

# Georgia Christian University Security & Fire Safety Report 2016



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Dear GCU Family,

This 2016 Annual Security Report is designed to provide you with important information about your safety and security on the Georgia Christian University campus. Georgia Christian University is a safe campus due in part to the combined efforts of students, faculty, staff and visitors.

This 2016 Annual Report includes statistics for the most recent three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on-campus and on public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. The report includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as policies concerning sexual assault, and other matters.

You can obtain a copy of this report by contacting Georgia Christian University Department of Student Affairs or pick up a copy of report in the Academic Office. If at any time you have questions or would like further information about safety and security at Georgia Christian University, please feel free to contact us. Contact information may be found in *Safety and Emergency Contact Information* on page 11 of this report.

### **The Campus Security Act** *(also known as the Clery Act)*

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) is a federal law which requires colleges and universities to publish an annual security report containing campus security policies and procedure, as

well as crime statistics. The Clery Act was enacted in 1990, and amended in 1992, 1998, 2000, 2008, 2013, and most recently in 2015. The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) 2008 requires colleges and universities to publish an annual fire safety report on student housing containing information with respect to the campus fire safety practices and standards of the institution.

The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA), enacted March 7, 2013, amended section 485(f) of the Higher Education Act. The Clery Act requires colleges and universities to compile statistics for incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and include certain policies, procedures, and programs pertaining to these incidents in their annual security reports.

All statistics in this Annual Security Report are presented and updated in compliance with all amendments to the act. The Clery Act-mandated Annual Security Act requires colleges and universities to:

- Publish an annual report every year by October 1 which contains the most recent three years of campus crime statistics and certain campus security policy statements around our campus areas.
- Publish crime statistics for the campus, public areas immediately adjacent to or running through the campus, and certain non-campus facilities and remote classrooms. (The statistics are gathered from local law enforcement and from University officials who have “significant responsibility for student and campus activities.”)
- Publish “timely warning” notices where a crime has occurred on or near campus that, in the judgment of DPS, constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat to members of the University community.

- Disseminate policies describing the protections, resources, and services available to victims to help them safely continue their education.
- Ensure that the Annual Security Report is available to all of our students, faculty, and staff.
- GCU works with other administrative departments and law enforcement agencies — such as the DeKalb County Police Department ensure safety within the campus. We encourage all the members of the University student, faculty and staffs to use this report as a guide for safe practices on and off campus.

## Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

Below are the definitions of those crimes related with VAWA as described by the US Department of Justice:

- **Domestic violence** can be defined as a pattern of abusive behavior that is used by an intimate partner to gain or maintain power and control over the other intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound someone.
- **Sexual assault** can be defined as any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs by force or without consent of the recipient of the unwanted sexual activity. Falling under the definition of sexual assault is sexual activity such as forced sexual intercourse, sodomy, child molestation, incest, fondling, and attempted rape. It includes sexual acts against people who are unable to consent either due to age or lack of capacity.

- **Dating violence** is defined as violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:
  - ✓ The length of the relationship
  - ✓ The type of relationship
  - ✓ The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship
- **Stalking** can be defined as a pattern of repeated and unwanted attention, harassment, contact, or any other course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear

## Georgia Christian University Campus Safety Awareness Program

As part of our ongoing commitment to campus safety, and in compliance with the final published regulations set forth in the Clery Act (amended July 2015), GCU provides a Campus Safety Awareness program to all students, faculty, and staff. The program consists of a presentation to all members of the GCU community during Student orientation at the beginning of each semester, and repeated as circumstances warrant. The presentation is enhanced by posters and brochures with safety information, rules, and contact information, which are posted and available at all times in the lobby, library, and cafeteria. The program includes a description and explanation of GCU's campus safety policies; contact information for Campus Security, local police, GBI, and FBI; and detailed definitions of terms related to criminal activity that may occur on a university campus. A copy of the brochure is attached to this report. Detailed information regarding changes to the Clery Act, definitions of relevant terms,

and a full explanation of policies and procedures regarding campus safety may be found on the GCU website and in the latest edition of the GCU Catalog.

Students, faculty, and staff of GCU can be confident that the University takes a strong stand against campus crime, and will do everything in its power to ensure all members of the GCU family feel safe and ARE safe on campus.

### **Crime reporting procedures at GCU**

All students, employees of and visitors to Georgia Christian University are encouraged to be alert and aware, and to promptly report criminal incidents, accidents and other emergencies to the Public Safety Department at Georgia Christian University (678-761-0937), or by dialing 911 from a non-campus phone. Individuals dialing 911 from a cell phone or non-campus phone may be put in contact with the local police. Individuals also may report incidents in person at the office of campus Safety and Security on the GCU campus, or at local Doraville or DeKalb County police offices (see *Contacts*, pg. 11).

