocacy, visa and immigration information, impact of a leave of absence on student financial aid, and other services available to complainants and respondents (on campus and in the community). RELLIS TIXC will also notify the parties that options such as protective orders and criminal trespass warnings may be available through law enforcement agencies and the judicial system. A party may request a supportive measure through RELLIS TIXC (979-317-3402) at any time, regardless of whether a formal complaint has been filed and regardless of whether the individual chooses to report the incident to law enforcement or pursue disciplinary remedies.

RELLIS TIXC can assist with supportive measures that may include but are not limited to changes to academic, living, transportation and working situations or supportive measures according to the list below. In determining which supportive measures to impose and the reasonableness of the related measures, RELLIS TIXC considers the request; the safety of the complainant, respondent, and the university community; the specific needs of the individuals; the severity or pervasiveness of the allegations; continuing effects; sharing of classes, transportation, or job locations; other judicial measures already in place; and other factors as appropriate.

Supportive measures provided by the institution vary and may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Assistance in obtaining access to medical, mental health, legal (protective orders and criminal trespass warnings available through law enforcement and the judicial system), counseling support, victim advocacy, visa and immigration information, and financial aid guidance
- Extension of deadlines or other course-related adjustments, e.g., in cases in which a student complainant and student respondent are enrolled in the same course, either student may elect to drop the course without any academic penalty
- Modifications of work or class schedules
- Campus escort services

- Mutual no contact restrictions between the parties as described below
- Changes in work or housing locations, if reasonable
- Leaves of absence
- Increased security and monitoring of certain areas of campus or workplace
- Other similar measures

*Mutual No Contact Restriction:* A mutual no contact restriction is a supportive measure issued by the institution that prohibits two parties from contacting one another through any means. Mutual no contact restrictions can be issued in addition to court ordered protection but may also serve as an alternative for those who do not want to seek a court order. A complainant or a respondent can request a mutual no contact restriction through the RELLIS TIXC at (979-317-3402). RELLIS TIXC may issue a mutual no contact restriction at any time prior to or during a conduct investigation based on information provided by the requestor. If good cause for a mutual no contact restriction is determined, both parties are notified of the restrictions in writing. Mutual no contact restriction records are maintained in RELLIS TIXC's tracking system.

Individuals should be aware that direct contact, refusal to leave a protected area, appearing at a location one reasonably knows the protected party is at, third-party contact, or even an anonymous contact are all potential violations of a mutual no contact restriction. Violations should be reported to TIXC and may result in further disciplinary action. Failure to comply with the terms of supportive measures such as mutual no contact restrictions may be considered a separate violation of system policies and regulations and university rules and procedures.

AP/TIX will also consider an interim removal of the respondent from university programs or activities if the respondent is an immediate threat to the health or safety of the community or another individual. Both an interim removal for student respondents and an interim administrative action for employee respondents, such as a leave of absence, are described below.

*Interim Removal of Students:* A student may not be expelled or suspended prior to a decision of responsibility for a violation(s) of a university rule, policy, regulation, code, or SAP except as provided below.

AP/TIX may remove a student from an education program or activity on an emergency basis only after an individualized safety and risk analysis has determined that the student is an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any other student or individual arising from the allegations. AP/TIX must provide the removed student with notice and opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal. Upon being removed, the removed student must be granted the opportunity for a hearing within 5 business days to review whether or not the removal is warranted. The outcome of this hearing is not subject to appeal and is not a disciplinary action.

During the interim removal, a student may be denied access to campus housing and/or the campus (including classes) and/or all other university activities or privileges for which the student might otherwise be eligible.

The interim removal does not replace the investigation and resolution process. The investigation and resolution process shall proceed as outlined in this policy, except that the timelines referenced in this

policy may not be followed and the allegations will be resolved as soon as possible.

*Interim Administrative Actions for Employees:* In accordance with university rules and SAPs, Texas A&M University - Central Texas may request that an employee be placed on leave, suspended with pay, reassigned and/or place in another type of temporary status pending completion of the investigation and resolution process. Texas A&M University - Central Texas may also issue interim restrictions to an employee, which include, but are not limited to, contact restrictions (no-contact directives); representation of the university; “no trespass” orders, etc. Such interim actions will remain in place as specified in a notification to the employee or until the allegations are resolved.

## Confidentiality/Privacy of Accommodations and Supportive Measures:

The university will maintain as private any accommodations or supportive measures provided to the extent that maintaining such privacy would not impair the ability of the institution to provide the accommodations or supportive measures AP/TIX and Texas A&M University - Central Texas is responsible for determining what information and to whom information will be disclosed based on the circumstances of the allegation, the individuals involved, and related safety needs. AP/TIX and Texas A&M University - Central Texas uses discretion and only discloses information to key officials at the institution who perform the tasks necessary for obtaining or providing the accommodation or supportive measure. The identity of an alleged victim of sexual harassment, sex-based misconduct, sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, or stalking may only be disclosed to: (a) persons employed or under contract with the institution, who are necessary to conduct an investigation of the report or any related hearings; (b) a law enforcement officer as necessary to conduct a criminal investigation of the report; (c) the person or persons alleged to have perpetrated the incident, to the extent required by other law; or (d) potential witnesses to the incident as necessary to conduct an investigation of the report. Other areas receiving information related to supportive measures may include, but are not limited to: Scholarships and Financial Aid, Student Affairs, Human Resources, academic departments (direct supervisor, Dean, or Associate Dean), or non-academic departments (direct supervisor, Vice President, or designee). Prior to disclosure, AP/TIX Texas A&M University - Central Texas will receive consent to disclose the identity of the alleged victim, inform the individual of the information that will be shared, with whom it will be shared, and why.

## Legal Rights and Options

The institution provides information and assistance to the complainant, the respondent, and other affected individuals in obtaining lawful orders issued by a criminal, civil, or tribal court including protective orders and criminal trespass warnings as discussed below. Failure to comply with any of the terms of lawful supportive measures may be considered a separate violation in the institutional disciplinary proceeding.

*Protective Orders:* Individuals may apply for protective orders through the Texas criminal justice system. A protective order is an interim protective measure that requires the recipient to stay away from the protected individual’s home, workplace, and/or children’s schools (if the children are protected persons in the order) depending on the documented circumstances. It can require the recipient to stop communicating with the protected individual in a harassing or threatening manner, attend counseling, pay child support, and/or pay spousal support. An application for a protective order may be filed by an

individual, a prosecuting attorney, or the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (1-800-252-5400) on behalf of an individual. The application is obtained through the county attorney (Brazos County Attorney's Office – Family Violence Unit, Family Violence and Mental Health Coordinator, 979-361-4657), the district attorney (Brazos County District Attorney's Office – Chief Family Violence Division, 979-361-4320), or a private attorney. UPD (979-845-2345) will also provide assistance in applying for protective orders. Forms associated with applying for a protective order are found on the following webpages: <http://brazoscountytexas.gov/index.aspx?NID=112> and <https://guides.sll.texas.gov/legal-forms/protective-orders>.

The application for a protective order must be filed in either the county where the applicant lives or the county where the recipient lives. The applicant's address can be kept confidential. If the legal criteria for a protective order is met, the county or district attorney's office will prepare and file all of the paperwork necessary to request a protective order from a court. Such orders provide effective tools for law enforcement when they are called upon to protect an individual and their family. Additionally, an emergency protective order may be recommended and automatically issued by the court following the original report and arrest of the respondent. A hearing is held at a later date to determine if the order should be extended or modified.

UPD is notified of protective orders that exist in the campus and surrounding area. Local law enforcement agencies are also notified of all existing protective orders in their area. If the requestor or other institutional personnel become aware that a protective order is violated, UPD should be contacted immediately at 979-845-2345. Responding agencies can also be contacted for protective order violations including Bryan Police (979-361-3888), College Station Police (979-764-3600), or the Brazos County Sheriff's Department (979-361-4980). Violating protective orders generally carry authority for the violator's immediate arrest by UPD or other law enforcement agencies.

***Criminal Trespass Warning:*** A criminal trespass warning is a supportive measure issued by UPD which is directed at those who are considered a danger to the campus community or a danger to a certain individual in the campus community. The warning advises the respondent to leave the premises and forbids him/her from entering and/or remaining on certain property which can cover either the entire campus or a specific campus location. To request a criminal trespass warning, contact UPD at 979-845-2345 and request to speak with an officer. The UPD officer issues the criminal trespass warning if the respondent is determined to pose a risk to campus safety based on information provided by the requestor as it relates to applicable state law and/or UPD policy. When the warning is issued, the officer is responsible for providing notice to the requestor and the person receiving the warning.

UPD officers are notified of criminal trespass warnings that exist in their area. If a criminal trespass warning is violated, UPD should be contacted immediately at 979-845-2345. A violation of the criminal trespass warning occurs when the individual is issued a warning but refuses to leave campus or is subsequently found in a prohibited area based on the trespass warning. The requestor and other institutional personnel should take appropriate action by contacting UPD for a responding officer when they become aware of a potential violation of a criminal trespass warning. UPD generally enforces these warnings by charging violators with criminal trespass resulting in arrest and/or fine.

If the complainant, respondent, or member of the university community has obtained a protective order, civil no-contact order, restraining order, or similar order from a court as described in this section, against another member of the university community, a copy of the order should be provided to the

Chief Risk, Ethics, and Compliance Officer. In conjunction with UPD and other university officials, the Chief Risk, Ethics, and Compliance Officer will take all reasonable actions authorized by law to implement the order.

*Other Legal Options:* The UPD's Community Services Division at 979-458-6875 is available to provide information or direct victims to the proper agency about personal safety, Texas Crime Victim's Rights, Texas Crime Victims Compensation Fund and other information upon request. Or visit the Office of the Texas Attorney General's website at <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cvs/crime-victims-compensation>.

## Investigations and Disciplinary Proceedings for Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Stalking and Related Retaliation

*Proceedings pursuant to an allegation of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking* are provided in a prompt, fair, and impartial manner from the initial investigation to the final result, including any appeals. They are consistent with the institution's policies and transparent and equitable to the complainant and respondent. The investigation provides that:

- Both the complainant(s) and the respondent(s) must receive equitable treatment in all facets of the investigation and resolution process including, but not limited to, the right to an advisor (if any), the right to present evidence and witnesses, and the right to be informed of the outcome of the investigation.
- Timely and equal access to any information (inculpatory and exculpatory) discovered during the investigation as well as any information that will be used during informal and formal disciplinary meetings and hearings will be provided to the complainant, respondent, and appropriate officials.
- During the investigation the complainant and respondent have timely notice of meetings at which the complainant or respondent, or both, may be present.
- Determinations use the preponderance of the evidence standard, i.e., what is more likely than not to be true, based on the totality of the available evidence.
- The university's disclosure of information related to an investigation, the DA's decision and/or the sanctions rendered are governed by the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Texas Public Information Act (TPIA), the Texas Education Code Section 51.971, and other applicable confidentiality laws.

Individuals conducting investigations and other decision makers, at a minimum, receive annual training on the issues related to sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking and how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability. All of those involved in the administration of civil rights complaints at the university (including but not limited to: reporting, administering, investigating, adjudicating, advising, and informal resolution) complete annual training specific to their roles in accordance with requirements established by SECO in [System Regulation 08.01.01, Appendix B, Minimum Training Requirements for Civil Rights Investigations, Advisement, Adjudication, Appeals, and Informal Resolution in The Texas A&M University System](#). Minimum training requirements include university rules and procedure, applicable federal and state laws, how to conduct comprehensive civil rights investigations and prepare reports, trauma-informed investigation techniques and considerations, due process protections, how to value and weigh evidence and assess credibility, sanctioning, appellate processes, etc.

If an employee reasonably believes that an incident constitutes sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking and that the incident is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who was a student enrolled at or an employee of the institution at the time of the incident, the employee must promptly report the incident to RELLIS TIXC. Students and third parties (including, but not limited to, anyone receiving services from the university, vendors, and private business associates) are strongly encouraged to report the incident(s) promptly to RELLIS TIXC. An employee is not required to report an incident in which that employee was a victim of the sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking. Once an individual discloses information to RELLIS TIXC, a complaint will be considered to be made with the university, and the institution's process is initiated regardless of whether the complainant chooses to pursue criminal charges.

