

I. Johns Hopkins University Timely Warning Policy

The Johns Hopkins University deeply values the safety and welfare of our community. To enhance campus security and prevent crime, the Vice President of Johns Hopkins Corporate Security or his/her designee (“Corporate Security”) will timely warn the affected campus community of crimes that are reportable under federal law¹ and represent a serious or continuing threat to the community. Corporate Security will issue a warning as soon as the pertinent information is available, following a report to a University campus security authority² or local police agency. Corporate Security will determine whether a reportable crime presents a serious or continuing threat on a case-by-case basis after examining the nature of the crime, the danger facing the campus community, and other relevant factors.

Even when a timely warning is not required under this policy, Corporate Security may at any time elect to issue a timely warning or otherwise advise the affected campus community of any incident where doing so is in the best interest of campus security. In deciding to issue such a notice, Corporate Security will consider all relevant factors, including the nature of the crime, the location, the time of the incident, the local police response and guidance to campus officials, and the potential direct effect on the campus community.

Corporate Security will follow the Operational Procedures set forth below in the course of implementing this Policy.

II. Operational Procedures for JHU Timely Warning Policy

1. These procedures apply to all divisions and campuses of Johns Hopkins University.
2. Corporate Security may become aware of reportable criminal incidents on or near campus through a variety of sources including, but not limited to, local police bulletins or reports, reports made to Corporate Security by members of the community (including in particular reports by a Clery Act campus security authority), responses to crime scenes by a Security Officer, information in the media, and reports from the general public.
3. Campus security authorities must promptly notify Corporate Security of any criminal incident that occurs on or near a University campus. The University encourages all community members to report any suspected criminal activity to Corporate Security.
4. Corporate Security is responsible for determining whether to issue a timely warning. Whenever necessary and feasible, it will consult with representatives of Student Affairs, the Office of the Vice President and General Counsel, the Chief Risk Officer, and the Office of Institutional Equity

¹ Crimes are reportable under federal law if they meet two criteria. First, they must be one of the following offenses: murder/non-negligent manslaughter, negligent manslaughter, rape, fondling, incest, statutory rape, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, arson, liquor law violations, drug law violations, illegal weapons possession, and certain hate crimes. Second, they must occur within the core campus boundaries (which includes University owned or controlled property on campus and public property that is within or immediately adjacent to the campus) or on “non-campus” properties as defined by the Clery Act.

² As defined by the Clery Act, “campus security authorities” include: (a) University campus security departments; (b) other individuals who have responsibility for campus security, such as someone monitoring the entrance to campus property; (c) a University official who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline and campus judicial proceedings, and (d) others designated by the University as campus security authorities.

in determining whether to issue a timely warning. Corporate Security will consider several factors in determining whether the reported crime represents a serious or continuing threat including, but not limited to: (a) the nature of the incident; (b) when and where the incident occurred; (c) when it was reported; (d) the amount of factual information known at the time; (e) the danger posed to the campus community, and (f) input from the Title IX coordinator (or designee) in sexual violence cases. The University representatives will exercise their own judgment as to whether the incident represents a serious or continuing threat to the community and will proceed accordingly.

5. The content of the timely warning may include, but will not necessarily be limited to, the following information (if available and/or applicable): (a) succinct statement of the incident, including the date, time, location and nature of the crime; (b) possible connection to previous incidents; (c) physical description of the suspect(s); (d) photo or composite drawing of the suspect(s); (e) date and time the timely warning was issued; (f) other relevant and important information about the crime(s); (g) actions taken by Corporate Security or law enforcement officials in response to the crime(s); (h) information on crime prevention, personal safety, or other community safety resources; and (i) how to contact Corporate Security or Police regarding the incident. In preparing the notice, Corporate Security will carefully consider any pending law enforcement response and may omit information that could reasonably compromise law enforcement efforts.
6. Timely warnings will normally be disseminated via email to the University-supplied electronic mail account issued to the appropriate group of students and employees. Depending on the circumstances, Corporate Security could also utilize one or more of the following modes of communication to transmit the warning: Corporate Security and other JHU websites, security alerts, security information bulletins, security blotters, sirens or public address systems, and bull horns. Corporate Security will determine whether to distribute the warning University-wide or to a specific campus or campuses based on the nature and location of the incident and other relevant factors (including the extent to which community members travel between different campuses).
7. If a determination is made not to issue a timely warning, the reasons for the determination will be documented and maintained by Corporate Security and provided to the Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration and the Office of the General Counsel.

III. Accountability for JHU Timely Warning Policy

Corporate Security is responsible for executing, administering, and enforcing the University Timely Warning Policy, consistent with legal advice from the Office of the Vice President and General Counsel.

Adopted: September 30, 2014

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