### **Confidential reporting of crime and other serious incidents**

Georgia Christian University has two methods for reporting crimes and other serious incidents, in complete confidentiality:

- ① **Safety Department:** Individuals can provide information confidentially by contacting the Public Safety Department at (770) 220-7929 or (770) 279-0507, or

- ② **Confidential email.** Individuals can send an email to [publicsafety@gcuniv.edu](mailto:publicsafety@gcuniv.edu)

No details of the reporting individual's identity will be release publicly.

### **Crime Prevention Tips**

Crime prevention is a community effort. Georgia Christian University's Public Safety Department works hard to do its part in preventing crime, however, it is also the responsibility of students, faculty, and staff to educate and empower themselves in the fight against crime. At the beginning of their studies at the University, students receive information regarding security and safety issues on campus. These prevention tips are provided to help you take a more active step in making GCU safe for everyone.

#### **ROBBERY**

Robbery is the attempt to obtain money or property by the use of force or the threat of force. Because of the potential for personal injury during a robbery, do not try to be a hero. Hand over your property quickly and quietly. If possible, observe the criminal and make mental notes of the number of thieves present, as well as their appearance, clothing, voice, nicknames used, personal items, identifying marks, peculiarities and weapons. Call the police immediately upon reaching a place of safety. These precautions can help you reduce your chances of becoming a robbery victim:

- Walk confidently with your head up, and do not let your mind wander
- Pay attention to those passing you and behind you
- Do not take short cuts through unlit, sparsely travelled paths, tunnels or alleys
- Do not wear a lot of flashy jewelry and carry as little cash as possible

- Weapons are not allowed on campus, but if you carry a weapon off campus, there is a possibility it could be used against you
- Park in well-lighted, well-traveled lots

### THEFTS FROM VEHICLES

You can prevent many car break-ins by thinking ahead and following these suggestions:

- Secure or remove all valuables from view, including items such as handbags, cell phones, loose change, clothing, textbooks, book bags, CDs, or even umbrellas
- Never leave personal identification documents or credit cards in your vehicle
- Park only in areas that are well-lit, or in attended parking lots or garages. Parking in secluded or dimly lit areas makes your car an easy target
- Always remove the keys from your vehicle, lock all doors and roll up all windows, even if your stop is brief

### SEXUAL ASSAULT

The term “sexual assault” refers to rape, sexual intercourse against your will or any other unwanted physical contact of a sexual nature. Sexual assault can happen anywhere, and the assailant may be someone you know well or not at all. It is important that you educate yourself on what constitutes a sexual offense or assault as well as ways to avoid becoming a victim.

### AVOIDING SEXUAL ASSAULT

Be cautious, and look for behavior that does not seem right — for example, inappropriate touching or remarks; someone sitting or standing too close or who blocks your way or grabs or pushes you; someone who gives you “power stares” — looking through you or down at you

- Avoid situations in which you feel uncomfortable, such as going into an empty house, apartment, building or parking lot

- Travel in groups
- Don’t broadcast that you might be walking home alone
- Try to stay on main roads; avoid shortcuts through wooded areas, parking lots and alleys
- Walk facing traffic
- Walk with confidence and be aware of your surroundings
- Have your keys ready before you reach your car or residence door; check both inside and outside the car before getting in
- Carry a whistle or a personal alarm
- Enroll in a self-defense class
- In dating situations, get to know a person really well before you is alone with that person. Be assertive and speak forcefully when someone exhibits inappropriate behavior toward you. Act immediately with some kind of negative response. Your best defense is clear thinking!

### REPORTING SEXUAL ASSAULT

If you are assaulted, the shock of the assault may make it difficult for you to think clearly or move quickly, but if or when you are able to flee your assailant, get to a safe place and call the local Police or GCU Public Safety Department as soon as possible. Also, contact a friend or a family member; it is important to seek the support and comfort of people you trust. All incidents should be reported to the Dean of Student Affairs when the perpetrator is a student, or to the Public Safety Department if the perpetrator is a University employee. In the case of a sexual assault, the victim’s medical and emotional needs are given first priority.

Try to remember your assailant’s description, direction of escape and the type of any vehicle used. The Grady Hospital Crisis Center Hotline is 404-616-4861.

### POST REPORT PROCEDURES

The victim of an alleged sexual assault should take care to preserve any evidence that may be necessary to prove the

occurrence of the alleged criminal assault. In this respect, after an alleged assault has occurred, victims are advised to consult law enforcement authorities before showering/bathing or changing or laundering any clothing that was worn during the assault.

In order to accommodate the victim of a sex offense, GCU may provide for certain changes in the victim's academic as well as impose any interim restrictions on students pending resolution of sexual misconduct allegations. After an alleged sex offense, with respect to the alleged victim's academic schedule, the University may permit the victim to withdraw from courses, grant an incomplete in a course with arrangements to complete the coursework at a later time; and with the consent of the course instructor, rearrange coursework deadlines and exam times, or other reasonably available changes.