Complaints are initially reviewed by RELLIS TIXC, not only to assess and address safety, but also to determine whether a violation of the System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or any other university rule, SAP, code, or policy could have occurred. During the initial review and preliminary assessment RELLIS TIXC will:

- Inform the complainant about options for formal and informal resolutions and solicit the complainant's preferred method for resolving the matter. Complainants may request a formal resolution, an informal resolution, or "no resolution" of the allegations of discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and/or complicity.
- Offer assistance to the complainant in submitting a written formal complaint that details the nature and circumstances of the allegations, including the names of the complainants and respondents, if so inclined.

## No Investigation

If the complainant requests that no resolution of the allegations occur, the university will seek to honor the request whenever possible without impeding the university's ability to enhance the safety and security of the complainant and the university community. The university may initiate an investigation based on the seriousness of the allegation, whether or not there are multiple allegations, and/or whether or not a respondent poses a risk of harm to others. RELLIS TIXC will consider the following factors when evaluating such requests:

- All of the known circumstances, including any corroborating evidence;
- The nature and scope of the alleged conduct, including whether the reported behavior involves the use of a weapon;
- The respective ages and roles of the complainant and respondent;
- Whether there have been other reports of prohibited conduct or other misconduct by the respondent;
- Whether the report reveals a pattern of misconduct related to prohibited conduct (e.g. illicit use of drugs or alcohol) at a given location or by a particular group;
- Fairness considerations for both the complainant and the respondent;
- Whether the university possesses other means to obtain relevant information and evidence;
- The university's obligation to provide a safe and non-discriminatory environment;
- Admissions of responsibility by the respondent, if any; and
- The impact of honoring the request on the complainant and the university community, including the risk of additional violence.

If the university is able to honor the complainant's request for no resolution, the university may close the matter with no action taken, or the university may proceed with other appropriate steps, including investigation and disciplinary action against the respondent for violations of other rules, SAPs, regulations, policies, or codes, if applicable.

If the university determines that the complainant's request cannot be honored, the complainant will be notified of the decision, and RELLIS TIXC will take appropriate actions, including but not limited to, (1) offering support services or academic adjustments and (2) initiating a formal investigation.

## Informal Resolution

Informal resolutions do not utilize a formal hearing and may or may not involve the establishment of findings of fact and the application of sanctions.

At any time prior to the determination of a final decision, the parties may seek informal resolution to resolve the complaint. The following conditions apply to informal resolution:

- Informal resolution is a voluntary process. No party may be compelled to participate in informal resolution. The university, in consultation with SECO, must agree to allow an informal resolution to move forward and must obtain the parties' voluntary, written consent to the informal resolution process.
- Prior to an informal resolution, the parties will be provided with: (a) written notice of the allegations; (b) the requirements of the informal resolution process, including the circumstances under which it precludes the parties from resuming a formal complaint arising from the same allegations; and (c) the consequences of withdrawing from the informal process and resuming the formal process, and including the records that will be maintained or could be shared.
- Once a party agrees to participate in informal resolution, they may withdraw from the process at any time prior to a final agreement and resume the formal grievance process. Information shared in the informal resolution process may not be introduced into the formal process without independent evidence.
- Once a final agreement is established through informal resolution, the complaint may not return to the formal complaint process unless one or both parties fails to abide by any conditions established in the agreement.
- Informal resolution options include mediation, restorative conferences, shuttle facilitation, and other forms of facilitated dialogue.
- Mediation may not be used to resolve complaints of rape, statutory rape, dating violence, domestic violence, or any case in which imminent threats of harm may exist.
- The university may not offer an informal resolution process in sex-based complaints unless a formal complaint is filed and may not offer or facilitate an informal resolution process to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student.



## Formal Resolution

The allegations will be considered for investigation pursuant to the following procedures. RELLIS TIXC reserves the right to resolve the complaint informally or through no resolution if the allegation does not rise to the level of conduct prohibited by System Regulation 08.01.01.

Upon receipt of a report, RELLIS TIXC may consult with the Texas A&M University System Office of General Counsel (OGC) as needed and make a preliminary determination about whether to conduct a formal investigation of the allegations. The preliminary determination may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- An assessment of whether there is sufficient known or obtainable information to proceed with an investigation of the complaint;
- An assessment of whether the allegations are baseless;
- An assessment of whether the allegations, if true, would constitute a violation of System Regulation 08.01.01; and/or
- An assessment of whether a complainant's request for no resolution may be honored.

If it is determined that there is insufficient information to proceed with an investigation; or that the allegations are baseless; or that the allegations, if true, would not constitute conduct prohibited by System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or System Rule 08.01.01.S1 (for AA staff and students) and Texas A&M University - Central Texas Rule 08.01.01.D1 (for Academic Alliance faculty), or, that an investigation will not occur due to the complainant's request for no resolution, RELLIS TIXC (for staff and students) and Texas A&M University - Central Texas for faculty) may, after consultation with OGC:

- dismiss the complaint,
- close it for insufficient evidence to investigate or lack of jurisdiction,
- refer the report to a different office at the university (the university office may review the conduct and take appropriate action, including but not limited to, disciplinary action against the respondent for violations of other university rules, codes, regulations, policies, or SAPs, if applicable), or
- with the consent of the parties, as well as the approval of SECO, refer the complaint to informal resolution (cases involving allegations based on sex require the submission of a formal complaint before they may be referred to informal resolution).

RELLIS TIXC will notify the complainant of such action in writing. Complaints that have been dismissed or referred may be appealed in accordance with the appeal procedures section of this policy.

Once it has been determined that the university will proceed with a formal investigation, AP/TIX will appoint the Investigative Authority (IA) within 5 business days to initiate the process of determining whether a violation of System Regulation 08.01.01 or other university rule, SAP, code, or policy occurred.

AP/TIX (or designee) shall simultaneously notify the complainant(s) and respondent(s) in writing of the commencement of the investigation. The notice of investigation will include:

- receipt of the complaint stating the allegation of a violation of this policy;

- interim supportive measures, if any;
- admonishments regarding cooperation and prohibiting retaliation;
- any informal resolution process that may be available; and
- an unredacted version of the complaint to an employee respondent(s) and their advisor, if applicable, with admonishments regarding privacy.
- the appointed IA; the appointed Designated Administrator (DA) and Appellate Authority (AA);<sup>8</sup>

If in the course of an investigation the university decides to investigate allegations about the complainant or respondent that were not included in the original notice, the university must provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties.

If the respondent is an employee, Title IX Coordinator (or designee) shall notify, in writing, the respondent's supervisor that RELLIS TIXC is investigating an allegation that the respondent has engaged in conduct that may be a violation of System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or System Rule 08.01.01.S1 (for AA staff and students) and Texas A&M University - Central Texas Rule 08.01.01.D1 (for AA faculty), or other university rules, SAPs, codes, or policies.

AP/TIX is responsible for all administrative actions required to conduct the investigation. These include, but are not limited to, informing the parties of extensions or other delays affecting the investigation, contacting supervisors or faculty regarding their employees' or students' time away from work or class to participate in the investigative process, making reports to university administrators, coordinating supportive measures, and undertaking any other tasks necessary to properly conduct the investigation.

The IA will review the complaint, conduct a prompt, fair, thorough, and impartial investigation. Abuse of the investigation and resolution process is prohibited and subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal or separation from the university. Examples of abuse of process include, but are not limited to:

- Failure to appear at a meeting, interview, hearing, or conference as set forth in a notice issued by TIXC;
- Falsification, distortion, destruction, or misrepresentation of evidence or information;
- Disruption or interference with the orderly conduct of an investigation, interview, meeting, hearing or conference;
- Intentionally initiating or causing a false report to be initiated;

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<sup>8</sup> The DA is the decision-making entity specified in university rules. This may be an administrator or a hearing officer/panel but may not include a person with a clear conflict of interest (e.g., supervisor, subordinate, and/or family member of either party) or personal bias. The role of the DA is to determine whether or not allegations of misconduct rise to the level of a violation of System Regulation 08.01.01 based on the evidence provided and utilizing the preponderance of the evidence standard. The DA cannot have served as an investigator nor may they later serve as an appellate authority in the same case. Title IX Coordinators may not serve as a DA in any case involving an allegation of discrimination or harassment based on sex. The AA is any individual or panel responsible for rendering appeal decisions as specified in university rules. The role of the AA is to review the process by which an original decision was reached and render an appellate decision, consistent with the grounds for appeal. Title IX Coordinators may not serve as an AA in any case involving an allegation of discrimination or harassment based on sex. All persons serving as DAs, AAs, and IAs will be impartial and free of conflicts of interest or bias for or against the complainant or the respondent.

- Attempting to discourage an individual's proper participation in, or use of, the investigation and resolution process, disciplinary process, or legal process;
- Attempting to influence the impartiality of the IA, AA, or DA prior to, and/or during the course of the investigation and resolution process;
- Verbal or physical intimidation, and/or retaliation of any party to the investigation and resolution process prior to, during, and/or afterwards;
- Failure to abide by the terms of university administered sanctions;
- Influencing or attempting to influence another person to commit an abuse of the investigation and resolution process; and/or
- Failure to cooperate fully with the IA (applies to employees only).

Students, employees, and third parties who are found responsible for abuse of the investigation and resolution process are subject to the sanctions as described in this policy.

During the investigation, the complainant and the respondent will have an equal opportunity to be heard, submit information and corroborating evidence, identify witnesses who may have relevant information, and submit questions to be asked of the other party. Questions for the other party will be asked by and at the discretion of the IA. The IA will meet separately with the complainant, the respondent, and any witnesses, and will gather other relevant and available evidence and information. The IA may also consult medical, forensic, technological, or other experts when expertise is needed in order to achieve an understanding of the issues under investigation.

Witnesses must (1) have observed the acts in question, (2) have information related to or relevant to the incident, or (3) have information about impact, mitigation, aggravation, and/or character in order to participate in the investigation process.

Investigations provide both the complainant and respondent the same opportunities to have others present during any institutional proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by an advisor<sup>9</sup> of their choice. The advisor may be present at any time in which the party participates in the investigation and resolution process, including the filing of the complaint, the interview with the IA, and all other meetings related to the investigation and resolution of the complaint. A party may select any person to be an advisor, including legal counsel.

If the allegations are related to sexual harassment or sex-based misconduct, a party must have an

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<sup>9</sup> An advisor is an individual selected by each complainant and respondent to provide guidance, support, or advice during the investigation and resolution process and to conduct cross-examination when a complaint is referred to a formal hearing. An advisor may be an attorney. The university may appoint an advisor of the university's choice for a complainant or respondent for a hearing if either party does not have an advisor present. Advisors may not otherwise represent or speak for the party they are advising. Each party is allowed one advisor, although the university may establish circumstances under which a second advisor would be permitted (e.g., accommodating a party with a disability).

advisor for the hearing to provide guidance and to conduct cross-examination. If a party does not have an advisor for a hearing involving sexual harassment or sex-based misconduct allegations, the university will appoint an advisor for the party. To the extent reasonably possible, the university will provide a party without an advisor with a list of trained advisors and allow the party to select an advisor to be appointed from the list.

Restrictions regarding the extent to which the advisor will participate in the proceedings may be established and applied equally to both parties. In all instances, the advisor's participation will be limited to the role of an observer, except that the advisor will conduct the cross examination during a hearing on allegations of sexual harassment and sex-based misconduct. An advisor can be barred from being present during the investigation and resolution process if, in the judgment of the IA, the DA, the AA, or the Title IX Coordinator, the advisor attempts to advocate on behalf of a party (other than cross-examination), or is otherwise disruptive. All parties, including advisors, are informed of participation restrictions before a proceeding is conducted so that parties understand and respect the limitations.

When the university is made aware that there is a concurrent criminal investigation, RELLIS TIXC may inform the law enforcement agency that a university investigation is also in progress; ascertain the status of the criminal investigation; and determine the extent to which any evidence collected by law enforcement may be available to the university in its investigation.

