



Ave Maria University
Campus Security Report 2024
Published 30 September 2025

Report Introduction

Ave Maria University's Department of Campus Safety and Security provides a full range of services to the university community 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Campus Safety and Security also maintains a service window Monday through Friday in the Bob Thomas Student Union building at 5236 Clancy Street. All university patrol officers are trained to provide immediate response to various scenarios.

Campus Safety and Security is the enforcement authority on campus and provides vehicle and foot patrols along with on-campus traffic enforcement. On-campus is defined by the property at 5050 Ave Maria Blvd, and all property west of Ave Maria Boulevard from Dolan Street to Keller Street. Campus Safety and Security has enforcement authority for all University property, although the Department does not have arrest authority. The Department also investigates violations of the Code of Student Conduct and works closely with the Collier County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) in their investigation of misdemeanors and felonies on campus. AMU Safety and Security has an excellent working relationship with local law enforcement agencies, which assures the rapid delivery of professional police services. AMU Safety and Security publishes a Daily Crime Log that is available by request at the Director's office, located in the Bob Thomas Student Union Building.

The Department of Campus Safety and Security encourages all students and members of the faculty and staff to be involved in campus crime prevention and be informed about current health issues affecting the University. Information on health, safety, and security is provided to students, faculty, and staff members regularly through seminars, films, bulletins, crime alerts, posters, emails, mass notification, and other mediums.

Department Mission Statement

The Department of Campus Safety and Security at Ave Maria University exists to ensure a safe educational environment for the students, staff, faculty, and visitors who make up our campus community. Campus Safety and Security provides professional direction and support in matters of physical security, safety, fire prevention, emergency response, and investigation into violations of both university policy and the law. Campus Safety and Security may investigate behavior, activity, or obstructions to the investigative process that pose a threat to the safety and welfare of the University and document its findings in a report to AMU administration.

The Department works closely with all departments in the university to ensure that safety policies and procedures are uniformly executed and conveyed in a clear and consistent manner to all the University's students, faculty, and staff. Beginning in July 2024, the Department of Campus Safety and Security will report to the Chief Operating Officer.

Annual Disclosure of Crime Statistics Report

The "Jeanne Clery Act" is named in memory of 19-year-old Lehigh University freshman, Jeanne Ann Clery, who was raped and murdered while asleep in her residence hall room on April 5, 1986. Jeanne's parents, Connie and Howard, discovered that students hadn't been told about 38 violent crimes on the Lehigh campus in the three years before her murder. They joined with other campus crime victims and persuaded Congress to enact this law, which was originally known as the "Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990".

Among other requirements, schools must make timely warnings to the campus community about crimes that pose an ongoing threat to students and employees.

The Department of Education can fine schools that fail to comply. Security On Campus, Inc. was founded by Jeanne's parents as the first national, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of criminal violence at colleges and to assisting campus victims nationwide.

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act is a federal law that requires colleges and universities to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. The act is named in memory of Jeanne Clery.

Policies for Preparing the Annual Disclosure of Campus Crime Statistics

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, commonly referred to as the Clery Act, requires institutions of higher education receiving federal financial aid to report specified crime statistics on college campuses and to provide other safety and crime information to members of the campus community. Campuses must publish an Annual Security Report detailing statistics regarding reported crimes committed on campus and at affiliated locations for the previous three calendar years, and describing specified policies, procedures and programs regarding safety and security. This requirement of the Clery Act is intended to provide students and their families, as higher education consumers, with accurate, complete, and timely information about the safety of the campus so that they can make informed decisions.

The AMU Department of Campus Safety and Security prepares an Annual Security Report to comply with the Clery Act. The Director of Residence Life and the Director of Campus Safety and Security are responsible for compiling referrals for disciplinary action as well as any criminal offenses that were not reported to Campus Safety and Security but brought to the attention of a "campus security authority" (CSA) for their respective campus.

These statistics are provided to the AMU Department of Campus Safety and Security for inclusion in the Annual Report.

The Department of Campus Safety and Security is canvassed by CCSO for crimes occurring on specified public property surrounding the respective campus; and the Collier County Sheriff's Office notifies AMU Security of any Clery reportable incidents occurring on the Ave Maria Campus and the surrounding "public property."

The University's Annual Security Report is updated each year and the findings, in compliance with federal law, are reported to the Department of Education. The law states that these findings along with certain policies and procedures must be posted to the University community by October 1st of each year and can be viewed at: <https://www.avemaria.edu/student-services/campus-safety/jeanne-clery-act-reports-compliance/>

AMU students, faculty, and staff are notified when the publication will be available and where it may be viewed in the Student Union Mailroom on request, the AMU web site, and personal e-mail by request. Email securityAMU@avemaria.edu for a copy of the report.

Ave Maria University Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence Policy

Introduction

Ave Maria University is committed to maintaining a positive learning and working environment for students, faculty, and staff. Sexual harassment, a form of sex discrimination, detracts from a positive environment and is absolutely prohibited. Sexual harassment is defined as any unsolicited, offensive behavior that inappropriately asserts sexuality over status as a student or an employee, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment or academic admission or advancement; submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis (or threatened to be used as the basis) for employment actions or academic decisions or evaluations; or such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work or learning environment.

