# Violence or Criminal Behavior on Campus

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01. Policy Statement

The entire Pace community shares the concern that our campuses be safe and secure. You should be alert to suspicious situations and promptly report threatening, violent or criminal behavior to the Security Office.

02. Procedure

It is crucial that any act of violence, verbal, written or physical be immediately reported to the Safety and Security Department.

1. If you observe a criminal act or a person acting in a suspicious manner on campus, immediately notify Security and report the incident.
2. Include the following information when reporting an incident:
   a. Nature of the incident
   b. Location of the incident
   c. Description of person(s) involved
   d. Description of property involved
3. Assist the Security Officers when they arrive by supplying them with any additional information and ask others to cooperate.

03. Self-Protection Tips

- Self-protection means knowing how to avoid being the victim of an attack and knowing what to do if you are.
- Be alert for the unexpected and don't take unnecessary chances. Be extra alert when you are walking by yourself.
- Walk with someone if you can. The Security Department will provide an escort upon request between any two points on campus.
- If you are attacked, you may consider using your natural defenses. Make a scene, scream, yell, kick, and try to get away. Run toward lights, people, or buildings.
- Do not panic, use your head. It is hard, but try to stay cool. Get a good description of your assailant if possible.
- Be alert for suspicious persons or dangerous situations. Do not take chances.
- Be security conscious; watch out for others and their property.

04. Warning Signs of Potentially Violent Person

Most cases of violence don't just happen. The best way to identify potential violence is to recognize warning signs.

A potentially violent person:
- Is usually argumentative engaging in name calling, cursing, or abusive language
- Doesn’t cooperate with others
- Has a problem with authority figures
- Frequently blames others for his or her problems
- Has few or no close friends
- Pays no attention to the feelings or rights of others
- Has been a victim of intimidation from others
- Dwells on perceived slights, rejections or mistreatment from others
- Displays marked changes in work patterns like tardiness or absenteeism
• Demonstrates extreme or bizarre behavior
• Frequently appears depressed (link between suicide and homicide)
• Has financial or relationship problems
• Is faced with academic failure and threat of expulsion (in the seven colleges and university shootings since 1966, six involved academic failure or academic issues)
• Has a history of violence
• Has brought a weapon or threatened to bring a weapon to school

Note - none of the above signs alone is sufficient for predicting aggression or violence, nor do all the above signs need to be exhibited.

05. Threats of Violent Acts

Threats of violent acts should be taken seriously. Keep in mind that most attacks are planned rather than impulsive; reporting behavioral problems can trigger intervention thus preventing the attack.

Other ways to minimize the threat of violence:
• Adopt a ‘Zero Tolerance’ policy toward threats of violence and applicable to everyone on campus. This means that no threat of violent behavior will be ignored
• Screen and hire carefully (background checks, references etc.)
• Train managers and faculty on how to minimize emotions when threatening situations arise in the workplace and classrooms (Rosa and Richard)
• Teach staff and faculty how to identify potential signs of violence
• Maintain fair and caring termination procedures including counseling opportunities

The key is to be proactive, recognize and report early warning signs.

06. Emergency Response at Pace University

If an Emergency occurs On Campus, the existing Emergency Response Plan will be followed.

Initial response will include:
• The Emergency Response leader (senior member of the security staff) will respond to the scene to evaluate and stabilize, make critical decisions such as lockdown or evacuation
• Notifications will be made to 911 and the Crisis Management Team
• The Emergency Response leader will coordinate with responding emergency service personnel
• Emergency Communication Center will be activated on the affected campus or on alternate campuses

07. Emergency Contact Information

Please contact security anytime you anticipate an uncomfortable situation, we will provide a presence. Again if an incident occurs, it is imperative that a report be made with security, the key is to be proactive before the situation reaches a point of violence.

You can dial 777 from any Pace phone in the event of an emergency or press the security button on your Pace phone.
Safety & Security

- New York Campus: (212) 346-1800
- Pleasantville Campus: (914) 773-3400
- Briarcliff Campus: (914) 923-2700
- White Plains Campus: (914) 422-411

Dean for Students

- Westchester - (914) 773-3860
- New York - (212) 346-1306
- Law School - (914) 422-4146

University Health Care Unit

- Westchester – (914) 773-3760
- New York – (212) 346-1600

Counseling Center

- Westchester – (914) 773-3710
- New York – (212) 346-1526

08. Additional Resources

Also see the policy and procedure for “Violence in the Workplace”