At the request of law enforcement, the university may temporarily defer part or all of the investigation until after the initial evidence-gathering phase of the law enforcement investigation is complete. The IA will communicate with the parties (as appropriate) about the law enforcement agency's request to the extent allowed by law; the university's obligations and supportive measures; procedural options; anticipated timing; and the implementation of any necessary interim measures for the safety and well-being of all affected individuals.

Standards for the resolution of criminal allegations are different than the standards for resolution of a violation of System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or any other university policy, rule, SAP, or code; therefore, the university will not base its decisions on any law enforcement determination and/or the outcomes of any criminal proceedings.

Within 30 business days, the IA will prepare an initial draft investigation report at the conclusion of the investigation and provide it to OGC for review. The initial draft investigation report includes the following but does not contain speculation, opinions, findings, decisions, or recommendations for sanctions<sup>10</sup>:

- statement of the allegation(s)
- listing of individuals interviewed including dates of the interviews

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<sup>10</sup> The investigation report for a non-sex based civil rights complaint must also include the IA's conclusion, based on the preponderance of the evidence, whether or not the alleged behavior/conduct occurred, did not occur, or there was insufficient evidence to establish that the behavior occurred or not, but will not determine whether or not the behavior establishes a violation of system or university regulations or rules.

- all inculpatory evidence (evidence that would tend to support a finding that a respondent is responsible for the alleged misconduct) that is directly related to the allegations
- all exculpatory evidence (evidence that would tend to support a finding that a respondent did not commit the alleged misconduct) that is directly related to the allegations
- credibility assessments which may not be based on an individual's status as a complainant, respondent, or witness
- listing of relevant documents attached to the report as exhibits

The IA has the sole discretion to determine the relevance of evidence and whether it should be included in or excluded from the investigation report. OGC will coordinate with SECO and provide its review of the initial draft investigation report to the IA within 10 business days.

The IA will have 5 business days to create a final draft investigation report and share that document electronically with both the complainant, respondent, and their advisors, if any. The university provides parties an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the formal complaint, including the evidence upon which the university does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility, and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence related to the allegations whether obtained from a party or other source, so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to the conclusion of the investigation. This includes sending to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the final draft investigation report (with exhibits) subject to inspection and review. Both the report and the collected evidence will be unredacted to the extent allowed by law.

The complainant and the respondent will be given 10 business days to review the final draft investigation report and evidence and submit a written response to the IA for the IA to consider prior to final completion of the investigative report. A party's written response, if any, will be shared with all other parties and incorporated in the investigation report as an exhibit.

While it is the IA's responsibility to undertake a thorough search for relevant facts and evidence and to gather evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility, the IA must conclude the investigation within a reasonably prompt time frames and without the power of subpoena.

At the conclusion of the review and respond period, the IA will determine if any new or relevant information was provided by one or both of the parties. If necessary, the IA may pursue additional investigative steps and/or amend the final draft investigation report. The IA will have 10 business days to complete this process.

The IA will then have 5 additional business days to prepare a final report (as amended, if applicable), and forward it along with exhibits, responses from the parties, and other information directly related and relevant to the allegations, to OGC and SECO for legal review. OGC and SECO will then have 5 business days to provide feedback to IA. The latter review provided by OGC and SECO may be waived by mutual agreement between the university and OGC/SECO if no substantive changes were made following the initial review. After receiving the legal

review, the IA will have 5 business days to finalize the investigation report and submit to the DA for decision-making and sanctions.

Circumstances may warrant extensions to the timeframes in this section. The IA should send an extension request, if needed, to AP/TIX. Both the complainant(s) and the respondent(s) are notified of any extensions in writing.

The respondent is presumed to not have engaged in prohibited conduct until the DA finds that there is sufficient evidence based on a preponderance of the evidence to find that the respondent has violated System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or System Rule 08.01.01.S1 (for AA staff and students) and Texas A&M University - Central Texas Rule 08.01.01.D1(for AA faculty). If violation(s) are found, the DA may issue sanctions. Evidence to find that the respondent has violated System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or Rule 08.01.01.D1. If violation(s) are found, the DA may issue sanctions.

### **Procedures governing the resolution of all sexual harassment and sex-based misconduct allegations**

AP/TIX will appoint a university official and/or a hearing officer to be the DA. The university official and/or hearing officer will render decisions in cases with allegations against employees, third parties, and students<sup>11</sup>.

The DA will review the unredacted final investigation report, the documentary evidence, the record of the hearing (if applicable), and any other relevant information. The DA or designee will provide the final investigative report and exhibits to the parties. The parties will also be provided a pre-hearing conference to review the hearing process as well as to explore any available options for informal resolution. The parties have at least 10 business days to review the final investigative report and to respond in writing to the DA (if desired) prior to the hearing. The DA has the sole discretion to determine the relevance of evidence and whether it should be heard at a hearing. The Rules of Evidence do not apply in hearings. At any time prior to the adjudication of a formal complaint, the parties may seek informal resolution to resolve the complaint.

Unless waived by the parties, following the pre-hearing conference the parties will be given a minimum of 5 business days notice of any formal hearing. The notice must include the date, time, and location of the hearing, as well as instructions for those participating in hearings through online means.

The DA will conduct a live hearing<sup>12</sup> to allow the parties to question witnesses, submit evidence or information, and to allow the DA and the parties' advisors to cross-examine other parties or witnesses. The complainant

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<sup>11</sup> Exceptions: The chancellor or designee will serve as the DA in complaints against the Texas A&M President or an employee who reports directly to the Texas A&M President; a Chief Operating Officer or an employee who reports directly to the Chief Operating Officer. The chair of the Board of Regents or designee will serve as the DA in complaints against the chancellor or an employee who reports directly to the chancellor.

<sup>12</sup> Hearings will be closed to the public. The university will create an audio or audiovisual recording, or

and the respondent at a hearing must have an advisor with them. In cases in which a party does not have an advisor, the university will provide a trained advisor to assist them in the hearing process.

Cross-examination of the complainant, respondent, and any witnesses may not be conducted by the opposing party but must be conducted by their advisor. Questions are to be directed to the DA, who will determine whether or not each question will be admitted into the hearing. If a question is deemed repetitious or not relevant, the decision-maker must explain the decision to exclude it. When parties are being subject to cross-examination, the advisor may not answer on behalf of the party.

The DA will preside over the hearing and make final determinations on the relevance of questions and evidence asked during the cross-examination. Questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the alleged conduct, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and are offered to prove consent.

If a complainant, respondent, or witness is not in attendance at a live hearing, the DA cannot rely on the previously submitted statements of the absent party in reaching a determination, but may utilize all other evidence, including witnesses who interacted with the absent party, but not hearsay testimony of what the absent party told that individual. A complainant, respondent, or witness statement can also not be utilized in a determination if that person refuses to submit to cross-examination at a live hearing. The DA cannot draw an inference regarding responsibility based solely on a party's or witness's absence from the live hearing or refusal to answer cross-examination or other questions.

Following the hearing, the DA will develop a draft result<sup>13</sup> (hereafter called decision), based on the preponderance of the evidence, as to a) whether or not the alleged conduct occurred; and b) whether each allegation is substantiated, unsubstantiated, or there is insufficient information to substantiate that the respondent System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or System Rule 08.01.01.S1 (for AA staff and students) and Texas A&M University - Central Texas Rule 08.01.01.D1 (for AA faculty). If applicable, the DA will also include a decision as to whether the respondent violated any other university regulation, code, policy, SAP, or rule. If the DA determines that any regulations, policies, rules, SAPs, or codes have been violated, the DA will consider any information about impact, mitigation, aggravation, and the respondent's character include a decision about sanctions. The DA will submit the draft to SECO within 2 business days. SECO will have a maximum of 3 business days to provide feedback to the DA.

Thereafter, the DA will have a maximum of 3 additional business days to issue a decision letter. The decision letter must be sent simultaneously to notify the parties, in writing, of the decision on

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transcript, of any live hearing and make it available to the parties for inspection and review. Physical access to the recording or transcript must be provided upon request for the purpose of preparing an appeal following the hearing. Attendance at a hearing may be in person or may be conducted through remote means, provided that all parties and the DA can see and hear one another in real time during the course of the hearing.

<sup>13</sup> Result is defined as any initial, interim and final decision by any official or entity authorized to resolve disciplinary matters within the institution. The result must include any sanction imposed by the institution.



responsibility and sanctions except when to do so would violate state or federal law [e.g. Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)]. The decision must include any sanctions imposed by the institution. Notwithstanding section 444 of the General Education Provision Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g), commonly referred to as FERPA, the decision letter must include the rationale for the decision and the sanctions<sup>14</sup>. The decision will include information about appealing the decision and/or sanctions.

Decision letters must include (1) identification of the allegations; (2) a description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of a formal complaint through determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, methods used to gather other evidence, and hearings held, if any; (3) a finding for each allegation as to whether the conduct occurred and findings of fact supporting the determination; (4) conclusion regarding the application of the university's conduct standards to the facts; (5) a statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation including a determination regarding responsibility (substantiated, unsubstantiated, or there is insufficient information to substantiate that the respondent violated System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or System Rule 08.01.01.S1 (for AA staff and students) and Texas A&M University - Central Texas Rule 08.01.01.D1 (for AA faculty), any disciplinary sanctions the university imposes on the respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the university's education program or activity will be provided by the university to the complainant, and; (6) the university's procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal the decision and/or sanctions. If it was alleged that any other system regulations or university rules, SAPs, codes, or policies were violated, there will be a statement of responsibility as to these allegations as well. The decision on responsibility made by the DA does not constitute an employment action with respect to faculty and non-faculty employees. Any sanction against an employee, imposed as a result of a substantiated finding, will constitute an employment action.

If for any reason there is reasonable cause for the university to delay the issuance of the decision letter, this will be communicated to the parties by the DA or designee. If a student respondent withdraws or graduates from the university pending the resolution of a complaint, the process will continue and, the university will not issue a transcript on behalf of the student until the conclusion of the process.

Upon request by another postsecondary educational institution, the university must provide to the requesting institution any determination that a student violated the university's code of conduct by committing sexual harassment, sexual assault, sex-based misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and/or stalking based on sex.

The goal is to resolve complaints in a reasonably prompt timeframe; however, extenuating circumstances requiring additional time may necessitate an extension for good cause. Written notice of the delay and the reason for the delay is provided to the complainant and the respondent by AP/TIX or designee.

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<sup>14</sup> The decision of the DA will include how the university weighted the evidence and information presented during the hearing, how the evidence and information support the decision and sanctions, and how the standard of evidence was applied.

## **Procedures governing the resolution of all other civil rights complaints (allegations other than sexual harassment and sex-based misconduct)**

Following are the resolution procedures for non sex-based complaints based on race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, and/or veteran status. When a complaint involves allegations of misconduct that involve both sex-based allegations and allegations of other civil rights violations, the process shall be conducted under the requirements established for sex-based offenses..

The DA will review the unredacted final investigation report, the documentary evidence, and any other relevant information. If the DA has substantial doubts about the thoroughness, fairness, and/or impartiality of the investigation, the DA may refer the matter back to the IA with further instructions, which could include the appointment of a different IA. At any time prior to the adjudication of a formal complaint, the parties may seek informal resolution to resolve the complaint.

The DA will develop a draft decision, based on the preponderance of the evidence, as to a) a finding for each allegation as to whether conduct occurred; and b) a finding of responsibility for each allegation: substantiated, unsubstantiated, or there is insufficient information to substantiate that the respondent violated System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or System Rule 08.01.01.S1 (for AA staff and students) and Texas A&M University - Central Texas Rule 08.01.01.D1 (for AA faculty). If it was alleged that any other system regulations or university rules, SAPs, codes, or policies were violated, there will be a statement of responsibility as to these allegations as well.

The DA will submit the draft decision to OGC within 5 business days after receiving the final investigation report and consult, as needed, with respect to sanctioning. OGC will coordinate with SECO and provide its review of the draft decision within 5 business days. For a complaint against a student, it may be impractical for OGC to review the intended decision prior to issuance by the DA. Universities are therefore exempt from obtaining OGC review of the decision, for student complainants, prior to issuance but may request assistance from OGC and SECO when needed.

