

2025 Annual Security Report

This annual report contains information for 2024 calendar year and statistical information for 2022, 2023, and 2024.





Table of Contents

A Message from the Director of Safety	7
Introduction	8
Preparation of Annual Security Report and Disclosure of Crime Statistics	8
Accessibility to Information and Non-Discrimination Statement	9
About the Lamar State College Orange Campus Safety	9
LSCO Campus Safety Office	9
Interagency Relationships with Local Law Enforcement	10
Reporting Crime and Other Emergencies	11
Emergency Phones	11
Accurate and Prompt Reporting	11
For Emergencies	12
Non-Emergencies	12
Responsible Employees	12
Campus Security Authorities	12
Voluntary Confidential Reporting	14
Voluntary Anonymous Reporting	15
Pastoral and Professional Counselors	15
Crimes Involving Student Organizations at Non-Campus Locations	16
Response to a Report	16
Geography	17
Separate Campus Policy Application	17
Lamar State College Orange Geography Definitions	17
On Campus	17
Non-Campus Buildings or Property	17
Public Property	18
On Campus Student Housing	18
Lamar State College Orange Maps	18
Main Campus	18
LSCO Lumberton Campus	19
TSUS Polk County Center (PCC)	19
Timely Warnings and Emergency Notifications	20
Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures.	21
Purpose	21

Scope	21
Levels of Emergencies	22
Routine Response	22
Limited Emergency	22
Major Emergency	23
Emergency (Immediate) Notifications	23
Notifying the Campus Community	23
Disseminating Information on Campus Crime	24
Media Relations	24
Crime Alert Notification	24
Emergency Notifications (BlackboardConnect)	24
Confirming the Need to Initiate the Emergency Notification System	25
Contents of Emergency Notification	25
Evacuation Procedures	26
Emergency Evacuation Procedures	26
General Evacuation Procedures	26
Shelter-in-Place	26
What it Means to "Shelter-in-Place"	27
Shelter-in-Place Communications	27
Shelter-in-Place Procedures	27
Drills, Exercises, and Training	27
Security of and Access to Campus Facilities	28
Access to Campus Facilities	28
Residence Hall Access	28
Maintenance of Campus Facilities	28
Crime Definitions and Statistics	29
Definitions Used in Classification of Crime Statistics	29
Primary Crimes	29
Violence Against Women Act Crimes	30
Domestic Violence	30
Dating Violence	30
Stalking	30
Arrests and Disciplinary Referrals	30
Hate Crimes	31
Unfounded Crimes	31
The Hierarchy Rule	31

Daily Crime Logs	32
Definitions of Clery Geography	32
On-Campus Buildings or Property	32
Non-Campus Buildings or Property	32
Public Property	32
On Campus Student Housing	32
Crime Statistics	32
Main Campus	33
Sexual Offenses, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence	34
LSCO's Response to Sexual and Gender Violence	34
Prohibited Conduct	36
Protecting Minors on Campus	37
LSCO Related Policies	37
Federal Clery Act Definitions of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking	37
Texas Definitions of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking	39
Related Texas Laws	41
Victims' Bill of Rights	43
Sexual Misconduct Policy, Prevention, and Reporting Policy Statement	43
TSUS Sexual Misconduct Policy	43
Prevention	45
Programs to Prevent Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking	45
Primary Crime Prevention and Awareness Programs	47
Incoming Students	47
Sexual Assault Prevention for Undergraduates	47
AlcoholEdu for College	47
Risk Reduction	49
Bystander Intervention	50
Reporting Options and Protocols (TSUS Sexual Misconduct Policy Section 4)	5]
General Information	5]
Victim Reporting Options	5]
Title IX Coordinator	5]
Official with Authority	52
CSA (Campus Security Authority)	52
Electronic Reporting	52
Anonymous Reports	52
Responsible Employee Mandatory Reporting	52

