WHAT IS THE CLERY ACT?

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) is the landmark federal law that requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses to assist the public in making decisions which affect their personal safety.

Because the law is tied to participation in federal student financial aid programs, it applies to most institutions of higher education both public and private. It is enforced by the U.S. Department of Education.

The Clery Act is named in memory of 19-year-old Lehigh University freshman Jeanne Ann Clery, who was raped and murdered while in her residence hall room on April 5, 1986. Jeanne’s parents discovered that students had not 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.”

The law was amended in 1992 to add a requirement that schools afford the victims of campus sexual assault certain basic rights and was amended again in 1998 to expand the reporting requirements. The 1998 amendments also formally named the law in memory of Jeanne Clery.

In March 2013, the SAVE Act was signed into law updating the Clery Act once again. This new addition added domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and Title IX guidelines to the Clery Act.
Requirements of Universities

In accordance with the Clery Act universities must:

• Publish an annual security & fire safety report documenting three years of select campus crime statistics, including security policies and procedures and information on the basic rights guaranteed to victims.

• Have a public daily crime log that is available upon request.

• Issue timely warnings and/or emergency notifications about Clery Act crimes that pose a serious or ongoing threat to the campus community.

• Devise emergency response and notification policies and procedures and test them.

• Disclose fire safety information related to student housing facilities, maintain a public fire log for those facilities and publish policy statements and fire statistics for student housing.

• Enact policies and procedures to handle reports of missing students.

• Collect crime reports from campus security authorities and include them in the crime statistics.

• Submit crime and fire statistics to the Department of Education every year.

• Describe any programs designed to inform students and employees about campus security procedures.

• Describe any sex offense policies, procedures, and awareness programs, as well as policies and procedures for campus disciplinary action and other forms of victims assistance.

• Describe policies concerning security of and access to campus facilities, including campus residences and security considerations used in the maintenance of campus facilities.

• Disclose policies and procedures regarding the use, sale, or possession of drugs and alcohol, as well as descriptions of any drug or alcohol abuse education programs.

Crime Statistics

The Clery Act requires universities to report statistics on the following categories of criminal offences:

• Criminal Homicide
  • Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter
  • Negligent Manslaughter

• Sex Offenses

• Robbery

• Aggravated Assault

• Burglary

• Motor Vehicle Theft

• Arson

• Hate Crimes/Bias

• Domestic Violence

• Dating Violence

• Stalking

• Arrests and Disciplinary Referrals for:
  • Liquor Law Violations
  • Drug Law Violations
  • Illegal Weapons Possession

Daily Police/Fire Incident Log

This daily log is provided in accordance with the regulations set out under the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. Under this requirement, the following information is required to be listed in the Daily Crime and Fire Log: nature of the crime, date/time the crime occurred, general location of the crime, disposition of the complaint.

A hard copy of the log for the last 60 days is available at the University Police Department during regular administrative hours M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Any other portion of the log older than 60 days will be made available for public inspection within two business days upon request.

Crime Alert (Timely Warnings) Policy

HSUPD provides timely warning to the campus community by posting crime alerts when a Clery crime is considered to represent a serious or continuing threat to students or employees.

Based on the circumstances, crime alerts are sent to campus and local newspapers, posted on campus bulletin boards or other appropriate locations, sent out on campus e-mail, and distributed in residence halls.

Sex Offender Information

HSUPD provides a link on their webpage to the Texas Department of Public Safety Sex Offender registry:

https://publicsite.dps.texas.gov/SexOffenderRegistry/Search