The DA will have 5 business days to finalize the decision and simultaneously notify the parties, the IA, and any other university official with a need to know, in writing, of the decision and sanctions. In cases in which the allegations are substantiated, the final decision will also be provided to an employee respondent's supervisor. The decision must include any sanctions imposed by the institution. Notwithstanding section 444 of the General Education Provision Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g), commonly referred to as FERPA, in the decision, the DA will state the rationale for the decision and the sanctions, if any. The final decision will include instructions for appealing the decision and/or sanctions.

Circumstances may warrant extensions to the time frames in this section. The DA should send an extension request, if needed, to the office or individuals who appointed them. Both the complainant(s) and the respondent(s) should be notified of any extensions in writing.

## Sanctioning Considerations

In determining appropriate sanctions, many factors may be considered. Factors include, but are not limited to:

- the expressed wishes of the complainant(s),
- the nature of the conduct,
- the impact of the conduct on the complainant(s) and university community and the need to protect the safety of the university community,
- prior disciplinary history of the respondent,
- whether the respondent has accepted responsibility for the conduct,
- the necessity of any specific action in order to eliminate the discrimination, harassment, and/or retaliation and prevent its recurrence, as well as the need to remedy its effects on the complainant(s) or other university community members, and/or
- any other mitigating, aggravating, or compelling circumstances.

## Sanctioning for Employees

If an employee is found to have engaged in sexual harassment or sex-based misconduct, the sanction will be termination of employment. If an employee is found to have engaged in conduct prohibited by System Regulation 08.01.01 and/or System Rule 08.01.01.S1 (for AA staff and students) and Texas A&M University - Central Texas Rule 08.01.01.D1 (for AA faculty) (other than sexual harassment and/or sex-based misconduct), the DA may assign appropriate sanction(s) which may have educational, restorative, punitive, and rehabilitative components. Sanctions include written warning or reprimand, required training and/or attendance at counseling, no contact directives, probation, suspension, and termination.

If an employee is found responsible for violating any other rule, policy, SAP, code, or regulation, the DA may assign appropriate sanction(s) or may refer the sanctioning to any other appropriate university administrator.

Sanctioning for Students: In all cases, investigations that result in a finding of responsible, in using the preponderance of the evidence standard (more likely than not that the alleged action took place in violation of the Student Code of Conduct or System Rule 08.01.01.S1 occurred) will lead to the initiation of disciplinary procedures against the accused individual. The sanctions applied will be in accordance with the Model Sanctioning Matrix For Sexual Violence And Sexual Harassment Violations By Students In The Texas A&M University System. University sanctions including one or more of the following may be imposed by the university upon individuals, groups or organizations. Sanctions for violations may be administered regardless of whether actions of the student are also civil or criminal violations. Whenever disciplinary action leads to the student leaving the university, grades will be assigned in accordance with the university grade policy and the academic calendar.

Sanctions for students may include but are not limited to:

- Reprimand
- Loss of privileges
- Imposition of certain tasks
- Probation
- Suspension
- Expulsion
- Revocation of Degrees
- Organizational sanctions

For additional information concerning the Model Sanctioning Matrix For Sexual Violence And Sexual Harassment Violations By Students In The Texas A&M University System please visit:

<http://assets.system.tamus.edu/files/policy/pdf/08-01-01-Appendix.pdf>

*Minimum Sanctions:* In addition, students found responsible for committing dating or domestic violence and/or non-consensual sexual penetration of another person will be subject to a minimum sanction of a one-year suspension, in the absence of significant mitigating factors. Students found responsible for these acts who have demonstrated predation for the purpose of carrying out these acts will be subject to permanent expulsion.

Students found responsible for committing acts of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking based on sex, and/or any other sex-based misconduct who are allowed to return after a suspension of one year or more will be ineligible to hold an office in any student organization, ineligible to represent the university in any way (including intercollegiate athletics or other competitions, both on and off campus), and ineligible to receive an institutional scholarship, in the absence of significant mitigating factors.

### **Appeals procedures governing the resolution of all sexual harassment and sex-based misconduct allegations**

An appeal of a complaint dismissal, hearing decision, and/or sanctions related to an allegation of sexual harassment or sex-based misconduct may be made by the complainant and/or the respondent. The AA, the individual or panel responsible for rendering appeal decisions, is assigned based on the status of the respondent in accordance with the following table. AAs shall not have had any previous involvement and/or participation in the investigation and/or decision pertaining to an appeal under review.

All appeals will be confined to a review of the record from the investigation and any relevant evidence, as well as the DA's decision as related to the grounds for appeal. The appeal does not create an entitlement to a new investigation. The appeals process carries a presumption that the original decision was correct unless a preponderance of the evidence demonstrates that one or more of the conditions of the appeal are met, and that either or both parties was deprived of a fair process.

Appeals must be submitted in writing and must include a statement outlining the basis for the appeal<sup>15</sup> and any evidence which supports the appeal. Appeals must be filed at the location and within the timeframe dated in the DA's written notice of the decision (within 5 business days of notification of the decision). Decisions made by the DA shall not be final until an appeal deadline is passed, or when the appeal process is exhausted, or when all parties choose not to appeal.

To be a valid appeal, the appeal must: (1) be filed at the location and within the time frame stated in the DA's written notice; (2) identify one of the bases for appeal and (3) provide credible information or evidence substantiating the identified bases for appeal.

If the AA determines that an appeal is not valid, the AA will provide simultaneous written notice to the parties and AP/TIX that no valid appeal was filed and that the decision of the DA is final and the case is closed.

If a timely and valid appeal is filed by either party, the other party will be notified as soon as practical thereafter by the AA. The parties will be given 3 business days to review the appeal and submit a written response a) that provides support for or challenges the decision by the DA, and b) that responds to the appeal bases submitted by the appealing party. Any written response must be submitted to the AA.

The AA will review the investigation report, the DA's decision on responsibility and/or sanctions, the documentary evidence, the record from the hearing (if applicable), and any other relevant information and render a written decision on the appeal. If both parties file a valid appeal, the AA will review both appeals and will render decisions accordingly.

The AA will render one or more of the following written decisions:

- Affirm the DA's decision on responsibility and, if applicable, the sanctions. There are no relevant issues of concern related to the ground(s) of the appeal, and, therefore, the decision is affirmed and final.
- Remand the complaint back to the DA because new evidence, not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, appears to be relevant and could have significantly affected the outcome of the decision on responsibility, dismissal of the complaint, or the sanctions. The DA will reconvene the hearing for the limited purpose of considering the new evidence. The DA will issue a new decision which may be appealed by the parties in accordance with the previously described appeal procedures.
- Remand the complaint back to the DA with an instruction to correct the procedural error or omission. If the procedural error occurred in the investigation phase, the DA will instruct the IA to correct the procedural error or omission and amend the Investigative Report, as appropriate. The

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<sup>15</sup> Results (decision and/or sanctions) or dismissal of a complaint can be appealed on any of all of the following bases, as applicable: (a) A procedural irregularity that affected the outcome; (b) New evidence, not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter. The new evidence must be provided at the time of the appeal through the designated mechanism for filing an appeal; (c) The Title IX Coordinator, investigator(s) or decision-maker(s) had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter; or (d) The appropriateness or severity of the sanctions. If an employee was found to have sexually harassed another member of the university or agency community, the appropriateness or severity of the sanction cannot be appealed.

IA will then submit the amended investigative report to the parties for review and response and then to the DA for a new decision in accordance with formal resolution procedures. If the procedural error occurred in the resolution phase, the DA will correct the procedural error or omission and then issue a new decision in accordance with the formal resolution procedures. The new decision of the DA may be appealed by the parties in accordance previously described appeal procedures.

- Remand the complaint to 1) AP/TIX or 2) SECO with the instruction to remedy a bias by the IA or DA or the Title IX Coordinator. If bias was present in the IA, AP/TIX will appoint a new IA to review the investigation, collect additional evidence or information as appropriate, and follow the investigation requirements as outlined in the formal resolution procedures. A new report will be written and provided to the DA for a new hearing. If the bias was present in the DA, AP/TIX will appoint a new DA to re-hear the case with the existing investigation. If the bias was present in the AP/TIX, SECO will appoint a new staff member to address the influence of the AP/TIX on the case.
- Modify the decision on sanctions because the sanctions given were inappropriate or disproportionate to the severity of the conduct after considering all the circumstances<sup>16</sup>. The AA will impose new sanctions, which are final.

Notwithstanding section 444 of the General Education Provision Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g), commonly referred to as FERPA, the AA will render a written decision simultaneously to the parties that includes a rationale for the decision as to each of the grounds appealed, changes occurring based on appeal, and when such results become final.

To the extent reasonably possible:

- For student respondents: The AA will provide the written decision simultaneously to the parties and AP/TIX within 10 business days following the 3 business day review deadline. AAs are exempt from obtaining OGC review of decisions for student respondents prior to issuance but may request assistance from OGC and SECO when needed.
- For employee or third-party respondents: The AA will provide a draft decision to OGC for review within 5 business days following the 3 business day review deadline. System Office officials will provide its review of the draft decision to the AA within 5 business days. To the extent possible, the AA will provide a final written decision simultaneously to the parties and AP/TIX within 5 business days of receipt of the review from the System Office. If the complaint on appeal is substantiated, the respondent's supervisor will also be informed.

The decision of the AA is considered be final and binding on all involved parties.

Circumstances may warrant extensions to the timeframes outlined in this section. The AA may send an extension request to the office or individual who appointed them with a rationale for an extension. If the extension is granted, the AA will notify the parties and AP/TIX in writing.

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<sup>16</sup> If an employee was found to have sexually harassed another member of the university or agency community, the AA may not render a decision which modifies the sanctions.

## Appeal procedures governing the resolution of other complaints (allegations other than sexual harassment and sex-based misconduct)

Any employee disciplined pursuant to this regulation may appeal that action in accordance with [System Policy 12.01, Academic Freedom, Responsibility and Tenure](#); [System Policy 32.01, Employee Complaint and Appeal Procedures](#); [System Regulation 32.01.01, Complaint and Appeal Procedures for Faculty Members](#); [System Regulation 32.01.02, Complaint and Appeal Process for Nonfaculty Employees](#); and/or other system policies or regulations as appropriate.

Any student receiving a sanction of separation (expulsion or suspension) pursuant to this regulation may appeal the sanction in accordance with the code of conduct for student grievances, [Student Rule 51. Student Conduct Separation and Appeal](#).

### Extensions

The university will make every reasonable effort to comply with the timelines contained in this procedure. However, extensions may be obtained by the IA, DA, or AA, as appropriate under the circumstances. Time frames for the receipt, investigation, and adjudication of complaints may be extended for good cause. Good cause is to be determined by the university in consultation with OGC and SECO and reasonable extensions may be granted at the discretion of the university. Circumstances that warrant an extension may include, but are not limited to:

- Temporary unavailability of the complainant(s), respondent(s) or witnesses;
- Delays in issuance and/or receipt of information to or from the IA;
- Temporary unavailability of the IA, DA, or AA due to illness, family needs or professional commitments;
- Holidays or other periods when the complainant, respondent, witnesses, or other university employees may be unavailable; and/or
- New allegations, new evidence, new witnesses, or any other fact or circumstance that would require further investigation.

All requests for extensions must be justified in writing and shall be sent by the IA, DA, or AA to AP/TIX for review and approval by the AP/TIX or designee. AP/TIX will simultaneously notify the complainant and respondent in writing of any extensions and the reason for the extensions.