Confidential Employees	53
Confidentiality – Texas Public Information Act	54
Victims' Procedures of a Crime of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking	55
Procedure for Victims	55
Assistance for Victims	56
On and Off Campus Services for Victims	56
Preservation of Evidence	58
Rights and Options	58
LSCO Procedures for Crime of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking	59
Procedures Institution will Follow	59
Accommodation and Supportive Measures Available for Victims	61
Failure to Adhere to Supportive Measures	62
LSCO's Responsibilities for Orders of Protection, "No Contact" Orders, Restraining Orders, Similar Lawful Orders Issued by a Criminal, Civil, or Tribal Court or by the Institution	
Adjudication of Violations	63
Equitable Treatment	63
Standard of Evidence	63
Conflicts of Interest.	64
Promptness	64
Modification of Deadlines	64
Immunity/Amnesty	64
Complainant & Respondent Rights	65
Complainant & Respondent Rights-Know Your Nine	65
Types of Disciplinary Proceedings Utilized in Cases of Alleged Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking	66
Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process	66
Informal Resolution	66
Eligibility for Informal Resolution	66
Informal Resolution Procedures	66
Formal Resolution	67
Filing Formal Complaint	67
Cases Initiated by the Title IX Coordinator	67
Notice of Allegations	67

Right to Advisor	67
Consolidation of Complaints	68
Investigation	68
Notice of Hearing	69
Live Hearings	69
Decisions and Sanctions	71
Appeals	71
Sanctions	72
Remedies	73
LSCO-Initiated Protective Measures	73
Retaliation Prohibited	73
Disclosure of Disciplinary Proceeding Outcome to Victims (or Next of Kin)	74
Student Conduct and Discipline	74
Alcohol & Drugs	74
Use of Illegal Drugs	74
Available Counseling and Treatment Program	75
Drug Free Schools and Communities Act	75
Hazing Policy Statements	76
How to Report Hazing	77
Sex Offender Registration – Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act	77
Megan's Law	77
Missing Student Notification	78

In compliance with the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act (20 USC § 1092(f), 34 CFR 668.46), the policies and procedures outlined in this report contain information for 2024 calendar year and statistical information for 2022, 2023, and 2024.

All policies and procedures contained in this report apply to the following campuses: Main Campus, LSCO Lumberton, and TSUS Polk County Center.

This report is available on the Lamar State College Orange website at: 2025 LSCO ASR

A message from the Director of Safety

Lamar State College Orange places the safety and health of employees and students as our number one priority. We are pleased to distribute this 2025 Annual Security Report (ASR) for our beautiful campus on the Sabine River. The ASR is prepared annually in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act (Clery Act) and

subsequent amendments specified in the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

The ASR is an overall guide for many safety and security policies and can serve as a guide regarding education and prevention programs that are available on our campus. The ASR also provides crime statistics for the 2022, 2023, and 2024 calendar years for your review.



The Director of Safety is responsible for the preparation and dissemination of the ASR. LSCO Campus Safety works closely with division members to develop the ASR. Campus Safety's primary focus is on the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors. We strive to collaborate with the Gator Community to ensure that the responsibility of safety and security is shared by everyone on our campus.

If you have questions about Lamar State College Orange's Annual Security Report, please contact me at (409) 882-3910 or rebecca.gentry@lsco.edu.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Gentry

Rebecca Gentry
Director of Safety
Clery Compliance Officer
Title IX Coordinator



Lamar State College Orange 2025 Annual Security Report

Introduction

Published each year, the Lamar State College Orange Annual Security Report provides you with information on security-related services offered by the college in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act. This document has been prepared with information provided to the LSCO Campus Safety Office. It summarizes college programs, policies, and procedures designed to enhance your personal safety while you are at LSCO. The LSCO Annual Security Report is available online on the Campus Safety and Security webpage at 2025 LSCO ASR

Preparation of Annual Security Report and Disclosure of Crime Statistics

The information contained in this document was prepared under the guidelines established by 20 United States Code, section 1092(f), known as the "Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act," (The Clery Act) and the Code of Federal Regulations. The information represents a description of Lamar State College Orange's safety and security policies and programs, and the crime statistics for the most recent calendar year and the two preceding calendar years.

A written request for statistical information is made on an annual basis to all Campus Security Authorities. The data is obtained from reports made to LSCO Campus Safety, the Orange Police Department, Campus Security Authorities (CSA), Responsible Employees, members of the Title IX Team, and multiple law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction. Campus crime data is gathered the same day that it is reported. Data is obtained annually from the law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction and compared with the data gathered at the college. The resulting data is used to prepare the annual crime statistics report. For statistical purposes, crime statistics reported to any of these sources are recorded in the calendar year the crime was reported.

Each year, the College notifies all enrolled students and employees, via email that they can view the report at Clery Act. Prospective employees and students are notified about the availability and location of the report via the online job application portal and the student application process. LSCO submits the annual crime statistics published in this brochure to the Department of Education (ED). The statistical information gathered by the Department of Education is available to the public through the ED website (Campus Safety and Security).