Sexual harassment can occur between/among supervisors/managers and subordinates, faculty and staff or students, peers, vendors/subcontractors/visitors and employees or students, or any combination thereof. Often, but not always, the harasser is in a more powerful position than the person being harassed. In such situations sexual harassment is particularly serious because it may unfairly exploit the power inherent in a

supervisor's or faculty member's position. All forms of sexual harassment whether occurring on or off-campus are violations of the University's policy and will not be tolerated.

Sexual violence, as that term is used in Federal regulations, refers to physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or when a person is incapable of giving consent. Sexual violence encompasses a range of offenses including rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion. All such acts can be considered a form of sex discrimination, and like sexual harassment, are prohibited by Title IX of Federal law.

Sexual assault, a form of sexual violence, is defined as forcing, threatening, or coercing an individual into sexual contact against his or her free will with or without his or her consent. It includes, but is not limited to, any sexual act performed on an individual, any sexual act required to be performed by an individual, or forced or coerced intercourse. Sexual assault includes having sexual contact with a person while knowing or having reason to know that the person was incapacitated by drugs, including alcohol, or by other means.

For the purposes of this policy, the term "consent" is defined as informed, freely given, mutually and clearly understandable words or actions that convey, and are intended to be taken as conveying, a willingness to engage in sexual activity. Consent cannot be gained by force, or by ignoring or acting despite the objections of another. Incapacitated persons (as from the use of drugs or alcohol) or persons who are asleep or unconscious cannot give consent, nor can minors give consent. Silence or an absence of resistance does not imply consent. Consent obtained to engage in past sexual activity shall not be deemed to imply consent to future activity. Further, consent to one form of physical intimacy or sexual activity shall not be considered to imply consent to other forms of sexual activity.

As a Catholic university that believes in the inherent dignity and worth of each person, Ave Maria University prohibits sexual harassment and all forms of sexual violence as inimical to the common good and deeply offensive to the God-given dignity and worth of the person.

The University's prohibition of sexual harassment and sexual violence wherever it occurs (on or off-campus) applies to all students, faculty, and staff members as well as third parties (such as visitors to campus). The information provided here regarding processes, procedures and resources is primarily intended for the benefit of students. (Members of the faculty and staff of the University should contact Human Resources for information and resources designed for their benefit.)

The University encourages victims of sexual harassment and sexual violence to talk to somebody about what happened – so that victims can get the care and support that they need and so that the University can respond appropriately and work to prevent its recurrence and remedy any discriminatory effects. However, when seeking assistance from university employees in particular, students should understand that some employees are required by Federal law to report all details of an incident to the University (so that the University can take immediate and appropriate steps to investigate what happened and to resolve the matter promptly and equitably).

Students who make a report of sexual harassment or sexual violence (these students are referred to elsewhere within this and other University policies as “complainants”) shall be informed of and encouraged to use all appropriate University, law enforcement, and community resources. The University’s response to such reports will be conducted promptly, thoroughly, and impartially. Students accused of sexual harassment or sexual violence (referred to within university policies as “charged students”) shall receive appropriate procedural protection to ensure that they are treated fairly and in accordance with university policies and procedures. The investigation of any report of sexual harassment or sexual violence made to the University shall be completed as promptly as possible and in most cases within 60 days of the initial report.

Any actual or threatened retaliation, or any act of intimidation by a charged student or third party directed at any participant in the disciplinary process, intended to prevent or otherwise obstruct the reporting of sexual harassment or sexual violence or the participation in proceedings related to such reports, is prohibited by Title IX and University policy, and will result in disciplinary action regardless of the outcome of the underlying misconduct complaint.

To support and assist students, both those who bring complaints and those who are charged with violations, the University provides a range of services and referrals for resources. Please see the references below for information related to medical, counseling, and pastoral care.

Help For Victims of Sexual Violence

Immediate Assistance: Reporting an Incident

Victims of sexual violence have several alternatives open to them for reporting the incident. Each of these resources can assist students in getting the help they need:

- AMU Security Patrol: 239-280-6289

The Department of Campus Safety and Security is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Campus Safety and Security may contact the Collier County Sheriff’s Office or other local law enforcement agencies, as appropriate. Campus

Safety and Security will also notify the AMU Title IX Coordinator as well as the Office of Student Affairs to ensure that the reporting student is provided appropriate assistance.

- Collier County Sheriff's Office Emergency: 911, 8-911 (from a campus phone), or 239-252-9300

For incidents occurring on campus or in Ave Maria town, a victim of sexual violence may also report the incident directly to the local law enforcement authority, the Collier County Sheriff's Office (CCSO). The Department of Campus Safety and Security can assist students in contacting the CCSO.

- AMU Title IX Coordinator: TitleIXCoordinator@avemaria.edu, 239-280-1531

Reports may also be made to the AMU Title IX Coordinator. The University's Title IX Coordinator is the designated agent of the University with primary responsibility for overseeing Title IX compliance efforts. The Title IX Coordinator serves as a primary point of contact for those seeking information or wanting to report sexual violence.