### Dismissals under Title IX

Cases involving allegations of sexual harassment, sexual assault, and dating violence, domestic violence, and/or stalking based on sex are subject to mandatory or discretionary dismissal from the Title IX process<sup>17</sup> under federal law. However, at the discretion of the AP/TIX, in consultation with OGC and

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<sup>17</sup> Complaints will be processed under Title IX if all of the following apply: (1) The university has actual knowledge of a notice of sexual harassment or a complaint involving allegations of sexual harassment, sexual assault, and/or dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking based on sex to the Title IX Coordinator or any university official who has authority to institute corrective measures and redress harassment on behalf of the university. Imputation of knowledge based solely on vicarious liability or constructive notice is insufficient to constitute actual knowledge; (2) A formal complaint is filed by the complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator; (3) The alleged behavior/conduct must have occurred



SECO, cases dismissed from the Title IX process may be subject to investigation and adjudication as sex-based misconduct which provides for the same investigation and resolution process as cases meeting sexual harassment under Title IX.

## Mandatory dismissals

If the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment as defined even if proved, did not occur in the university's education program or activity, or did not occur against a person in the United States, then the university must dismiss the formal complaint with regard to that conduct for purposes of sexual harassment under Title IX only. Such dismissal does not preclude action under

- Sex-based Misconduct procedures or
- Another provision of the university's conduct standards.

## Discretionary dismissals

The university may dismiss a formal complaint for the purposes of sexual harassment under Title IX if the complainant notifies the AP/TIX in writing that the complainant wishes to withdraw it, if the respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by the university, or if specific circumstances prevent the university from collecting evidence sufficient to reach a determination (for example, when the complainant has ceased participating in the process; in certain fact specific cases when the passage of time precludes the collection of sufficient evidence; when complainant's identity is not known; and when the exact same allegations have already been investigated and adjudicated). Such dismissal does not preclude action under

- Sex-based Misconduct procedures or
- Another provision of the university's conduct standards.

Upon a dismissal required or permitted pursuant to the above, the university must promptly send written notice of the dismissal and the reason(s) therefore simultaneously to the parties. The parties must be given the opportunity to appeal a dismissal to the designated AA in accordance with the appeal procedures referenced above.

## Prevention and Awareness Programs<sup>18</sup>

Primary prevention programs are directed at incoming students and new employees. The primary

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against a person while in the United States; (4) At the time the formal complaint was filed, the complainant was participating or attempting to participate in the university's education program or activity. This includes an enrolled student, an employee, and applicants for admission or employment at the university, and; (5) The alleged conduct meets the definition of sexual harassment as set forth in this policy.

<sup>18</sup> For the purposes of this section awareness programs means community-wide or audience-specific programming, initiatives, and strategies that increase audience knowledge and share information and resources to prevent violence, promote safety, and reduce perpetration. Programs to prevent dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking means comprehensive, intentional, and integrated programming, initiatives, strategies, and campaigns intended to end dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking that are culturally relevant, inclusive of diverse communities and identities, sustainable, responsive to community needs, and informed by research, assessed for value, effectiveness, or outcome; and consider environmental risk and protective factors as they occur on the individual,

programs are defined as programming, initiatives, and strategies informed by research or assessed for value, effectiveness, or outcome that are intended to stop dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking before they occur through the promotion of positive and healthy behaviors that foster healthy, mutually respectful relationships and sexual interactions, encourage safe bystander intervention, and seek to change behavior and social norms in healthy and safe directions.

## Prevention and Awareness Programs

Primary prevention programs are directed at incoming students and new employees. The primary programs are defined as programming, initiatives, and strategies informed by research or assessed for value, effectiveness, or outcome that are intended to stop dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking before they occur through the promotion of positive and healthy behaviors that foster healthy, mutually respectful relationships and sexual interactions, encourage safe bystander intervention, and seek to change behavior and social norms in healthy and safe directions.

Texas A&M University - Central Texas provides culturally relevant, inclusive primary prevention and awareness education to incoming students and new employees to clearly define sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and consent. The programs identify sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking as conduct prohibited by the university and provide information regarding bystander intervention, risk reduction in recognizing warning signs of abusive behavior, ways to avoid potential attacks, and individuals' rights and options. The training includes procedures individuals should follow if sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking occurs and procedures the institution will follow when one of these behaviors is reported. This includes, but is not limited to, the importance of preserving evidence; options for notifying law enforcement and campus authorities; procedures for institutional disciplinary action and conduct proceedings; possible sanctions following a proceeding; on-campus and community resources; rights and options for obtaining lawful orders; assistance in receiving support measures and remedial action; how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties; and protection from retaliation.

Primary prevention programs include the following: Texas A&M University - Central Texas

- Threatening Behavior/Silent Witness
- Staying Safe on Campus
- Exercising Safely on Campus
- Sexual Assaults
- S.H.A.R.P (Sexual Harassment Assault Response and Prevention)
- New employees receive primary prevention information through a web-based *Creating a Discrimination Free Workplace* training mandated by The Texas A&M University System. All employees are required to complete the training every two years thereafter.

Ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns are directed at students and employees. The ongoing campaigns are defined as programming, initiatives, and strategies that are sustained over time and focus on increasing understanding of topics relevant to and skills for addressing dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking using a range of strategies with audiences throughout the institution. The same information included in the institution's primary prevention and awareness programs is incorporated into ongoing prevention and awareness campaigns. Student Affairs and Title IX

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relationship, institutional, community, and societal levels.

support ongoing campaigns for students and employees as described below.  
(Texas A&M University - Central Texas and AA)

## Bystander Intervention

Everyone has a role in changing community knowledge, attitudes and behaviors. Change happens as each person is able to identify risky situations and take action to confront, interrupt, or prevent acts of sexual violence. Bystander intervention programs can help individuals observe a situation and determine an appropriate intervention where someone could use some help. Bystander intervention means just that; people taking care of others. If you find a friend in a situation that concerns you, consider the following strategies to intervene safely and effectively:

- Create a distraction to interrupt the flow of events
- Involve others to help you
- Make an excuse to remove a friend from the situation
- Point out the unwanted behavior in a safe and respectful manner
- Call for help, if needed

Sexual assault is never a victim's fault. However, there are ways that may reduce the risk of being sexually assaulted including being prepared, alert, and assertive. Consider the following tips:

- Be aware of your surroundings
- Practice responsible drinking; alcohol is a factor in many sexual assaults
- Never leave your drink unattended
- Don't accept drinks from someone you don't know or trust
- Stay with your friends and make sure your friends stay with you
- Be careful of online relationships
- Trust your instincts

We are reminded to think about relationships, specifically relationships that may be, or become abusive. Be aware of the signs:

- Is one of the partners verbally and emotionally abusive?
- Is one of the partners isolating the other from friends and family?
- Is one of the partners controlling, intimidating or always jealous?
- Is there a threat of harm?

## Steps you can take to prevent sexual assault

Everyone has a role to play in preventing sexual assault. There are many different ways that you can step in or make a difference if you see someone at risk. This approach to preventing sexual assault is referred to as "bystander intervention."

## How can I play a role in preventing sexual assault?

The key to keeping your friends safe is learning how to intervene in a way that fits the situation and your comfort level. Having this knowledge on hand can give you the confidence to step in

when something isn't right. Stepping in can make all the difference, but it should never put your own safety at risk.

### Create a distraction

Do what you can to interrupt the situation. A distraction can give the person at risk a chance to get to a safe place.

- Cut off the conversation with a diversion like, "Let's get pizza, I'm starving," or "This party is lame. Let's try somewhere else."
- Bring out fresh food or drinks and offer them to everyone at the party, including the people you are concerned about.
- Start an activity that draws other people in, like a game, a debate, or a dance party.

### Ask directly

Talk directly to the person who might be in trouble.

- Ask questions like "Who did you come here with?" or "Would you like me to stay with you?"

### Refer to an authority

Sometimes the safest way to intervene is to refer to a neutral party with the authority to change the situation.

- Talk to a bartender, security guard or another employee about your concerns. It's in their best interest to ensure that their patrons are safe, and they will usually be willing to step in.
- Don't hesitate to call 911 if you are concerned about someone else's safety.

### Enlist Others

It can be intimidating to approach a situation alone. Enlist another person to support you.

- Ask someone to come with you to approach the person at risk. When it comes to expressing concern, sometimes there is power in numbers.
- Ask someone to intervene in your place. For example, you could ask someone who knows the person at risk to escort them to the bathroom.
- Enlist a friend of the person you're concerned about. "Your friend looks like they've had a lot to drink. Can you check on them?"

## Your actions matter

Whether or not you were able to change the outcome, by stepping in you are helping to change the way people think about their role in preventing sexual assault. If you suspect that someone you know has been sexually assaulted, there are steps you can take to support that person and show you care.

## Other Considerations

### Prohibition of Retaliation

Texas A&M University prohibits retaliation. Texas A&M University or an officer, employee, or agent of Texas A&M University may not retaliate, intimidate, threaten, coerce, or otherwise discriminate against any individual for exercising their rights or responsibilities under any provision of the Clery Act.

### Victim Notifications

In accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act, upon written request, Texas A&M University will disclose to the alleged victim of any crime of violence, or non-forcible sex offense, the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by the University against a student who is alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense, the next of kin of such victim shall be treated as the alleged victim for the purposes of this paragraph.

Institutions are required to provide both the complainant and the respondent with simultaneous written notification of the result of any institutional conduct proceeding that arises from an allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. In these cases, it is not necessary for the victim to make a written request.

## Sex Offender Registry

Section 121 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16921) provides for the tracking of registered sex offenders and instructs states to post sex offender data on the internet.

The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is the official Texas internet source for Sex Offender Registration information. The Sex Offender Registration open record information is extracted from the DPS Sex Offender Registration Database. The DPS maintains files based on registration information submitted by criminal justice agencies and represents a statewide source of information on sex offenders required by law to register. The DPS Texas Public Sex Offender Registry website is found at: <https://publicsite.dps.texas.gov/SexOffenderRegistry>.

TAMUPD receives notification of registered sex offenders that are currently employed, work, teach, volunteer, or attend classed on the campus of Texas A&M University. Notification comes from the Brazos County Sheriff's Sex Offender Registration Office.

Additional resources for gathering sex offender and sex crime data in the area:

Brazos County Sheriff's Office – 979-361-4890

Bryan Police Department – 979-209-5300

College Station Police Department – 979-764-3600

Blinn College Police Department – 979-361-3888

## **Risk Reduction, Warning Signs of Abusive Behavior and Future Attacks**

No victim is ever to blame for being assaulted or abused. Unfortunately, a person who is the victim of sexual or dating violence is more likely to be re-victimized. Below are some tips to help reduce your risk, to recognize warning signs of abusive behavior and how to avoid potential attacks.

### **Warning Signs of Abusive Behavior**

Domestic and dating abuse often escalate from threats and verbal abuse of violence. While physical injuries may be the most obvious danger, domestic and dating violence's emotional and psychological consequences are also severe. Warning signs of dating and domestic violence include:

- Being afraid of your partner.
- Constantly watching what you say to avoid a “blow up.”
- Feelings of low self-worth and helplessness about your relationship.
- Feeling isolated from family or friends because of your relationship.
- Hiding bruises or other injuries from family or friends.
- Being prevented from working, studying, going home, and/or using technology (including your cell phone).
- Being monitored by your partner at home, work or school.
- Being forced to do things you don't want to do.

### **What Consent Looks Like**

The laws about consent vary by state and situation. It can confuse the topic, but you don't have to be a legal expert to understand how consent plays out in real life.

### **What is consent?**

Consent is an agreement between participants to engage in sexual activity. There are many ways to give consent, and some of those are discussed below. Consent doesn't have to be verbal, but verbally agreeing to different sexual activities can help both you and your partner respect each other's boundaries.

### **How does consent work in real life?**

When you're engaging in sexual activity, consent is about communication. And it should happen every time. Giving consent for one activity, one time, does not mean giving consent for increased or recurring sexual contact. For example, agreeing to kiss someone doesn't permit that person to remove your clothes. Having sex with someone in the past doesn't give that person permission to have sex with you again in the future.

### You can change your mind at any time.

You can withdraw consent at any point if you feel uncomfortable. It's important to clearly communicate to your partner that you are no longer comfortable with this activity and wish to stop. The best way to ensure both parties are comfortable with any sexual activity is to talk about it.