Campus Safety maintains a *Daily Crime Log* which is available to the public for review, at the LSCO Campus Safety Office in the Ron Lewis Library Building (RLB), from 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. The Orange Police Department provides a list of crimes reported to them that are in and around our campus. These are also included in the crime statistics and on our Crime Log. Campus Security Authorities, Responsible Employees, and

members of the Title IX Team are responsible for reporting all information regarding crimes to Campus Safety.

Accessibility to Information and Non-Discrimination Statement

Lamar State College Orange is committed to providing equal access and opportunity for all persons regardless of race, sex, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran status, in employment, educational programs, and activities and admissions. LSCO complies with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination based on disability; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, which prohibits discrimination based on age, and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act. Sexual misconduct, as defined in the College's Sexual Misconduct Policy, constitutes a form of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX and Title VII.

For questions concerning our non-discrimination policy, you may contact our Title IX Coordinator Rebecca Gentry at (409) 882-3910 or the Office for Civil Rights at (214) 661-9600.

Lamar State College Orange Campus Safety

LSCO Campus Safety

LSCO's Campus Safety Office is located in the Ron Lewis Library Building (RLB), 410 W. Front Street, Orange, TX 77630. Campus Safety can be reached at (409) 670-0789. The 24/7 emergency number answered by **Orange Police Department** dispatch is (409) 883-1026.

Campus Safety is a full-service department providing safety, security, and crime prevention services to the Gator community. LSCO's Campus Safety works to minimize crimes on campus. In an emergency, dial (409) 670-0789 from any phone or there are telephones located in the hallways of campus buildings, which dial directly to Campus Safety.

Campus Safety Officers (CSOs) have enforcement authority and primary jurisdiction as outlined under Texas Occupation Code 1702, on property owned and controlled by LSCO. The streets contiguous to and running through the college are under the authority of the Orange Police Department. Campus Safety Officers are licensed Level III Security Guards who are authorized to enforce rules and regulations issued by the Texas State University System Board of Regents and Lamar State College Orange. Campus Safety Officers have no arrest powers but will detain, if necessary, until law enforcement arrives. Campus Safety Officers patrol LSCO campus facilities on foot or in golf carts marked with *SECURITY*. Campus Safety Officers are available to provide an escort service to anyone who may be concerned with their safety.

LSCO's Campus Safety provides new student and employee orientation sessions throughout the year. During these sessions, the office provides programs designed to make community members aware of campus safety and security procedures, awareness programs, and crime prevention efforts. Campus Safety provides safety tips to encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own safety and the safety of others.

LSCO's Campus Safety team will provide safety escort services for the Gator Community.

Community members can call (409) 670-0789 and request a safety escort at any time during operating hours.

Emergency phones are strategically placed throughout the campus. When picked up, the caller is automatically connected to Campus Safety.

Interagency Relationships with Local Law Enforcement

LSCO Campus Safety enjoys a good working relationship with federal, state, city, and county law enforcement authorities, including the Orange Police Department, the Orange County Sheriff's Department, Lumberton Police Department, Hardin County Sheriff's Department, Livingston Police Department, Polk County Sheriff's Department, and the Texas Department of Public Safety. Campus Safety's working relationship with area law enforcement agencies ensures that crimes and violations at nearby campus sites may be reported to LSCO Campus Safety Officers. LSCO has a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the City of Orange Police Department. The MOU addresses the investigation of criminal incidents occurring at this location.

LSCO Campus Safety partners with other areas of campus to run drills, training, and follow-up education (generally by email) on active assailant scenarios, building evacuation preparation, and fire concerns for college employees, students, and campus guests. These events happen throughout the calendar year.

Local Law Enforcement Authorities

Incidents occurring within the Main Campus (Orange, TX 77630) may contact:

Campus Safety Office

Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: (409) 670-0789 Address: 410 Front Street, Ron Lewis Library Building, Room 222, Orange, TX 77630

Orange Police Department

Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: (409) 883-1026 Address: 201 8th Street, Orange, TX 77630

Incidents occurring within the LSCO Lumberton Campus (Lumberton, TX 77657) may contact:

Campus Safety Office

Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: (409) 670-0789
et Ron Lewis Library Building Room 222

Address: 410 Front Street, Ron Lewis Library Building, Room 222, Orange, TX 77630

Lumberton Police Department

Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: (409) 755-2650 Address: 120 W. Chance Rd, Ste A, Lumberton, TX 77657

Hardin County Sheriff's Office

Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: (409) 246-5100 Address: 300 W. Monroe St, Kountze, TX 77625