Assistance for victims of sexual violence is also available from Project HELP: 239-262-7227. Project HELP (www.projecthelpnaples.org) is not affiliated with the University, but is a local non-profit organization staffed by professional counselors and advocates committed to providing assistance to those affected by sexual violence. Project HELP maintains a 24/7 Crisis and Referral Hotline (239-262-7227) and is the local state certified Rape Crisis Center. Project HELP provides free counseling and advocacy services and staffs a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) which includes a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE). SART works with complainants individually or acting as advocates while they work with law enforcement.

Immediate Assistance: Emergency Medical Care

It is especially important for victims of sexual violence to seek immediate and appropriate medical treatment and assistance, if necessary. Note: Depending upon the nature of the incident, and for the purposes of preserving evidence in the event criminal prosecution is sought, it may be best for the victim not to shower, eat, change clothes, or brush teeth prior to seeking medical attention. Immediate emergency medical care is available through the Collier County EMS: Dial 911.

The nearest hospitals to Ave Maria University are:

NCH North Naples Hospital
11190 Health Park Boulevard

Naples, FL 34110
239-624-5000

Naples, FL 34102
239-436-5000

Physicians Regional – Pine Ridge
6101 Pine Ridge Road
Naples, FL 34119
239-348-4000

Physicians Regional - Collier Boulevard
8300 Collier Boulevard
Naples, FL 34114
239-354-6000

NCH Downtown Naples Hospital
350 7th St. N.

Ave Maria University Campus Security, residence hall directors and/or staff from Student Affairs (239-280-2540) can assist students in finding transportation or would like to be accompanied to any of these off-campus medical resources.

Ongoing Assistance: Medical, Counseling, Pastoral Care Resources

Besides immediate emergency care, ongoing care is also critically important. Students are encouraged to make use of the following resources.

- I. The University Counseling Services.
- II. Students needing confidential counseling services should contact the University Counselor, Nestor Levesque, a trained professional who can provide specialized support and assistance to students who have been subjected to sexual violence. Students may seek counseling at any time, no matter how long ago the incident occurred. Counseling services are also available to friends of a victim who may need support in assisting the student.
- III. Project HELP: 239-262-7227.
- IV. In addition to providing 24/7 assistance for sexual violence victims, Project HELP can also provide ongoing counseling and support services for students dealing with sexual violence.
- V. Campus Ministry 239-280-2518, chaplain@avemaria.edu.
- VI. The Campus Ministry staff is trained to provide pastoral counseling and support to students or to friends who wish to support and assist them.
- VII. The on-call Residence Hall Director 239-280-7344.
- VIII. The on-call Residence Hall Director can also help in obtaining counseling and pastoral guidance and support.

All of the services described above are available to students regardless of whether or not the student chooses to report the incident or participate in any University disciplinary process or criminal process.

The University Counselor, the priests in Campus Ministry staff, and the staff of Project Help are confidential resources; for further information regarding confidentiality, please see the “Reporting Options and Confidentiality” section below.

Accommodations and Other Interim Measures

Students seeking support following an incident of sexual violence should contact the Office of Student Affairs (239-280-2540), where they will be referred to a professional staff member in the office who will identify, explain, and navigate the available support services. This includes information regarding counseling, educational support, pastoral care, medical treatment, and information about the University’s disciplinary procedures. The Office of Student Affairs can take steps to help ensure the safety and well-being of students who report sexual violence, such as providing alternative housing arrangements, helping to rearranging class or work schedules, identifying other academic assistance (e.g., tutoring) and seeking other academic accommodations if necessary.

In some cases, as a way to help students continue their academic endeavors with as little distraction and disruption as possible, the Office of Student Affairs may issue a “no-contact order” to some, or all of the students involved. These no-contact orders have the force of a university regulation and normally prohibit the students involved from having any contact of any sort, either directly or through third parties, with each other. The issuance of no-contact orders is not a determination of responsibility (or lack thereof) attributable to either party but is intended to help students focus on their schoolwork with minimal distraction.

In each case, every effort will be made to accommodate all reasonable requests, to protect the student, the campus community, and to minimize the impact on the student’s educational endeavors. As with the resources described earlier, these academic accommodations and interim measures are available to student complainants regardless of whether any formal disciplinary action is initiated against an alleged perpetrator of sexual violence.

Reports to the University

A student who reports an incident of sexual violence to the University will be referred to a professional staff member in the Office of Student Affairs who will identify, explain, and navigate the available support services. The University’s Student Code of Conduct

and disciplinary policies and procedures will be explained to the student. The University's Student Code of Conduct may be found at: <https://www.avemaria.edu/student-handbook-policies/>.

A student always has the option to pursue a criminal complaint with the appropriate law enforcement agency, the University's disciplinary process, or both processes simultaneously.

The University Disciplinary Process

The Office of Residence Life and Housing is responsible for investigating and adjudicating alleged violations of the University's behavioral expectations, including alleged violations of the sexual violence policy. The University's Code of Student Conduct may be found in the Student Handbook at: <https://www.avemaria.edu/student-handbook-policies/> The Code of Student Conduct does not allow for the mediation of allegations of violations of the sexual violence policy.

