

# Eastern Department of Public Safety

In many ways, going to college is much like moving into a new community. You'll also want to know that your community is secure and safe. What are the crime statistics? Can you walk alone at night without fear? Who is there to help you? Many parents, as well as students and employees, are concerned about the safety of the college campus. Eastern Oklahoma State College strives at all times to create an environment as free as possible from any threats to safety or well-being.

Crime is a national problem. Fortunately, Eastern Oklahoma State College (EOSC) has not experienced a significant number of sexual assaults, assaults, burglary, and acts of criminal trespass. To help prevent such incidents, a competent residence life staff, a professionally trained Public Safety Police force, and the students and employees are responsible for a number of measures to ensure that they and their possessions are protected as completely as possible.

## ***About Eastern Oklahoma State College***

The College employs many people to keep the campus safe and secure. The departments of Public Safety, Physical Plant, Dean of Students, and Residence Life are responsible for security and safety policies governing the campus, including residence halls, apartments, and campus buildings as well as teaching about security and crime prevention.

EOSC offers safety and security education and awareness programs throughout the year. Information on college crime, safety policies and procedures, and drug and alcohol issues is distributed to the College community through flyers, bulletins, crime alerts, posters, brochures, the student news media, and employee newsletters. Programs include sexual assault awareness, alcohol abuse, personal safety, vehicle safety, fire safety, and preventing crime on campus.

## ***Campus Police***

Campus law enforcement is primarily the responsibility of EOSC Public Safety Department. Public Safety (Campus Police) officers provide patrol protection to the campus, parking lots, residence halls, and on-campus apartments. In addition, they promote fire safety and awareness by means of demonstrations, programming, and constant inspections.

The Department of Public Safety is made up of sworn campus police and non-sworn student assistants. Campus Police Officers are commissioned as peace officers **under** State of Oklahoma (Title 70, § 3311 and Title 74 section 360.18) and have full authority within the campus community. All incidents of criminal activity are investigated by competent trained officers. If necessary, assistance may be requested from the Wilburton Police Department, the Latimer County Sheriff's Department, or the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigations.

The Campus Police Office is located in the student union and is staffed full time in the evenings, 365 days a year. Students are employed to supplement the full-time staff. Their responsibilities include office and administrative support, campus patrolling, traffic and

parking control, and special events. The office handles all matters relating to the safety and security of the campus community, and offers a variety of services.

The Department of Public Safety provides a weekly incident log highlighting the nature, date, time, and general location of each incident reported. It is up to the individual person to request this information. The log is available Monday the following week.

Potential criminal actions and other emergencies on campus may be reported directly by any student, faculty member, or employee to Campus Police by dialing the campus police cell phone at 918-448-2365 or 911.

### ***Timely Notification***

Incidents affecting the safety and security of the entire campus community must be reported in a timely manner. When appropriate, the Coordinator and/or the Dean of Students Office will make a timely report to the campus community regarding the occurrence of crimes that are considered by the institution a threat to students and employees. The Dean of Students will decide when the issue is critical and will utilize the voice-mail, e-mail, or flyers by mail to deliver the information.

### ***Department of Physical Plant***

The Department of Physical Plant maintains the campus with a concern for safety and security. It regularly inspects campus facilities, promptly makes repairs affecting the safety and security of others, responds immediately to reports of potential safety hazards, and as soon as possible, to broken windows and locks and other door problems.

The campus is well lit. Further lighting improvements are planned to support parking lot expansion. Emergency (911) direct-line phones are strategically located throughout the main campus grounds.

The Physical Plant is responsible for OSHA, hazardous waste disposal, and "Right to Know" chemical safety programs.

### ***Residence Life***

EOSC has both single sex and optional co-ed residence halls. There are curfew hours and the main doors should be used to access the residence halls. All student rooms are equipped with conventional door and window locks. All staff members undergo training in enforcing residence hall security policies and participate in lectures and seminars associated with the safety and security of the campus. Campus Police and Residence Life team up to provide programming to meet the challenge of a Residential campus.

### ***Security Policies and Procedures***

Campus Police enforces laws regulating under age drinking, the use of controlled substances, weapons, and all other incidents requiring police assistance. They also are responsible for public safety services such as crime reports, medical emergencies, and traffic accidents.

EOSC recognizes that alcohol and other drug abuse are national problems, and the College actively pursues a program of education on those issues. EOSC believes that alcohol abuse and misuse conflict with the goals and purposes of a liberal arts education, and therefore supports a policy of responsible alcohol use. Illegal use of drugs is incompatible with the basic purposes of an institution of higher learning. Those who

indulge in such activity or encourage others to do so are jeopardizing both the mission of EOSC and their own right to participate in it.