For more information of disciplinary and/or remedial actions, visit the Atlanta Women's Center at <http://www.atlantawomensmedicalcenter.com/>

#### SEX OFFENDERS

Convicted sex offenders are required by law to register their names and addresses with the Georgia Department of Corrections. You may obtain information on individuals registered as sex offenders by visiting the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Sex Offender Registry website at <http://gbi.georgia.gov>.

#### GCU SECURITY POLICY

Georgia Christian University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, physical disability, learning disability, political affiliation, or

veteran status. Possession, use, and/or distribution of alcohol and illegal drugs is strictly prohibited on GCU's property. GCU's full-time, part-time and temporary faculty, staff, and students are hereby notified that this policy will apply to all activities conducted on University-owned property. This Policy is distributed annually to all GCU faculty, staff, and students. The University expects that individuals and organizations will take responsibility for complying with the Policy as outlined.

\* You can obtain a copy of the GCU Campus Safety and Security Policy and the GCU Drug and Alcohol Prevention Policy are at [www.gcuiniv.edu](http://www.gcuiniv.edu)

#### A. ALCOHOL POLICY

Georgia Christian University abides by and enforces all state and local laws, regulations and ordinances regarding the possession, consumption, sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages. The legal drinking age in Georgia is 21 years of age. Any student or employee under the age of 21 who purchases or knowingly possesses an alcoholic beverage is in violation of state law and University policy. Similarly any person who furnishes an alcoholic beverage to a person under 21 years of age is also in violation. Alcohol is not permitted on campus, and GCU strictly prohibits the consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus.

#### B. ILLEGAL DRUG POLICY

The unlawful manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing or use of a controlled substance is strictly prohibited at Georgia Christian University. Any students, staff, faculty or other members of Georgia Christian University who manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess or use controlled substances may be referred for prosecution according to state and or federal law. As a recipient of federal grants and contracts, GCU adheres to the

provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (as amended) and any applicable regulations issued pursuant thereto. Any person who violates the *Georgia Controlled Substances Act*, or any federal law or local ordinance concerning controlled substances on GCU property is subject to arrest and criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary action through the University. Drug laws are strictly enforced on our campuses.

### **C. SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY**

The University shall proceed with disciplinary and/or remedial actions as needed when it appears that the University's prohibition against any form of sexual assault has been violated. A student charged with sexual assault may be disciplined well as prosecuted under Georgia's criminal statutes. Whether or not a criminal prosecution occurs, the University retains the right to proceed with disciplinary action at any time, and the University need not await the disposition of any criminal prosecution. GCU disciplinary action shall be handled in accordance with the Code of Conduct of Georgia Christian University. Under these proceedings, the accuser and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of any campus disciplinary proceeding brought alleging a sexual assault (the term "outcome" meaning only the University's "final determination with respect to the alleged sex offense and any sanction that it imposes against the accused"). In addition, under the Violence Against Women Act, 42 U.S.C. 13701, The GCU prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. GCU provides to a student or employee who reports having been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, whether on or off campus, an explanation of the student or employee's rights and options, including possible sanctions and the procedures to be followed (including the importance of preserving evidence.)

### **D. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRIES**

The following is a list of websites on which can be found information required by the federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act regarding registered sex offenders living in the City of Atlanta, Fulton, DeKalb and Newton Counties.

- CITY OF ATLANTA: <http://www.ganet.org/gbi/sorsch.cgi>  
This site is the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Sex Offender Registry, which lists registered sex offenders for all counties and cities in Georgia.
- FULTON COUNTY: <http://www.fultonsheriff.org>  
Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Sex Offender Registry, which lists registered sex offenders for all counties and cities in Georgia. A link to this web page is provided through the Fulton County Sheriff Department's web page at <http://services.georgia.gov/gbi/gbisor/SORSearch.jsp>
- DEKALB COUNTY: <http://www.ganet.org/gbi/sorsch.cgi>  
This site is the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Sex Offender Registry, which lists registered sex offenders for all counties and cities in Georgia.

### **Timely Warnings**

In the event of a situation which, in the judgment of the GCU Safety Department, constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat of a criminal nature to the campus community, a timely warning will be issued by the Public Safety Department for publication through the campus e-mail system. A timely warning includes a brief description of the incident and the suspect; the date, time, and location of the incident; and suggested precautions. The purpose of the timely warning is to aid in the prevention of similar occurrences. Events that qualify for timely warnings include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Homicide
- Manslaughter
- Sex Offenses
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- Burglary
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Arson
- Domestic Violence
- Dating Violence
- Stalking
- Hate Crimes
- Any crime considered to represent a continuing threat

**Students, faculty, and staff are reminded to check their GCU email regularly.**

## Emergency Response

GCU's emergency response to various human-caused and natural emergency situations (including fires, hazardous spills, earthquakes, flooding, explosion, acts of violence, and civil disorders) is tested by conducting an emergency response exercise each year. This exercise varies in format, but may include such events as a tabletop exercise, evacuation/shelter in place drill, or field exercise, and includes regular testing of the emergency notification systems on campus. These exercises are designed to assess and evaluate the emergency plans and capabilities of the university. Notification of upcoming emergency response exercises will be posted on the school bulletin board in front of the Chapel.