Cases involving allegations of sexual harassment and sexual violence referred to the Office of Residence Life and Housing shall be adjudicated using a "preponderance of the evidence" (i.e., it is more likely than not that the sexual harassment or sexual violence occurred) as the standard for the determination of responsibility under the policy.

In cases of sexual harassment and sexual violence referred to the Office of Residence Life and Housing, both the complainant and the charged student shall be provided notice of the disciplinary setting (i.e., a case referral meeting or an appeal hearing); both parties shall be provided the opportunity to present witnesses and other evidence; both parties will be afforded similar and timely access to any information that will be used in the proceeding; both parties shall have the same opportunities to have an advisor present during a disciplinary proceeding; both parties shall be informed of the final determination of the proceeding in writing, as well as informed of any sanctions imposed against the charged student, and any options to appeal the determination of responsibility. Disciplinary action at the University may proceed while criminal or civil proceedings are pending and will not be subject to challenge on the grounds that criminal charges involving the same incident have been dismissed or reduced, that no criminal charges have been brought, or that any civil action has been dismissed. Sanctions may be administered independent of any pending civil or criminal action or settlement reached. The full range of disciplinary sanctions, including expulsion from the University, may be considered, depending on the nature and severity of the offense. Both parties have the right to appeal against the decision of the disciplinary conference according to the appeal process described in the Code of Student Conduct (sections 18-23).

Options and Confidentiality

As a community of scholars and students who aim to foster a genuine love and concern for one another, the University believes that members of the community should not bear the pain and effects of sexual violence on their own. The University encourages victims of sexual violence to seek out those who can help them and offer support. The University also encourages students to report allegations of sexual assault and sexual violence to the University, so that it can take prompt and effective steps to end the violence, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects.

Reports to University Employees

The University acknowledges that sexual violence cases require extreme sensitivity and the exercise of discretion and will make reasonable efforts to preserve an individual's privacy and protect the confidentiality of information. All Ave Maria University students and employees are strongly encouraged to report information about an incident of sexual harassment or sexual violence to the University's Title IX Coordinator. Under Federal law, certain University employees are deemed to be "responsible employees." These employees are required by law to report information (including personal details) to the Title IX Coordinator and other University authorities for investigation and follow-up. The following employees are deemed to be "responsible employees":

- President's Office Staff
- Vice Presidents
- Department Directors
- Athletic Department Staff, including all coaches.
- Student Affairs Staff, including RDs and RAs
- Campus Security Staff
- Admissions Staff
- Financial Aid, Registrar, and Student Support Services Staff
- Human Resources Staff

These University employees are directed to make every effort – before a student reveals information that he or she may wish to keep confidential – to ensure that the student understands that the employee has certain reporting obligations (i.e., to report the names of the alleged perpetrator and the student involved in the alleged violence, as well as relevant facts regarding the alleged incident including the date, time and location, to the Title IX coordinator or other appropriate University officials). These University employees are also directed to refer students to counselors, health care providers, clergy, and others who can maintain confidentiality.

If student wants to tell a university employee what happened but also wants to maintain confidentiality over the details of the incident, the employee should tell the student that

the University will consider the request, but because of its obligation to protect the campus community by trying to end the sexual violence and prevent its recurrence, cannot guarantee that the University will be able to honor the request. The University's Title IX Coordinator is responsible for evaluating these requests for confidentiality. Further, the student should be aware that honoring the request for confidentiality may limit the University's ability to respond fully to the incident.

Reports to Local Law Enforcement

Students may, at any time, make a report of an incident of sexual violence to the appropriate law enforcement agency. For sexual violence that is also criminal behavior alleged to have occurred on campus or in the town of Ave Maria, the Collier County Sheriff's Office (911, 8-911 from a campus phone, or 239-252-9300) is the appropriate law enforcement agency. Students pursuing this option should understand that the law enforcement agency may conduct an investigation that would not allow for the details of the incident to remain confidential.

Discuss with a Privileged and/or Confidential Resource Person

Students may report an incident of sexual violence to certain professionals who may maintain confidentiality. Medical care providers, licensed counselors, and pastoral counselors are not required to report any information about an incident of sexual violence to the University without the student's permission. If a student would like the details of an incident to remain confidential, the student should speak with one of the following persons:

- the University Counseling Services
- a health care provider
- a staff member at an off-campus rape crisis center (such as Project HELP: 239-262-7227)
- priests within Campus Ministry (239-280-2518)

At Ave Maria, professional licensed counselors and priests helping members of the University community are not required to report any information about an incident to the University or to the University's Title IX coordinator.

Some Ways the University Tries to Prevent Sexual Violence

The University's sexual violence prevention efforts are coordinated through the Office of Student Affairs. Through collaborative efforts with other University departments and outside agencies, Student Affairs works to prevent sexual violence through orientation sessions, education, awareness, the promotion of a caring community, and skill building. Programs include educational seminars, advocacy and volunteer opportunities, resource and referral information, and Love Week. Love Week is held every February and is a celebration of the fundamental desire of man to love and be loved, a chance for

a reality check to see how well we are living the commandment, Love God above all else, and your neighbor as yourself.