### Positive consent can look like this:

- Communicating when you change the type or degree of sexual activity with phrases like, "Is this OK?"
- Explicitly agreeing to certain activities, either by saying "yes" or another affirmative statement, like "I'm open to trying."
- Using physical cues to let the other person know you're comfortable taking things to the next level.

### It does NOT look like this:

- Refusing to acknowledge "no"
- Assuming that wearing certain clothes, flirting, or kissing is an invitation for anything more
- Someone being under the legal age of consent, as defined by the state
- Someone being incapacitated because of drugs or alcohol
- Pressuring someone into sexual activity by using fear or intimidation
- Assuming you have permission to engage in a sexual act because you've done it in the past

### Help Reduce Your Risk and Avoid Potential Attacks

If you or someone you know is being abused, speak up or intervene.

1. Get help by contacting the Counseling Center or Medical Services for support services.
2. Learn how to look for "red flags" in relationships so you can learn to avoid some of those characteristics in future partners.
3. Consider making a report with the UPD and/or Title IX Coordinator and ask for a "no contact" directive from the University to prevent future contact.
4. Consider getting a protective order – talk to UPD



5. Learn more about what behaviors constitute dating and domestic violence. Understand it is not your fault, and talk with friends and family members about ways you can be supported.
6. Trust your instincts – if something doesn't feel right in a relationship, speak up or end it.

### Sexual Assault Prevention (from Rainn.org)

- Be aware of rape drugs
- Try not to leave your drink unattended
- Only drink from unopened containers or from drinks you have watched being made and poured
- Avoid group drinks like punch bowls
- Cover your drink. It is easy to slip in a small pill even while you are holding your drink. Hold a cup with your hand over the top, or choose drinks that are contained in a bottle and keep your thumb over the nozzle.
- If you feel extremely tired or drunk for no apparent reason, you may have been drugged. Find your friends and ask them to leave with you as soon as possible.
- If you suspect you have been drugged, go to a hospital and ask to be tested
- Keep track of how many drinks you have had
- Try to come and leave with a group of people you trust
- Avoid giving out your personal information (phone number, where you live, etc.) If someone asks for your number, take his/her number instead of giving out yours

### Alcohol Safety

Like many other substances, alcohol can inhibit a person's physical and mental abilities. In the context of sexual assault, alcohol may make it easier for a perpetrator to commit a crime and even prevent someone from remembering that the assault occurred.

## What can I do to stay safe?

You can take steps to increase your safety in situations where drinking may be involved. These tips can help you feel safer and may reduce the risk of something happening, but like any safety tips, they are not foolproof. It's important to remember that sexual assault is never the victim's fault, regardless of whether they were sober or under the influence of drugs or alcohol when it occurred.

- **Keep an eye on your friends.** If you are going out in a group, plan to arrive together and leave together. If you decide to leave early, let your friends know. If you're at a party, check in with them during the night to see how they're doing. If something doesn't look right, step in. Don't be afraid to let a friend know if something is making you uncomfortable or if you are worried about their safety.
- **Have a backup plan.** Sometimes plans change quickly. You might realize it's not safe for you to drive home, or the group you arrived with might decide to go somewhere you don't feel comfortable. Download a rideshare app, like Uber or keep the number for a reliable cab company saved in your phone and cash on hand in case you decide to leave.
- **Know what you're drinking.** Don't recognize an ingredient? Use your phone to look it up. Consider avoiding large-batch drinks like punches or "jungle juice" that may have a deceptively high alcohol content. There is no way to know exactly what was used to create these drinks.
- **Trust your instincts.** If you feel unsafe, uncomfortable, or worried for any reason, don't ignore these feelings. Go with your gut. Get somewhere safe and find someone you trust or call law enforcement.
- **Don't leave a drink unattended.** That includes when you use the bathroom, go dancing, or leave to make a phone call. Either take the drink with you or throw it out. Avoid using the same cup to refill your drink.
- **Don't accept drinks from people you don't know or trust.** Refusing drinks can be challenging in some settings, like a party or a date. If you choose to accept a drink from someone you've just met, try to go with the person to the bar to order it, watch it being poured, and carry it yourself.
- **Check-in with yourself.** You might have heard the expression "know your limits." Whether you drink regularly or not, check in with yourself periodically to register how you feel.
- **Be aware of sudden changes in the way your body feels.** Do you feel more intoxicated than you should? Some drugs are odorless, colorless and/or tasteless, and can be added to your drink without you noticing. If you feel uncomfortable, tell a friend and have them take you to a safe place. If you suspect you or a friend has been drugged, call 911, and be upfront with healthcare professionals so they can administer the right tests.

- **Ask yourself, “Would I do this if I was sober?”** Alcohol can affect your overall judgment. You wouldn’t drive, make medical decisions, or ride a bike while intoxicated. Many professionals, such as doctors, teachers and pilots, cannot be drunk while doing their jobs. Given this context, is what you’re about to do a good idea? Will you be comfortable with your decision the next day?

### Traveling around campus (walking)

- Make sure your cell phone is easily accessible and fully charged
- Be familiar with where emergency phone are installed on the campus
- Be aware of open buildings where you can use a phone
- Keep some change accessible just in case you need to use a pay phone
- Take major, public paths rather than less populated shortcuts
- Avoid dimly lit places and talk to UPD or the Physical Plant if lights need to be installed in an area
- Avoid putting music headphones in both ears so that you can be more aware of your surroundings, especially if you are walking alone
- Walking back from the library very late at night is sometimes unavoidable, try to walk with a friend or call UPD for an escort.
- Carry a noisemaker (like a whistle) on your keychain
- Carry a small flashlight on your keychain
- If walking feels unsafe, call UPD at (254)501-5800 for an escort

### Staying Safe on Campus (RAINN.org)

College campuses can give you a sense of security – a feeling that everyone knows each other and watches out for one another. Some perpetrators take advantage of this feeling of safety and security to commit acts of sexual violence.

We can all take steps to increase safety on college campuses. As bystanders, students can learn ways of stepping in to prevent crimes like sexual assault from occurring. When it comes to personal safety, you can take steps as well, and some of those tips are outlined below. No tip can absolutely guarantee safety – sexual violence can happen to anyone, and it’s not a crime that only occurs on a college campus. It’s important to remember that if you are sexual assaulted on campus it is not your fault – help and support are available.

### Increasing on-campus safety

The following tips may reduce your risk for many different types of crimes, including sexual violence.

- **Know your resources.** Whom should you contact if you or a friend needs help? Where should you go? Locate resources such as the campus police department, counseling center and Title IX office. Notice where emergency phones are located on campus, and program the campus police department phone number into your cell phone for easy access.
- **Stay alert.** When you're moving around on campus or in the surrounding neighborhood, be aware of your surroundings. Consider inviting a friend to join you or asking campus police for an escort. If you're alone, only use headphones in one ear to stay aware of your surroundings.
- **Be careful about posting your location.** Many social media sites, like Facebook and Foursquare, use geolocation to publicly share your location. Consider disabling this function and reviewing other social media settings.
- **Make others earn your trust.** A college environment can foster a false sense of security. They may feel like fast friends, but give people time to earn your trust before relying on them.
- **Think about Plan B.** Spend some time thinking about back-up plans for potentially sticky situations. If your phone dies, do you have a few numbers memorized to get help? Do you have emergency cash in case you can't use a credit card? Do you have the address to your dorm or college memorized? If you drive, is there a spare key hidden, gas in your car, and a set of jumper cables?
- **Be secure.** Lock your door and windows when you're sleeping and when you leave the room. If people constantly prop open the main door to the dorm or apartment, tell university police or a trusted authority figure.

## Safety in social settings

It's possible to relax and have a good time while still making safety a priority. Consider these tips for staying safe and looking out for your friends in social settings.

- **Make a plan.** If you're going to a party, go with people you trust. Agree to watch out for each other and plan to leave together. If your plans change, make sure to check-in with the other people in your group. Don't leave someone stranded in an unfamiliar or unsafe situation.
- **Protect your drink.** Don't leave your drink unattended, and watch out for your friends' drinks if you can. If you go to the bathroom or step outside, take the drink with you or toss it out. Drink from unopened containers or drinks you watched being made and poured. It's not always possible to know if something has been added to someone's drink. In drug-facilitated sexual assault, a perpetrator could use a substance with no color, taste or odor.

- **Know your limits.** Keep track of how many drinks you've had, and be aware of your friends' behavior. If one of you feels more tired or drunk than you should, you may have been drugged. Leave the party or situation and find help immediately.
- **It's okay to lie.** If you want to exit a situation immediately and are concerned about frightening or upsetting someone, it's okay to lie. You are never obligated to remain in a situation that makes you feel uncomfortable, pressured, or threatened. You can also lie to help a friend leave a situation that you think may be dangerous. Some excuses you could use are "needing to take care of another friend or family member, an urgent phone call, not feeling well, and having to be somewhere else by a certain time."
- **Be a good friend.** Trust your instincts. If you notice something that doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. Learn more about how to keep your friends safe in social settings.

## Meeting Offline

More and more people are seeking online connections that turn into offline encounters. According to a report from the Pew Research Center, 38% of single American adults have used online dating sites or mobile dating apps. There are also many ways to meet people online beyond dating sites, such as networking platforms, social media, gaming sites, and activity forums.

Talking to someone online can build a strong connection with someone you've never met in person, but that connection shouldn't overshadow your commitment to safety. Consider these tips to enhance your safety when you plan to meet someone offline.

- **Pick a public place.** The first time you meet someone in person, choose a public setting that is easy to find. Give the person time to earn your trust before meeting in a private location, like their home.
- **Do some research.** A quick online search can help you confirm details this person has shared in previous exchanges and may give you a better visual to help you recognize them in person. You can also run a search on the National Sex Offender Public Website (NSOPW), a national resource that pulls data from the state, territory, and tribal sex offender registries.
- **Go in with an exit strategy.** Be prepared to return home safely. Meet the person at the destination instead of accepting a ride. Have cash on hand and a number for a taxi company or ride-sharing app. This way, if something goes wrong or doesn't feel right during the meeting you can be responsible for your own ride home. If you start to feel uncomfortable, you can leave at any time. You may find it helpful to tell the person you are meeting that you have plans directly following your date.
- **Tell someone about your plans.** Let a friend know where you're going, when you're going, and how long you plan to be there. You can arrange for them to check in with you via text at a certain point, allowing you to leave the meeting if needed.

- **Hold off on revealing personal information.** Don't offer up too much personal information or history on the first encounter. Be wary of someone who asks for details that seem too personal, such as questions about your finances or your home address.
- **You're allowed to be skeptical.** If you start to feel uncomfortable or uneasy, acknowledge these feeling. Don't feel pressured to push aside your concerns for the sake of giving someone a chance. Trust your gut.
- **It's OK to lie.** If you want to immediately exit the situation and are concerned about raising flags or upsetting the other person, it's okay to lie. Tell them you have an appointment to make, you're not feeling well, or that you have a family member to tend to. You are never obligated to remain in a situation that makes you feel uncomfortable, scared, or threatened.
- **Take extra steps when traveling a long distance.** Safely traveling is always a priority, but there are a few additional safety aspects to consider when you're traveling to meet someone in person for the first time. Before you book travel, you can ask the person to video chat to better understand how they communicate in a face-to-face situation. If you don't know someone in the area you're visiting, consider bringing a friend along. Plan to stay in your own separate lodging, like a hotel or a friend's house, and keep this address to yourself. Be responsible for your own transportation throughout the trip. Let someone from home know where you're going and when they should expect you back.

## Definitions of Clery Act Offenses

**Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter:** The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

**Manslaughter By Negligence:** The killing of another person through gross negligence.

**Sexual Assault:** An offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest or statutory rape as used in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. Per the National Incident-Based Reporting System User Manual from the FBI UCR Program, a sex offense is any sexual act directed against another person, without consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent (see consent section below).

- **Rape:** The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.
- **Fondling:** The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

- **Incest:** Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- **Statutory Rape:** Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Consent:

#### Texas A&M University System Regulation

[System Regulation 08.01.01, Civil Rights Compliance](#) provides guidance in complying with local, state and federal civil rights laws and regulations and related system policy. This regulation establishes system wide standards for the receipt and processing of complaints, appeals, or reports of discrimination, sexual harassment and/or related retaliation based on protected class including complaints made by employees, students, and/or third parties.