Upon confirmation of a serious or emergency situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of the GCU

community, a campus-wide notice will be disseminated, unless issuing a notification will, in the judgment of the responding authorities, compromise efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency. Typically the warning will be delivered throughout the entire campus that is affected.

In case of emergency please notify GCU's Public Safety Department or call 911.

## GCU Crime Statistics Reporting Tables

The statistic include crimes on campus and crime in adjacent public areas, are collected by the GCU Public Safety Department and are based on crimes reported directly to Public Safety and on information provided by local police precincts. The definition of each reportable crime is listed in detail on GCU's website and in the GCU Catalog.

OFFENSE	Year	On Campus Property	Public Property	Total
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Sex Offenses forcible	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0

Sex Offender, Non--forcible	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Robbery	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Burglary	2015	1	0	1
	2014	2	0	2
	2013	2	0	2
Motor Vehicle Theft	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Arson	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Illegal Weapon Possession Arrests	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Illegal Weapon Possession Disciplinary Referrals	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Drug Law Arrests	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Liquor Violations	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referrals Liquor Law Violations	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0

Larceny-Theft	2013	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
Simple Assault	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Intimidation	2015	1	0	1
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Destruction Damage/Vandalism of Property	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Stalking	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0

### Hate Crimes

The law requires the release of statistics by category of prejudice concerning the occurrence of hate crimes in the crime classifications listed in the preceding section and for other crimes involving bodily injury to any person in which the victim is

selected because of the actual or perceived race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, or disability of the victim.

Hate Crimes	Year	On Campus Property	Public Property	Total
Race	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Gender	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Religion	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Sexual Orientation	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Ethnicity/National Origin	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0
Disability	2015	0	0	0
	2014	0	0	0
	2013	0	0	0

## CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY

In the event of a fire, GCU expects that all campus community members will evacuate by the nearest exit, closing doors and activating the fire alarm system as they leave. Once safely

outside a building, it is appropriate to contact 911 and the Police. Students and/or staff will be informed by staff as to where to relocate if circumstances warrant. In the event fire alarms sound, University policy is that all occupants must evacuate from the building, closing doors as they leave. No training is provided to students or employees in firefighting or suppression activity as this is inherently dangerous and each community member's only duty is to exit safely and quickly, shutting doors along the exit path as they go to contain the spread of flames and smoke, and to activate the alarm as the exit. At no time should the closing of doors or the activation of the alarm delay the exit from the building.

### *Evacuation Tips*

- Never "investigate" the source of a potential fire by opening doors or lingering.
- If you hear an alarm, leave immediately. Close doors behind you as you go.
- Do not disable, cover or remove batteries from smoke detectors.
- If you have a disability, make sure you are included in the escape planning for your building.
- Move well away from the building to allow access for emergency responders.
- Don't hang anything from fire sprinkler pipes or heads. Keep 18 inches of clearance around sprinkler heads.
- Identify at least two escape routes from your building. The shortest distance out will be your first choice.
- Practice your escape routes.
- Learn the location of all building exits. You may have to find your way out in the dark.
- Do not re-enter the building for any reason. (Emergency personnel will let you know when it is safe to reenter)
- Walk -- do not run -- to the exits.

Phone 404-265-4000

Campus Safety procedures are detailed on the GCU website at <http://gcuniv.edu/campus/emergency.asp>

and in the GCU Student Handbook, available for download at <http://gcuniv.edu/students.asp>

**SAFETY AND EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION**

**FOR EMERGENCIES, CALL 911 FROM ANY PHONE**

**GCU Campus Safety and Security Office (Room 113)**

Director: Samuel Kim  
Security Officer: Jamal Wilson  
Phone 770-220-7929 or 770-279-0507  
Email: [publicsafety@gcuniv.edu](mailto:publicsafety@gcuniv.edu)

**Doraville Police Department**

3750 Park Avenue  
Doraville, GA  
30340  
Phone 770-455-1000

**DeKalb County Police Department**

1960 West Exchange Place,  
Tucker, GA  
30084  
Phone 770-724-7842

**Hospitals near GCU**

Saint Joseph's Hospital  
5667 Peachtree-Dunwoody Rd NE  
Atlanta, GA  
30342  
Phone 678-843-7001

**Atlanta Medical Center**

303 Parkway Dr NE  
Atlanta, GA  
30312