Love Week is a week of varied programs to study the practical implications of the ideal of Love. Participants enter a dialogue about the different ways love is manifested. The times and our culture present challenges, and the programming looks at the types of love and how each plays a different role in students' lives.

Notes

Nothing in this policy should be construed as curtailing, limiting, abridging, or in any way modifying the rights of students, faculty or staff to engage in legitimate academic inquiry or to express themselves in accordance with rights guaranteed under federal, state or local law, or otherwise provided by university policy.

Students with questions about Title IX may contact the Federal Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights:

U.S. Department of Education - Office for Civil Rights
Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-1100
Telephone: 800-421-3481; TDD: 800-877-8339; Email: OCR@ed.gov

Reporting Criminal Incidents and Other Emergencies

All students, employees, and visitors are encouraged to promptly report crimes in progress, accidents, and other emergencies to 911 in matters of life safety, or AMU Safety and Security by calling 239-280-6289. Individuals may also report incidents that are no longer in progress in person at the department's office at the Student Union building at 5236 Clancy Street.

The University has installed emergency two-way call boxes (Blue Light Phones) throughout campus for use during emergencies. Pressing the red button on the station places a 911 call to the Collier County Emergency Dispatch office. From this point, a Collier County Sheriff's Deputy will assess the situation and determine what kind of aid should be sent to the area. Although these lights are placed around for the convenience of the students and faculty, they are not to be tampered with and should be used only in only emergency situations.

Missing Residential Student Policy

Ave Maria University takes student safety seriously. The following policy and procedure have been developed to assist locating Ave Maria University student(s) living in

university-owned, on-campus residence halls, who have been determined to be missing based upon the facts and circumstances of the university.

Most missing person reports are a result of a student changing his/her routine without informing their roommates and/or friends. Anyone who believes a student to be missing should report their concern to University Officials (either a member of the Residence Life staff or a member of university security). Every report made will be followed up with an investigation once the student has been missing for 24 hours. Depending on the circumstances, parents may be notified.

At the beginning of the academic year, residential students will be asked to provide, on a voluntary basis, emergency contact information if the student is reported missing while enrolled at Ave Maria University.

Timely Warnings/Campus Safety Act

The Department of Campus Safety and Security on the Ave Maria Campus, in consultation with the Vice President of Student Affairs or his/her designee, is responsible for issuing timely warnings in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f) et seq. Jeanne Clery Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1092. The Department of Security will continuously work and coordinate with local law enforcement.

Anyone with information warranting a timely warning should report the circumstances to the Department of Campus Safety and Security. The decision to issue a timely warning shall be decided on a case-by-case basis in compliance with the Clery Act and will consider all available facts. The timing of the notification shall be based upon whether the crime is considered a serious or continuing threat to students or employees and if it could possibly compromise the efforts of law enforcement.

Procedure: When a determination has been made that a timely warning should be issued, the Department of Campus Safety and Security will inform the campus community by taking one or more appropriate steps to ensure timely notification:

- Issuing a campus-wide email of the timely notice printing written warnings.
- Distributing warning fliers around the campus.
- Posting the warning on the Safety and Security website.
- Issue a mass notification through mass notification.

Such warning(s) may include, but are not limited to, the following information: Type of crime, date, time occurred, location and any suspect information.

The department may not issue crime alerts for crimes if:

- The department apprehends the subject(s) and the threat of imminent danger for members of the AMU community has been mitigated by the apprehension.
- If a report was not filed with AMU Department of Campus Safety and Security or if the department was not notified by campus officials in a manner that would allow the department to post a "Timely Warning" for the community. A general guideline will include a report that is filed more than five days after the date of the alleged incident which may not allow AMU Security to post a "Timely Warning" to the community. This type of situation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- If the report was filed within a medical, legal or pastoral/counselor privileged relationship that is exempt from reporting to the AMU Department of Campus Safety and Security.

The department also maintains a daily crime log, which is normally updated every two days and contains all crimes reported to Campus Safety and Security.

Residence Hall Safety

The Residence Life staff and the Department of Campus Safety and Security work in partnership to provide residents with a number of safety measures. These resources include ongoing educational programs, safety-related policies, educational sanctions for violations of policies, and staff assistance in dealing with security problems and emergencies.

The Residence Life Staff gives a high priority to the security needs of the residents. Resident Assistants receive training in crisis management, in dealing with critical incidents, and in monitoring facilities. The Residence staff makes routine checks of floors and buildings. Security concerns are reported to the appropriate people, i.e., Campus Safety and Security, or the Residence Life Staff.

Residents are the most important aspect of the cooperative effort to provide a safe and secure community. Residents are encouraged to be aware, be vigilant, and keep doors always locked. Remember, the safety and security of the housing community is everyone's responsibility.

Campus Alcohol Policy

Ave Maria University prohibits the unlawful use, possession, or distribution of alcohol. This includes the possession of containers that previously contained alcoholic beverages by persons less than 21 years of age, and common source containers, whether full or empty of alcohol such as kegs, beer balls or boxed wine. In keeping with State and Federal laws, the consumption or possession of alcohol by persons under 21

years of age is strictly prohibited. University policy prohibits the consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons 21 years of age or older in any public area on campus, including common spaces within the residence halls, unless approved by the RD on-call or at an official university-approved event. The University also prohibits intoxication by any person, regardless of age, and prohibits the sale, distribution, provision, or any attempt to sell, distribute, or provide alcoholic beverages to and/or by anyone under 21 years of age.