The legal drinking age in Oklahoma is 21. The possession or use of any alcoholic beverages in violation of the statutes of the State of Oklahoma on EOSC property is forbidden. The violator is subject to disciplinary action by the College as well as the State. The College will not interfere with strict enforcement of the laws regarding drugs and their abuse or with the imposition of penalties upon those who may break the law. In addition, the College reserves the right to act upon cases of drug abuse through its own judicial procedures. It is the responsibility of resident hall personnel, campus police personnel, and the staff of the Dean of Students Office to enforce the College policies. It is the responsibility of every member of College Community to comply with these policies:

- Sexual Assault
- Campus Security Disclosures
- Educational Programming

EOSC has developed a comprehensive program of assault prevention education. The program includes both curricular and co-curricular dimensions, and includes components for faculty and staff as well as students. Each fall semester, all first-year students at EOSC must attend a session on sexual assault. Attendance at the program is a requirement of the College Experience Seminar class, which is part of the College's General Education Plan. In addition, the College sponsors an annual Sexual Assault Awareness Week during the fall semester of each year. Past Sexual Assault Awareness Weeks have included programs on such topics as acquaintance assault, self-defense, abusive relationships, and communication skills. This week of intensive programming supplements the on-going efforts sponsored jointly by the Offices of Residence Life and Campus Police. Programs for faculty and staff include annual training programs for resident personnel, regular campus-wide forums on topics related to sexual violence, and frequent educational programs related to the College's policy on sexual harassment and other forms of assault.

### ***Procedures for Reporting a Sexual Assault***

The College strongly urges all members of the community to immediately report any incident of sexual assault to the Campus Police Department. Upon notification, there will be a professional campus police officer assigned to the incident for full investigation. At all times during the process, the victim's rights and courtesy will be highly maintained. It is extremely important to preserve any and all evidence from an incident for proof of an offense. If you are a victim follow these procedures:

- Do not shower, bathe or wash (douche);
- Contact the Campus Police Department immediately;
- If you change, do not discard any items of clothing;
- Do not disturb anything in the area where the incident occurred;
- If at all possible, secure the area;
- You have the right to notify local law enforcement officials.

All efforts will be made to assist the victim with support and counseling efforts through contact with the campus violence prevention counselor. If reasonably available, EOSC will make every effort to change a victim's academic and living arrangement after an

assault. Options include:

- Change of housing assignment
- Change of Class section

***Procedure for On-Campus Disciplinary Action***

(SEE STUDENT HANDBOOK CHAPTER 4 P.36-43)

***Campus Police Sexual Assault Response Commitment***

Sexual assaults, including date/acquaintance rape, are a very serious concern of the College. If you feel you are the victim of a sexual assault on campus, your EOSC Campus Police Department is committed to the following:

1. We will meet with you privately, at a place of your choice in this area, to take a complaint report.
2. We will not release your name to the public or press.
3. Our officers will not prejudge you, and you will not be blamed for what occurred.
4. We will treat you and your particular case with courtesy, sensitivity, dignity, understanding and professionalism.
5. If you feel more comfortable talking with a female or male officer, we will do our best to accommodate your request. An advocate from the Dean of Students Office is available to assist you through the process.
6. We will assist you in arranging for any hospital treatment or other medical needs.
7. We will assist you by privately contacting the Counseling Center and other available support resources.
8. We will fully investigate your case, and will help you to achieve the best outcome. This may involve the arrest and full prosecution of the suspect responsible. You will be kept up-to-date on the progress of the investigation and/or prosecution.
9. We will continue to be available for you, to answer your questions, to explain the systems and processes involved (prosecutor, court, etc.) and to be a listening ear if you wish.
10. We will consider your case seriously regardless of your gender or sexual orientation, and regardless of the gender or sexual orientation of the suspect.

If you feel you are a sexual assault victim, call the EOSC Police Department at 911 and say you want to make a sexual assault complaint. You may call any time day or night. If we fail to achieve any part of the above commitment, the Chief of Police (Coordinator), Blaine Villines (918-465-1755), will meet with you personally to address any problems. The Campus Police officers want to help you make the EOSC campus safe for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

***Crime Statistics and Crime Rates***

In accordance with The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act of 1998, EOSC provides information relating to crime statistics and security measures to prospective and current students and employees. The College's Campus Police submits a monthly Uniform Crime Report to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.