According to [System Regulation 08.01.01, Civil Rights Compliance](#), consent is clear, voluntary, and ongoing agreement to engage in a specific sexual act. Persons need not verbalize their consent to engage in a sexual act for there to be permission. Permission to engage in a sexual act may be indicated through physical actions rather than words. A person who was asleep or mentally or physically incapacitated, either through the effect of drugs or alcohol or for any other reason, or whose agreement was made under duress or by threat, coercion, or force, cannot give consent.

#### Texas Penal Code

According to the [Texas Penal Code, Sex. 1.02 Objectives of Code](#), the general purposes of the Texas Penal Code are to establish a system of prohibitions, penalties, and correctional measures to deal with conduct that unjustifiably and inexcusably causes or threatens harm to those individual or public interests for which state protection is appropriate.

*Consent* is defined in the [Texas Penal Code, Section 1.07\(11\)](#) as assent in fact, whether express or apparent. Without consent is also defined in the [Texas Penal Code, Section 22.011\(b\)](#) within the definition of sexual assault (see below).

*Sexual Assault* is defined in the Texas Penal Code, Section 22.011 as follows.

(a) A person commits an offense if:

(1) the person intentionally or knowingly:

- (A) causes the penetration of the anus or sexual organ of another person by any means, without that person's consent;
- (B) causes the penetration of the mouth of another person by the sexual organ of the actor, without that person's consent; or



- (C) causes the sexual organ of another person, without that person's consent, to contact or penetrate the mouth, anus, or sexual organ of another person, including the actor; or
- (2) regardless of whether the person knows the age of the child at the time of the offense, the person intentionally or knowingly:
  - (A) causes the penetration of the anus or sexual organ of a child by any means;
  - (B) causes the penetration of the mouth of a child by the sexual organ of the actor;
  - (C) causes the sexual organ of a child to contact or penetrate the mouth, anus, or sexual organ of another person, including the actor;
  - (D) causes the anus of a child to contact the mouth, anus, or sexual organ of another person, including the actor; or
  - (E) causes the mouth of a child to contact the anus or sexual organ of another person, including the actor.
- (b) A sexual assault under Subsection (a)(1) is without the consent of the other person if:
  - (1) the actor compels the other person to submit or participate by the use of physical force, violence, or coercion;
  - (2) the actor compels the other person to submit or participate by threatening to use force or violence against the other person or to cause harm to the other person, and the other person believes that the actor has the present ability to execute the threat;
  - (3) the other person has not consented and the actor knows the other person is unconscious or physically unable to resist;
  - (4) the actor knows that as a result of mental disease or defect the other person is at the time of the sexual assault incapable either of appraising the nature of the act or of resisting it;
  - (5) the other person has not consented and the actor knows the other person is unaware that the sexual assault is occurring;
  - (6) the actor has intentionally impaired the other person's power to appraise or control the other person's conduct by administering any substance without the other person's knowledge;
  - (7) the actor compels the other person to submit or participate by threatening to use force or violence against any person, and the other person believes that the actor has the ability to execute the threat;
  - (8) the actor is a public servant who coerces the other person to submit or participate;
  - (9) the actor is a mental health services provider or a health care services provider who causes the other person, who is a patient or former patient of the actor, to submit or participate by exploiting the other person's emotional dependency on the actor;
  - (10) the actor is a clergyman who causes the other person to submit or participate by exploiting the other person's emotional dependency on the clergyman in the clergyman's professional character as spiritual adviser;
  - (11) the actor is an employee of a facility where the other person is a resident, unless the employee and resident are formally or informally married to each other under

Chapter 2, Family Code; or

(12) the actor is a health care services provider who, in the course of performing an assisted reproduction procedure on the other person, uses human reproductive material from a donor knowing that the other person has not expressly consented to the use of material from that donor.

(c) In this section:

(1) "Child" means a person younger than 17 years of age.

(2) "Spouse" means a person who is legally married to another.

(3) "Health care services provider" means:

(A) a physician licensed under Subtitle B, Title 3, Occupations Code;

(B) a chiropractor licensed under Chapter 201, Occupations Code;

(C) a physical therapist licensed under Chapter 453, Occupations Code;

(D) a physician assistant licensed under Chapter 204, Occupations Code; or

(E) a registered nurse, a vocational nurse, or an advanced practice nurse licensed under Chapter 301, Occupations Code.

(4) "Mental health services provider" means an individual, licensed or unlicensed, who performs or purports to perform mental health services, including a:

(A) licensed social worker as defined by Section 505.002, Occupations Code;

(B) chemical dependency counselor as defined by Section 504.001, Occupations Code;

(C) licensed professional counselor as defined by Section 503.002, Occupations Code;

(D) licensed marriage and family therapist as defined by Section 502.002, Occupations Code;

(E) member of the clergy;

(F) psychologist offering psychological services as defined by Section 501.003, Occupations Code; or

(G) special officer for mental health assignment certified under Section 1701.404, Occupations Code.

(5) "Employee of a facility" means a person who is an employee of a facility defined by Section 250.001, Health and Safety Code, or any other person who provides services for a facility for compensation, including a contract laborer.

(6) "Assisted reproduction" and "donor" have the meanings assigned by Section 160.102, Family Code.

(7) "Human reproductive material" means:

(A) a human spermatozoon or ovum; or

(B) a human organism at any stage of development from fertilized ovum to embryo.

(d) It is a defense to prosecution under Subsection (a)(2) that the conduct consisted of medical care for the child and did not include any contact between the anus or sexual organ of the child and the mouth, anus, or sexual organ of the actor or a third party.

(e) It is an affirmative defense to prosecution under Subsection (a)(2):

(1) that the actor was the spouse of the child at the time of the offense; or

(2) that:

(A) the actor was not more than three years older than the victim and at the time of the offense:

(i) was not required under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure, to register for life as a sex offender; or

(ii) was not a person who under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure, had a reportable conviction or adjudication for an offense under this section; and

(B) the victim:

(i) was a child of 14 years of age or older; and

(ii) was not:

(a) a person whom the actor was prohibited from marrying or purporting to marry or with whom the actor was prohibited from living under the appearance of being married under Section 25.01; or

(b) a person with whom the actor was prohibited from engaging in sexual intercourse or deviate sexual intercourse under Section 25.02

(f) An offense under this section is a felony of the second degree, except that an offense under this section is:

(1) a felony of the first degree if the victim was a person whom the actor was prohibited from marrying or purporting to marry or with whom the actor was prohibited from living under the appearance of being married under Section [25.01](#); or

(2) a state jail felony if the offense is committed under Subsection (a)(1) and the actor has not received express consent as described by Subsection (b)(12).

**Dating Violence:** Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship shall be based upon the reporting party's statement with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse. Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence. Any incident meeting this definition is considered to be a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

*Dating Violence* is defined in the [Texas Family Code, Section 71.0021](#) as follows.

(a) "Dating violence" means an act, other than a defensive measure to protect oneself, by an actor that:

(1) is committed against a victim or applicant for a protective order:

(A) with whom the actor has or has had a dating relationship; or

(B) because of the victim's or applicant's marriage to or dating relationship with an individual with whom the actor is or has been in a dating relationship or marriage; and

(2) is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the victim or applicant in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault.

(b) For purposes of this title, "dating relationship" means a relationship between individuals who have or have had a continuing relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on consideration of:

(1) the length of the relationship;

(2) the nature of the relationship; and

(3) the frequency and type of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

(c) A casual acquaintanceship or ordinary fraternization in a business or social context does not constitute a "dating relationship" under Subsection (b).

**Domestic Violence:** A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim; by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common; by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner; by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred, or by any other 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 in which the crime of violence occurred. Any incident meeting this definition is considered to be a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

*Family Violence* is defined by the [Texas Family Code, Section 71.004](#) as follows.

(1) an act by a member of a family or household against another member of the family or household that is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the member in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault, but does not include defensive measures to protect oneself;

(2) abuse, as that term is defined by [Sections 261.001\(1\)\(C\), \(E\), \(G\), \(H\), \(I\), \(J\), \(K\), and \(M\)](#), by a member of a family or household toward a child of the family or household; or

(3) dating violence, as that term is defined by Section 71.0021.

**Stalking:** Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others or suffer substantial emotional distress. Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about, a person, or interferes with a person's property. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling. Reasonable person means a reasonable person

under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim. Any incident meeting this definition is considered to be a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

*Stalking* is defined in the [Texas Penal Code, Section 42.072](#) as follows.

(a) A person commits an offense if the person, on more than one occasion and pursuant to the same scheme or course of conduct that is directed specifically at another person, knowingly engages in conduct that:

- (1) constitutes an offense under [Section 42.07](#) or that the actor knows or reasonably should know the other person will regard as threatening:
  - (A) bodily injury or death for the other person;
  - (B) bodily injury or death for a member of the other person's family or household or for an individual with whom the other person has a dating relationship; or
  - (C) that an offense will be committed against the other person's property;
- (2) causes the other person, a member of the other person's family or household, or an individual with whom the other person has a dating relationship to be placed in fear of bodily injury or death or in fear that an offense will be committed against the other person's property, or to feel harassed, annoyed, alarmed, abused, tormented, embarrassed, or offended; and
- (3) would cause a reasonable person to:
  - (A) fear bodily injury or death for himself or herself;
  - (B) fear bodily injury or death for a member of the person's family or household or for an individual with whom the person has a dating relationship;
  - (C) fear that an offense will be committed against the person's property; or
  - (D) feel harassed, annoyed, alarmed, abused, tormented, embarrassed, or offended.

(b) An offense under this section is a felony of the third degree, except that the offense is a felony of the second degree if the actor has previously been convicted of an offense under this section or of an offense under any of the following laws that contains elements that are substantially similar to the elements of an offense under this section:

- (1) the laws of another state;
- (2) the laws of a federally recognized Indian tribe;
- (3) the laws of a territory of the United States; or
- (4) federal law.

(c) For purposes of this section, a trier of fact may find that different types of conduct described by Subsection (a), if engaged in on more than one occasion, constitute conduct that is engaged in pursuant to the same scheme or course of conduct.

(d) In this section:

- (1) "Dating relationship," "family," "household," and "member of a household" have the meanings assigned by Chapter 71, Family Code.
- (2) "Property" includes a pet, companion animal, or assistance animal, as defined by Section 121.002, Human Resources Code.

Sec. 42.07. Harassment.

(a) A person commits an offense if, with intent to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, or embarrass another, the person:

- (1) initiates communication and in the course of the communication makes a comment, request, suggestion, or proposal that is obscene;
- (2) threatens, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the threat, to inflict bodily injury on the person or to commit a felony against the person, a member of the person's family or household, or the person's property;
- (3) conveys, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the report, a false report, which is known by the conveyor to be false, that another person has suffered death or serious bodily injury;
- (4) causes the telephone of another to ring repeatedly or makes repeated telephone communications anonymously or in a manner reasonably likely to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, embarrass, or offend another;
- (5) makes a telephone call and intentionally fails to hang up or disengage the connection;
- (6) knowingly permits a telephone under the person's control to be used by another to commit an offense under this section; or
- (7) sends repeated electronic communications in a manner reasonably likely to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, embarrass, or offend another.

(b) In this section:

- (1) "Electronic communication" means a transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo-electronic, or photo-optical system. The term includes:
  - (A) a communication initiated through the use of electronic mail, instant message, network call, a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera, text message, a social media platform or application, an Internet website, any other Internet-based communication tool, or facsimile machine; and
  - (B) a communication made to a pager.
- (2) "Family" and "household" have the meaning assigned by Chapter 71, Family Code.
- (3) "Obscene" means containing a patently offensive description of or a solicitation to commit an ultimate sex act, including sexual intercourse, masturbation, cunnilingus, fellatio, or anilingus, or a description of an excretory function.

(c) An offense under this section is a Class B misdemeanor, except that the offense is a Class A misdemeanor if the actor has previously been convicted under this section.