Incidents occurring within the TSUS Polk County Center (Livingston, 77351) may contact:

Campus Safety Office

Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: (409) 670-0789

Address: 410 Front Street, Ron Lewis Library Building, Room 222, Orange, TX 77630

Livingston Police Department

Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: (936) 327-3117 Address: 208 W. Church St, Livingston, TX 77351

Polk County Sheriff's Office

Emergency: 911 Non-Emergency: (936) 327-6810 Address: 1733 N. Washington Ave, Livingston, TX 77351

Reporting Crimes and Other Emergencies

LSCO has a number of ways for the Gator community and visitors to report concerns, crimes, serious incidents, and other emergencies to the appropriate LSCO officials. It is critical for the safety of the entire Gator community that you immediately report all incidents to Campus Safety. This ensures an effective investigation and appropriate follow-up, including issuing a Timely Warning or other Emergency Notifications. We also recommend that you participate in and support crime prevention efforts. The LSCO community will be much safer when all community members participate in safety and security initiatives.

Emergency Phones

LSCO has installed black, emergency safety phones throughout buildings on the main campus. These are marked with a sign reading "Security". When picked up, these phones directly connect you to Campus Safety or you can call directly at (409) 670-0789.

Accurate and Prompt Reporting Options

Gator Community members and all visitors are encouraged to accurately and promptly report potential criminal activity, suspicious behavior, and any emergency on campus, on public property running through or immediately adjacent to the campus, or on other property that is owned or controlled by Lamar State College Orange, to LSCO Campus Safety by calling (409) 670-0789 or to the Orange Police Department at (409) 883-1026. Crimes should be accurately and promptly reported to LSCO Campus Safety or the appropriate police agency, when the victim of a crime elects to, or is unable to, make such a report. Although a victim of a crime may decline to report the incident, the College supports, encourages, and will assist those who have been the victim of a crime or an observer to report the incident to campus security, local law enforcement, any Campus Security Authority, a Responsible Employee, or anonymously report through our website.

Any alleged criminal actions (including sex offenses) or emergencies that occur on or off campus of the College can be reported in the following ways;

For Emergencies

Dial 911 or use any emergency telephone located throughout the campus that will automatically dial the Campus Safety Office. The 24/7 emergency number answered by Orange Police Department dispatch is (409) 883-1026. Emergencies can include any crime in progress, medical emergencies, a suspected kidnapping, a suspicious car driving on campus, an intoxicated person, a safety hazard, or any situation you believe to be suspicious or dangerous.

For Non-Emergencies

On campus security can be reached at (409) 670-0789 or personally by visiting the Campus Safety Office in the Ron Lewis Library Building, Room 222.

Responsible Employees

All employees of the College, except professional mental health, pastoral, or other licensed professionals legally bound by professional/client privileges when functioning in that capacity, are considered to be "Responsible Employees." Responsible Employees are required to report issues of concern on campus, especially Title IX information. Responsible Employee Reporting Form

Campus Security Authorities

Campus Security Authorities (CSAs) are a more defined group of employees who have received special training. Students are informed that CSAs are individuals to speak with when reporting concerns. CSAs must report immediately to campus security all crimes or reports of criminal activity that are brought to their attention for purposes of including them in the annual statistical disclosure and assessing them for issuing a Timely Warning Notice, when deemed necessary.

Campus Security Authorities include but are not limited to the following: Building Liaisons, Title IX Coordinator, Title IX Deputy Coordinators, and the Student Organizations Advisors. A list of Campus Security Authorities can be found on our website at <u>LSCO Campus Security Authorities</u>. The chart below shows a few of the designated campus security authorities.