Substance Policy

Ave Maria University prohibits the unlawful possession, use, sale, and distribution of illicit drugs/drug paraphernalia by students on or off-campus, in accordance with Federal and State law. All members of the University community are expected to abide by state and federal laws, conduct themselves in a manner reflecting credit on themselves and the University, and to share responsibility for the functioning of this policy.

Controlled substances broadly include narcotics, stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, and performance-enhancing substances deemed illegal to possess without a doctor's prescription by federal or state statutes. In accordance with federal law, the University does not permit the possession, use, or distribution of marijuana. As such, any students in possession of medical marijuana prescriptions are not permitted to use or possess marijuana on university property.

Failure to follow the drug and controlled substance policies on or off-campus will result in disciplinary action by Ave Maria University. Violations of this policy are serious in nature and any sanctions given will reflect the severity of the violation. Any attempt, intent, or conspiracy to violate this policy may be considered as a violation and handled by the disciplinary process accordingly.

Weapon Policy

Ave Maria University prohibits the possession or use of firearms, deadly weapons, airsoft guns, explosive devices, fireworks, nunchakus, metal/brass knuckles, billy-clubs, and knives prohibited by state and federal law, except as required in the lawful course of business or authorized in writing by the Director of Campus Safety and Security. Weapons found on school property may be confiscated. Additionally, the State of Florida prohibits the possession of concealed weapons in any dormitory or classroom building of the University. Violators of this policy are subject to penalties under any applicable state and federal laws as well as sanctions from the University. A copy of the AMU Weapons Policy may be found in the Student Handbook:
<https://www.avemaria.edu/student-handbook-policies/>.

“Weapon” means any object or substance designed to inflict a wound, cause injury, incapacitate, intimidate, or create a reasonable fear of harm. This includes, but is not limited to all firearms, including air rifles and pellet guns; bow and arrows; ammunition; switchblade knives; and knives with blades four or more inches in length; martial arts weapons; brass knuckles; explosives; and dangerous chemicals or poisons that are possessed with the intent to injure another or to cause damage to property.

Persons with knowledge or information of conduct which may constitute a violation of this policy are urged to contact either the Department of Campus Safety and Security or the Office of Student Life. Questions regarding this policy should be directed to the Director of Campus Safety and Security at 239-280-2401.

Safety Protocol

Emergencies on campus should be reported directly to emergency services at 911. After contacting 911, Campus Safety and Security should be notified to coordinate the arrival of emergency services and for documentation purposes. The Patrol Officer may be reached at 239-280-6289. The Office of Student Affairs is responsible for organizing and fully informing residents about emergency and safety procedures, including fire drills, hurricane response, tornado response, flooding, etc.

Medical Emergencies

In case of a medical emergency on campus, call 911 and notify your Residence Assistant, Residence Director, or Patrol Officer. After contacting Emergency Medical Services (EMS), immediately contact Campus Safety and Security at 239-280-6289. Emergency Medical personnel will make the determination to transport them to a medical facility, if necessary. It is the student’s responsibility for any and all insurance documentation.

Non-Emergencies

Non-emergencies on campus can be resolved by calling or messaging the Campus Patrol Officer at 239-280-6289. This person can answer questions or concerns related to security, wildlife, or building access. All emergencies should be reported to 911.

Campus Safety Equipment

Tampering with fire safety equipment is against the law and a serious violation of AMU policy. Tampering with fire and safety equipment is strictly prohibited, and these items may only be used in case of an emergency. This includes, but is not limited to, Automatic External Defibrillators, fire alarm pull stations, fire extinguishers, and mechanisms to secure doors.

Armed Subjects

1. If you witness any armed individual on campus at any time or if an individual is acting in a hostile or belligerent manner, immediately contact the Collier County Sheriff's Office at "911," they will dispatch the appropriate response and notify University Security.
2. If the armed subject is outside the building: turn off all the lights and close and lock all windows and doors. If you can do so safely, get all students on the floor and out of the line of fire. Move to a core area of the building, if safe to do so, and remain there until an "all clear" instruction is given by an authorized, known voice. If the staff or students do not recognize who is giving instruction, they should not change their status. Unknown or unfamiliar voices may be misleading and designed to give false assurances.
3. If the armed subject is inside the building:
 - a) If it is possible to flee the area safely and avoid danger, do so. Contact the Collier County Sheriff's Office at "911" with your location if possible.
 - b) If flight is impossible, lock all doors and secure yourself in your space.
 - c) Get down on the floor or under a desk and remain silent.
 - d) Get students on the floor and out of the line of fire.
 - e) Wait for the "all clear" instruction from Collier County Sheriff's Deputies.
4. If the armed subject comes into your class or office: use whatever objects you can to fight the subject. This should be a last resort only when there is an imminent danger to someone's life.
5. There is no one procedure the authorities can recommend in this situation; it will depend on one's proximity to a threat.
6. Attempt to get word out to other staff, if possible, and the Collier County Sheriff's Office at "911" if that seems practical.
7. Use common sense. If hiding or fleeing is impossible, you may choose to fight as a last resort against the individual.
8. Attempting to overcome the armed subject with force is a last resort that should only be initiated in the direst circumstances when there is an imminent danger of loss of life.
9. There may be more than one active armed subject.
10. Wait for the "all clear" instruction.
11. Be careful not to make any changes to the scene of the incident since law enforcement authorities will investigate the area later.
12. In case you must flee, do not go to the normal gathering site for your building.
13. Get as far away from the shooting scene as possible and then contact authorities.