**Robbery:** The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

**Aggravated Assault:** An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by a means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. (It is not necessary

that injury result from an aggravated assault when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed).

**Burglary:** The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. For reporting purposes this definition includes: unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or felony, breaking and entering with intent to commit a larceny, housebreaking, safecracking, and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned acts.

**Motor Vehicle Theft:** The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. (Classify as motor vehicle theft all cases where automobiles are taken by persons not having lawful access even though the vehicles are later abandoned, including joyriding).

**Arson:** Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

**Hate Crime:** A criminal offense reported to local police agencies or to a campus security authority that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim. For Clery Act purposes, hate crimes include any of the following offenses that are motivated by bias: Murder and non-negligent manslaughter, manslaughter by negligence, sexual assault (rape, fondling, incest, statutory rape), robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, larceny-theft, simple assault, intimidation, or destruction/damage/vandalism of property. Following are the bias categories.

Race: A preformed negative attitude toward a group of persons who possess common physical characteristics, e.g. color of skin, eyes, and/or hair; facial features, etc., genetically transmitted by descent and heredity which distinguish them as a distinct division of humankind, e.g. Asians, blacks, or African Americans, whites.

Gender: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender, e.g. male or female.

Religion: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons who share the same religious beliefs regarding the origin and purpose of the universe and the existence or nonexistence of a supreme being, e.g. Catholics, Jews, Protestants, atheists.

Sexual Orientation: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation. Sexual orientation is the term for a person's physical, romantic, and/or emotional attraction to members of the same and/or opposite sex, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and heterosexual (straight) individuals.



**Gender Identity:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person (or group of persons) based on their actual or perceived gender identity, e.g. bias against transgender or gender non-conforming individuals (a person who does not conform to the gender-based expectations of society).

**Ethnicity:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of people whose members identify with each other, through a common heritage, often consisting of a common language, common culture (often including a shared religion) and/or ideology that stresses common ancestry. The concept of ethnicity differs from the closely related term “race” in that “race” refers to grouping based mostly upon biological criteria, while “ethnicity” also encompasses additional cultural factors.

**National Origin:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of people based on their actual or perceived country of birth. This bias may be against people that have a name or accent associated with a national origin group, participate in certain customs associated with a national origin group, or because they are married to or associate with people of a certain national origin.

**Disability:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their physical or mental impairments, whether such disability is temporary or permanent, congenital or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced aged or illness.

**Additional Hate Crime Definitions:**

**Larceny-Theft:** The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

**Simple Assault:** An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness.

**Intimidation:** To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

**Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property (Except “Arson”):** To willfully or maliciously damage, deface, or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

**Arrests and Referrals for Disciplinary Action:** Arrest is defined as persons processed by arrest, citation, or summons. Referred for disciplinary action is defined as the referral of any person to any official who initiates a disciplinary action of which a record is established and which may

result in the imposition of a sanction. Clery Act statistics are disclosed for arrests and referrals regarding state or local violations of liquor, drug abuse, and weapons laws. Only violations of the law resulting in arrest or referral are disclosed. Violations of institutional policy alone are not included in Clery Act statistics.

**Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, Etc.:** The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices or other deadly weapons. This classification encompasses weapons offenses that are regulatory in nature. Classify as a weapons: carrying, possessing, etc. violation: manufacture, sale, or possession of deadly weapons; carrying deadly weapons, concealed (except as permitted by state law and institutional policy through state law) or openly; using, manufacturing, etc. of silencers; furnishing deadly weapons to minors; aliens possessing deadly weapons; and attempts to commit any of the aforementioned acts.

**Drug Abuse Violations:** The violation of laws prohibiting the production, distribution, and/or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in their preparation and/or use. The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance. Arrests for violations of state and local laws, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs. The relevant substances include: opium or cocaine and their derivatives (morphine, heroin, codeine); marijuana; synthetic narcotics (Demerol, methadone); and dangerous non-narcotic drugs (barbiturates, Benzedrine). Classify as a drug abuse violation: all drugs, without exception, that are illegal under local or state law where your institution is located and all illegally obtained prescription drugs.

**Liquor Law Violations:** The violation of state or local laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession or use of alcoholic beverages, not including driving under the influence and drunkenness. Classify as a liquor law violation: the manufacture, sale, transporting, furnishing, possessing, etc. of intoxicating liquor; maintaining unlawful drinking places; bootlegging; operating a still; furnishing liquor to a minor or intemperate person; underage possession; using a vehicle for illegal transportation of liquor; drinking on a train or public conveyance; and attempts to commit any of the aforementioned acts.

## Definitions of Clery Act Locations

**On-campus:** Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area and used by the institution in direct support of, or in a manner related to, the institution's educational purposes, including residence halls. This also includes any building or property that is within or reasonably contiguous to the geographic area

that is owned by the institution but controlled by another person, is frequently used by students, and supports institutional purposes (such as a food or other retail vendor).

**On-campus Student Housing Facilities (Residential Facilities):** A subset of the “On-campus” category. Any student housing facility that is owned or controlled by the institution, or is located on property that is owned or controlled by the institution, and is within the reasonably contiguous geographic area that makes up the campus is considered an on-campus student housing facility.

**Non-campus:** Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of, or in relation to, the institution’s educational purposes, is frequently used by students, and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution. This also includes any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution.

**Public Property:** All public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, that is within the campus, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.

## Crime Report, Arrest and Referral Statistics

TAMUCT’s crime statistics are categorized according to the National Incident-Based Reporting System, an incident-based reporting system used by law enforcement agencies in the United States for collecting and reporting data on crimes. Statistics reflect reports made to campus security authorities as well as University, local and requested police departments and are compiled according to Clery Act guidelines and coordinated by the UPD and Clery Compliance Coordinator.

The Clery Act requires institutions of higher education to include four general categories of crime statistics:

- **Criminal Offenses** – Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, Manslaughter by Negligence, Rape, Foundling, Incest, Statutory Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, and Arson.
- **Hate Crimes** – Any of the above-mentioned offenses (except Manslaughter by Negligence), and any incidents of Larceny, Theft, Simple Assault, Intimidation, or Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property that were motivated by basis;
- **Violence Against Women Act Offenses** – Any incidents of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking. (Note that Sexual Assault is also a VAWA offense but is included in the Criminal Offenses.);

- **Arrests and Referrals for Disciplinary Action** for Weapons (carrying, possession, etc.) Law Violations, Drug Abuse Violations and Liquor Law Violations.

## Hate Crimes

According to Texas law, a hate crime is any criminal offense committed against a person or property that is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against race, gender, ethnicity, religion, national origin, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

- **2018** – no hate crimes
- **2019** – no hate crimes
- **2020** – no hate crimes

## Unfounded Crimes

Unfounded crimes are crimes that sworn or commissioned law enforcement personnel have investigated and made a formal determination that the report is false or baseless and are, therefore, subsequently withheld from Clery crime statistics. Following are the unfounded crimes as reported for All Texas A&M University RELIS campus Clery Act locations and Clery Act offenses:

- **2018** – 0 unfounded crimes
- **2019** – 0 unfounded crimes
- **2020** – 0 unfounded crimes

## Texas A&M University RELIS Campus – Reportable Crimes

Offense	Year	On Campus	Public Property
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Rape	2018	1*	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Foundling	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Incest	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Statutory Rape	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Robbery	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Burglary	2018	0	0
	2019	1	0
	2020	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Arson	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0

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\* The sexual assault counted in calendar 2018 was reported to the Texas A&M University Police Department on 7/16/18 as occurring in the early 1990s.

## Texas A&M University RELIS Campus Arrest, Referrals and VAWA Reports

<b>Offense</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>On Campus</b>	<b>Public Property</b>
Liquor Law Arrests	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Drug Law Arrests	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Weapons Law Arrests	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Weapons Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Domestic Violence	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Dating Violence	2018	0	0
	2019	0	0
	2020	0	0
Stalking	2018	0	0
	2019	1	0
	2020	0	0

## Crime Prevention and Security Awareness

It is important for all of us to understand our role in the reduction of crime. A conceptual aid often employed by crime prevention practitioners is referred to as the Crime Triangle. For any crime to occur three elements must be present: desire, ability, and opportunity.



Members of the university community easily recognize that there is little that can be done to control the criminal's ability and desire. The university community's greatest strength is in the prevention of crime, it's our initiative to reduce or eliminate the opportunity for a crime to occur.

A primary goal of UPD is the prevention of crime before it occurs. Because UPD officers cannot be everywhere all the time, they need the help of all members of the university community to take an active role in their personal safety and property protection. Crime prevention is important to the campus community and you can help by reporting any crime or suspected crime immediately is helpful to UPD and BCPD officers located at RELLIS campus. By doing so, you may be preventing someone else from becoming a victim of a more serious crime.

The UPD's Community Services Division, staffed by officers who are state Certified Crime Prevention Specialists, continually presents programs covering crime prevention and security information and make programs available for students, staff, faculty, and others, including Texas A&M University students and employees located at RELLIS. These Crime Prevention Specialists are dedicated full time to crime prevention efforts and programs. They participate in and provide information during new and transfer student orientation, international student orientation, in addition to a number of other programs scheduled annually with student, staff and faculty organizations. In these sessions information is provided regarding campus security procedures and practices. The Campus Safety Awareness Series is another opportunity for the campus community to get to know UPD officers, ask questions about safety and security procedures and practices, and/or voice concerns. For additional information or to schedule a program you are encouraged to call the Community Services Division at 979-458-6875.

UPD typically offers a variety of crime prevention programs and services to Texas A&M University students and employees. The programs are designed to encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own security and the security of others.

- Personal Safety Awareness – schedule upon request



- Theft/Burglary Prevention – schedule upon request
- UPD Self-Defense Program – offered throughout the year and scheduled upon request
- Alive@25 Defensive Driving – offered periodically throughout the year
- Operation ID (free engraving of property in the residence hall, home, and office) – offered throughout the year or by bringing the item to the UPD
- Residential and Officer Security Surveys – scheduled upon request
- Drug and Alcohol Awareness – scheduled upon request
- Sexual Assault Prevention – scheduled upon request
- Active Shooter Preparedness – scheduled upon request
- Apartment and Home or Residence Hall Security – scheduled upon request
- Robbery Prevention – scheduled upon request
- Workplace Crime Prevention – scheduled upon request
- Bicycle Registration – see description below

Bicycles are a popular mode of transportation in the campus environment and can be a prime target of theft. Texas A&M Transportation Services Requires all students, faculty, and staff to register any bicycle they plan to ride on campus and show proof of registration by displaying a permit/registration sticker to avoid enforcement action. Registration is critical for planning and communication and helps identify bicycles that are lost or stolen. Information on mandatory bike registration can be obtained by calling the Alternative Transportation Office at 979-847-2453 or visiting:

<https://transport.tamu.edu/alternative/bicycles/register.asp>.

## Important Telephone Numbers

Area Code 979 for all numbers listed below

Emergencies – Police/Fire/Medical	911 for off campus; 911 or 9-911 for on campus		University Police Department	845-2345
Bryan Police (non-emergency)	361-3888		Blinn College Police Department (at RELLIS)	209-7600
Brazos County Sheriff (non-emergency)	361-4980		University Police Department (at RELLIS)	845-2345
College Station Police (Non-emergency)	764-3600		Texas A&M Family Health Family Care	776-8440
Crime Stoppers	775-8477		Health Promotion (Counseling & Referral. Alcohol & Other Drugs)	845-0280
Department of Public Safety (State Troopers)	776-3100		Student Conduct Office	847-7272

FBI	776-8894		Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)	845-4427
Bryan Fire	209-5960		Facilities Services (Aggie Works)	845-4311
Brazos County Fire (Rural)	361-3888		Transportation Services	845-9700
College Station Fire	764-3700		Parking	862-7275
Paratransit	845-1971		CARPOOL (10pm-3am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday)	693-9905
Transit (Bus) Help-Line / Information	847-7433		Environmental Health & Safety	845-2132
Campus Information/Student Locator	845-3211		Department of Civil Rights and Equity Investigations	458-8407