CAMPUS SECURITY AUTHORITIES 2025					
NAME	DEPARTMENT	TITLE	EMAIL	REASON FOR DESIGNATION	
	Student Services	Dean of Student Services		Individual that serves as a member in an office or of a committee to whom students are instructed and informed to report or discuss crimes, allegations of crimes, and other troubling situations.	
Dr. Tracy Skopek	Academic & Student Affairs	Provost / Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs	tracy.skopek@lsco.edu	Individual or a group of individuals specified in the Clery Act to whom students and employees shoud report crimes, allegations of crimes, and other troubling situations.	
Kim Hagler	Human Resources	Human Resources Manager	kim.hagler@lsco.edu	Individual or a group of individuals specified in the Clery Act to whom students and employees shoud report crimes, allegations of crimes, and other troubling situations.	
Amy Moore	Office of Academic Support & Instructional Services	Director of Student Care & Accessibility	amy.moore@lsco.edu	Individual with official job responsibility that involve significant interaction with students and / or campus activities.	
Dr. R.E. Davis	Workforce Education	Dean of Industry & Manufacturing Programs	richard.davis@lsco.edu	Individuals that serve as informal or unofficial mentors to students (Camp Director).	
Kendra DeLaFuente	Retention, Counseling, & Advising	Director of Advising, Recruiting, & Testing	kendra.delafuente@lsco.edu	Individual with official job responsibility that involve significant interaction with students and / or campus activities.	
Mandee Tucker	Allied Health	Dean of Nursing & Health Professionals	mandee.tucker@lsco.edu	Individual with official job responsibility that involve significant interaction with students and / or campus activities.	
Kristin Walker	Strategic Partnerships	Asst. VP of Statewide Partnerships	kristin.walker@lsco.edu	Individual with official job responsibility that involve significant interaction with students and / or campus activities.	
Patty Collins	Operations & Institutional Services	Asst. VP of Operations & Instutional Services	patty.collins@lsco.edu	Individual with official job responsibility that involve significant interaction with students and / or campus activities.	
Robyn Burdette	Academics	Dean of Transfer & Public Safety Prgrams	robyn.burdette@lsco.edu	Individual with official job responsibility that involve significant interaction with students and / or campus activities.	
Rebecca Gentry	Campus Safety	Director of Safety; Title IX Coordinator	rebecca.gentry@lsco.edu	Individual with official job responsibility that involve significant interaction with students and / or campus activities.	

CSA Reporting Process

The CSAs must provide guidance on what should be discussed with the victim or reporter. Below are the requirements for CSAs.

- Safety Ensuring the reporter or the survivor is in a safe environment.
- Offer Law Enforcement Providing the option on behalf of the reporter or survivor to assist in contacting the law enforcement agency related to jurisdiction where the crime occurred. It is not only the CSA's duty to persuade the reporter or survivor to call law enforcement, but the CSA must advise the reporter prior to taking the report, that it is private but not confidential. Advise that the CSA may forward the information with a request for anonymity.
- **Be Clear** The CSA duties include explaining the LSCO requirements for reporting in compliance with the Clery Act. If the report also falls under the Texas State University System (TSUS) Sexual Misconduct Policy, the report must be shared with the Title IX Coordinator. These crimes include a report of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and/or stalking.
- **Information** Listening to the reporter or survivor and demonstrating empathy is vitally important to lending support to the victim and obtaining information.
- Submit the Report via the CSA Crime Report Form To submit the report, CSAs will locate the reporting page on the LSCO website <u>Title IX/Clery: Responsible Employee</u> Reporting Form.

CSA Training

The Director of Safety will maintain a list of current personnel who have been assigned the position of CSA. The Director of Safety works with Human Resources to ensure training for all CSAs is assigned and completed annually. HR will notify the Director of Safety of any additions or deletions of a CSA. If a CSA fails to complete training, the Director of Safety and HR will notify the CSA and their supervisor. Training will be reassigned on an annual basis.

Voluntary Confidential Reporting

If you are the victim of a crime and do not want to pursue action within the College system or criminal justice system, you may still want to consider making a confidential or anonymous report in accordance with the <u>TSUS Sexual Misconduct Policy</u>, specifically, sections 4.2.8 and 4.7 and 4.8.

LSCO partners with outside professional counseling and appropriate health services and encourages them to inform persons seeking their services of the opportunity to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the College's annual disclosure of crime statistics.

If you are the victim of a crime and do not want to pursue action within the Lamar State College Orange system or the criminal justice system, *consider making a confidential* report. With your permission, a LSCO Campus Safety Officer can file a report on the details of the incident without revealing your identity (except to the Title IX Coordinator in the event of a reported sex offense or sexual harassment). A *confidential report* is to comply with your wish to keep the matter confidential, while enhancing the future safety of yourself and others. With such information, LSCO can keep an accurate record of the number of incidents involving students, employees and visitors; determine where there is a pattern of crime regarding a particular location, method, or

assailant; and alert the campus community to potential danger. Reports filed in this manner are counted and disclosed in the annual crime statistics for the institution. Please call (409) 670-0789 or (409) 882-3910 to speak with a CSO regarding a confidential report or come by our offices in the Ron Lewis Library Building, Room 222.