Safety Protocol: Disruptive Individuals

1. Who is a disruptive individual?

- a) An individual who makes threats of physical harm to you, others, or themselves.
- b) If an individual has a weapon, call the Collier County Sheriff's Office at "911."
- c) An individual who behaves in a bizarre manner or exhibits unstable behavior patterns.
- d) An individual who appears to be intoxicated or under the influence of a controlled substance.

2. What Action should I take?

- a) Contact Campus Safety and Security at 239-280-6289.
- b) Give your name and campus location with a brief explanation of the situation.
- c) Take note of the individual's age, personal appearance, clothing, vehicle, or any other information that would help identify the individual.

3. Express your authority with non-verbal cues:

- a) Sit or stand erect.
- b) Square your shoulders.
- c) Smile and make eye contact.
- d) Speak clearly and distinctly.
- e) Maintain a constant voice volume - not too loud.

4. Cues to avoid:

- a) Do not touch your face.
- b) Observe the individual's personal space - do not stand too close.
- c) Do not touch the person.
- d) Do not slouch, glare, or sigh at the individual.

5. Anger management tactics:

- a) Get their attention: Use their name, ask them to sit down.
- b) Acknowledge their feelings: Paraphrase what they say so they will know you are listening.
- c) Get them moving: Offer a chair, move them to a private area if possible.
- d) Offer assistance: Use the word "we" to include them in the solution process.
- e) Tell them exactly what you can do for them and when.
- f) Offer an alternative if appropriate.
- g) Advise co-workers of the potential problem if possible.
- h) Call for aid immediately if you sense the situation is getting out of hand.

Information Regarding Registered Sexual Offenders

The "Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act" is a federal law enacted on October 28, 2000, that provides for the tracking of convicted, registered sex offenders enrolled as students at institutions of higher education or working or volunteering on campus.

This act amends the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 to clarify that nothing in that Act may be construed to prohibit an educational institution from disclosing information provided to the institution concerning registered sex offenders and requires the Secretary of Education to take appropriate steps to notify educational institutions that disclosure of this information is permitted. The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) is the official Florida internet source for Sex Offender Registration information. The Sex Offender Registration open record information is extracted from the FDLE Sex Offender Registration Database. The FDLE 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 FDLE public web page can be found at: <http://pas.fdle.state.fl.us>.

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

Collier County Sheriff's Office – 239-774-4434 or at:
<http://www.colliersheriff.org/Index.aspx?page=1956>

Campus Reports

Annual security reports are available at any time in the Office of the University Security in the Bob Thomas Student Union.

The Department of Campus Safety and Security gathers and compiles Ave Maria University's crime statistics. In addition to the crimes reported to Campus Safety, the director also solicits information from the Office of Residence Life. Crime statistics in this report from off-campus venues and adjacent streets were compiled in collaboration with the Department of Campus Safety and Security, Ave Maria Student Affairs, and the Collier County Sheriff's Office. These crime statistics are substantiated by Campus Safety and Security in collaboration with the Vice President of Student Affairs, and the Collier County Sheriff's Office. It should be noted that the Campus Security Act was amended in 1998. Any marked increase across years or in the revised statistics from previous years can be accounted for by the fact that the geographic boundaries for reporting were greatly expanded in 1998, and reporting of drug, alcohol, and weapons violations was also broadened to include not only arrests but also disciplinary referrals.

Off-Campus Organizations

The Ave Maria University at Ave Maria has no recognized off-campus organizations with off-campus housing facilities.

Crime Definitions

Murder: The willful (non-negligent) killing of a human being by another.

Manslaughter: The killing of another person through gross negligence.

Sex Offenses (Force):

1. Any sexual act against another person without the other person's consent. (Includes attempts) Sexual intercourse with another person without the other person's consent.
2. Sodomy with another person without the other person's consent.
3. Oral copulation (vaginal, anal) with another person without the other person's consent.
4. Rape with a foreign object (vaginal, anal) of another person without the other person's consent.
5. Sexual battery is the touching of the intimate parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the other person's consent.

Sex Offenses (No force):

Any unlawful, but consensual, sex act with another person (includes attempts).

1. Incest—consensual sexual intercourse between persons who are related to one another within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited.
2. Unlawful sexual intercourse, (statutory rape)—consensual intercourse with a person who is under the age of consent.

Robbery: The taking of personal property in the possession of another, from his/her immediate presence, and against his/her will, accomplished by means of force or fear.

Aggravated Assault: An unlawful assault upon the person of another with a firearm, deadly weapon, object, instrument, or by any means or use of force likely to produce great bodily harm (includes attempts, whether or not an injury occurred).

