

Personal Safety Information for National Campus Safety Awareness Month

The safety of the Widener community is a vital concern across campus. The Campus Safety Department works diligently to ensure that our students, staff and faculty members are living and working in a safe and peaceful environment. Widener University expects the community to share in this responsibility.

As September is **National Campus Safety Awareness Month** (NCSAM), the Campus Safety Department is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy campus environment by offering the following useful safety tips to promote awareness.

Reporting Suspicious/Criminal Activity

The Campus Safety Department is located in the lobby of the ground floor of the Library and provides 24 hours, 7 days a week service and protection. Individuals are encouraged and expected to report any suspicious or criminal activities to the Campus Safety Department immediately by contacting 717-541-3948. Campus Safety Officers will be dispatched immediately to assist and evaluate the situation. Following the incident, officers will contact the necessary university and external authorities.

E2Campus

E2Campus is the emergency notification system that Widener University uses to send urgent news (timely warnings, emergency notifications, or class cancellations) directly to your cell phone or e-mail account. To sign up for this free service, visit <http://commonwealthlaw.widener.edu/current-students/campus-safety/> and click on the “Campus Alert” tab on the right side of the page.

Traveling in Groups/Escort Service

Remember to travel in groups of three or more, especially at night. Use only well-lit streets and walkways. If your instincts tell you something is wrong, use your phone and call for help. The Campus Safety Department also provides a walking escort service to all Widener community members. If you are alone, contact the Campus Safety Department to request this service.

Propped Doors and Windows

Never prop open a door to your dorm room, office or building. Propping open doors provides an opportunity for someone with criminal intent. Always secure your dormitory/office door, even if you are just going down the hall.

Access and thefts can occur quite easily through open first floor windows. If you see someone attempting to gain access through a window, report it. If you encounter a window that has been left open, close and lock it or contact Campus Safety.

Protect your property

Take time to safeguard your keys, wallets, purses, iPod's, cell phones, laptops, credit cards and other valuable items. Don't leave these items unattended in any open areas. Make sure that you keep a list of all your serial numbers for valuables in a safe place.

Solicitation

If someone approaches and solicits you for money, tell them thank you but no. Instead contact Campus Safety as soon as possible and inform them of the situation. Do not let solicitors into your dorm room or office. Many times criminals use this scam to get into your dorm or office to steal other items. You are putting yourself in danger if you allow them access.

Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Violence

One of the most significant risk factors for students is the use and abuse of alcohol and/or drugs. Students that engage in this risky behavior are more prone to incidents of student misconduct, violence, and criminal acts. If you notice any suspicious conditions, unsafe behavior, or criminal acts taking place contact Campus Safety immediately. If an incident occurs that you feel is confidential in nature, contact the Chief of Campus Safety or Dean of Students.