Simple Assault: An unlawful assault upon the person of another where no weapon was used and which did not result in a serious or aggravated injury to the victim (includes attempts, whether or not an injury occurred).

Burglary: The unlawful entry into a defined structure with the intent to commit a theft or any felony.

Vehicle Theft: The taking of a vehicle (as defined) without the consent of the owner with the intent to either permanently or temporarily deprive the owner of title or possession of the vehicle.

Arson: The willful and malicious setting of a fire to burn or who burns or causes to be burned or who aids, counsels, or procures the burning of any structure, forest land or property.

Narcotics/Drug Offenses: The unlawful possession, sale, use, transportation, cultivation, manufacturing or maintaining an unlawful place (does not include driving while under the influence, and/or being under the influence of narcotic/illegal drugs).

Dating Violence: The term “dating violence” means violence committed by a person:

- a) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and
- b) where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
 - i. The length of the relationship.
 - ii. The type of relationship.
 - iii. The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Domestic Violence: The term “domestic violence” includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse 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, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, 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.

Stalking: The term “stalking” means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

- a) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or
- b) suffer substantial emotional distress.

Alcohol Offenses: The unlawful possession, sale, transportation, manufacturing, furnishing alcohol to a minor (under 21 years), or maintaining an unlawful drinking place. (Does not include public drunkenness or driving while under the influence.)

Weapon Offenses: With certain exceptions, the possession or control of any firearm, deadly weapon, illegal knife, or explosive device while on this property. Our residential policy prohibits the possession or control of any fireworks, Pellet or BB guns, switch blade knives, nunchakus, billy clubs or any other deadly weapon.

Hate Crimes: A criminal act motivated by bias against any person or group of or the property of any person or group of persons because of the ethnicity, race, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability of the person or group, or bias based upon the perception that the person or group has one or more of those characteristics.

Note: Definitions are defined by the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Reporting Program

Hazing:

Defined as any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person(s) regardless of the willingness of such other person(s) to participate, that:

- Is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and
- Causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation at Ave Maria University or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participating in an athletic team), or physical or psychological injury including:
 - Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body, or similar activity;
 - Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;
 - Causing, coercing or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
 - Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;
 - Any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
 - Any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law; and
 - Any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal Law.
- A "student organization" is defined as an organization at Ave Maria University (such as a club, society, association, varsity or junior varsity athletic team, club sports team, fraternity, sorority, band, or student government) in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at Ave Maria University, whether or not the organization is established or recognized by Ave Maria University.
- Hazing is prohibited by state law as reflected in Florida Statute 1006.63 et seq. For purposes of 2.b.vi and 2.b.vii above, Florida State law prohibits

“hazing”, which is defined as any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for purposes including, but not limited to: (a) initiation into any organization operating under the sanction of Ave Maria University; (b) admission into any organization operating under the sanction of Ave Maria University; (c) affiliation with any organization operating under the sanction of Ave Maria University; or (d) the perpetuation or furtherance of a tradition or ritual of any organization operating under the sanction of Ave Maria University. Under State law, “hazing” includes, but is not limited to, pressuring or coercing a student into violating state or federal law; any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance, or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of a student; or any activity that would subject a student to extreme mental stress, such as sleep deprivation, forced exclusion from social contact, forced conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment, or other forced activity that could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the student.

- A person commits hazing under State law when he or she intentionally or recklessly commits, solicits a person to commit, or is actively involved in the planning of any act of hazing upon another person who is a member or former member of, or an applicant to, any type of student organization and the hazing (1) creates a substantial risk of physical injury or death; or (2) results in permanent injury, serious bodily injury, or death.
- Allegations of hazing should be made in writing or via email to the Dean of Students and shall be investigated by the Department of Security under the direction of the Dean of Students. Allegations of hazing shall be adjudicated in a manner consistent with the Student Code of Conduct disciplinary process.
- The Dean of Students is responsible for providing information to all students at the commencement of each new school year relating to the university’s primary hazing prevention strategies to stop hazing before it occurs, develop skill-building for bystander intervention, encourage ethical leadership and promote the building of group cohesion without hazing.

Conclusion

The Department of Campus Safety and Security is committed to working with the community to resolve all criminal matters in a timely fashion. All members of the Department know that for this to happen they must cooperate and work hand-in-hand with faculty, staff, and students at Ave Maria University. By working together, the Department of Campus Safety and Security and the University community can create a safe and secure environment.

Ave Maria University Clery Act Criminal Statistics for 2022, 2023 and 2024

	On Campus			Residential Facilities for Students on Campus			Non-campus Buildings			On Public Property		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Criminal Homicide total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault (Sex Offenses) total	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Sex Offenses (includes rape)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nonforcible Sex Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burgulary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	3	3	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrest total	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Violations	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons Possession	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referral total	46	57	50	43	37	23	0	0	0	0	0	1
Liquor Law Violations	45	52	45	42	35	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Violations	1	4	4	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons Possession	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Domestic Violence	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny-Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Simple Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intimidation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*note: any incident occurring in 'Residential Facilities for Students on Campus' will also appear as an incident 'On Campus'