Voluntary Anonymous Reporting

Lamar State College Orange has developed an anonymous online reporting form that will allow students to report incidents they have encountered, or incidents they have witnessed. A link to the form is conveniently located on the LSCO webpage, titled <u>Anonymous Sexual Misconduct and Title IX Reporting</u>.

*Here is an important link for reporting: <u>Title IX/Clery: Anonymous Reporting Form</u> (this link can be used for ANY crime reporting necessary)

Pastoral and Professional Counselors

According to the Clery Act, LSCO does not consider appropriately credentialed pastoral and professional counselors serving in a counseling role as Campus Security Authorities. As a matter of policy, LSCO encourages pastoral and professional counselors to notify those whom they are counseling of the voluntary, confidential reporting options available to them.

Pastoral Counselor

An employee of an institution, who is associated with a religious order or denomination, recognized by that religious order or denomination as someone who provides confidential counseling and who is functioning within the scope of that recognition as a pastoral counselor.

Professional Counselor

An employee of an institution whose official responsibilities include providing psychological counseling to members of the institution's community, and who is functioning within the scope of his or her license or certification.

LSCO does not have pastoral counselors and/or professional counselors.

LSCO partners with outside professional counseling and appropriate health services and encourages them to inform persons seeking their services of the opportunity to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the College's annual disclosure of crime statistics. A list of services can be found at Sexual Misconduct & Title IX | Lamar State College Orange (bottom of the page).

Any LSCO individual who is counseling students and/or employees, but who does not meet the Clery Act definition of a pastoral or professional counselor, is not exempt from being a CSA if they otherwise have significant responsibility for student and campus activities.

Also, LSCO is not required to provide a timely warning about crimes reported to pastoral or professional counselors that go unreported to LSCO officials. The Gator Community should report crimes and emergencies to the LSCO Campus Safety Officers, Primary CSAs (Dean of Student Services, Title IX Coordinator, Director of Safety, Campus Safety Officers) or the Orange Police Department, to be assessed for issuing timely warning notices and for inclusion in the annual crime statistics.

Crimes Involving Student Organizations at Non-Campus Locations

LSCO relies on its close working relationships with local law enforcement agencies to receive information about incidents involving LSCO students and recognized student organizations, on and off campus. In coordination with local law enforcement agencies, LSCO Campus Safety will actively investigate incidents occurring on or near campus. If Campus Safety learns of criminal activity involving students or student organizations, it will coordinate with the appropriate external law enforcement agency to forward information about the situation to the Dean of Student Services, as appropriate.

LSCO requires all recognized student organizations to abide by federal, state, local laws, and regulations. LSCO may become involved in the off-campus conduct of recognized student organizations when such conduct is determined to affect a substantial Institution interest.

LSCO recognizes the right of college-affiliated groups and organizations to sponsor and hold off-campus events. LSCO assumes no responsibility for the conduct of participants nor for the financial and/or contractual obligations associated with off-campus events; however, LSCO does hold each group/organization and its officers responsible for abiding by all state and local laws and college policies.

Sponsoring groups or organizations and their officers are responsible for conducting off-campus events in a manner that reflects favorably upon themselves and LSCO, and for arrangements for adequate safeguards at these events.

Sponsoring groups or organizations and their officers are responsible for fulfilling all financial and contractual obligations entered into in conjunction with off-campus events.

Violations of law, unacceptable conduct, and/or failure to meet financial or contractual responsibilities may subject a group or organization to disciplinary action by the college. Monitoring and recording criminal activity at non-campus locations of student organizations officially recognized by LSCO will be done through local police agencies. Regular contact between Campus Safety and local law enforcement is maintained to aid in the tracking of criminal activities. For purposes of reporting the data, the term "non-campus buildings" includes areas off campus owned or controlled by registered student organizations. However, the Campus Safety Office has no responsibility for security policies, procedures, or safety at these locations.

LSCO does not have officially recognized student organizations that own or control housing facilities outside of the LSCO core campus. Therefore, local law enforcement is not used to monitor and record criminal activity since there are no non-campus locations of student organizations.

Response to a Report

LSCO's Campus Safety Officers are available during normal operating hours and can be reached at **(409) 670-0789** or Orange Police Dispatchers are available 24 hours a day to answer your calls at **(409)** 883-1026. In response to a call, LSCO will take the required action, either dispatching a Campus Safety Officer, contacting the Orange Police Department, or asking the victim to report to LSCO Campus Safety Office to file an incident report.

All reported crimes will be investigated by the College and may become a matter of public record.

Campus Safety Officers, with the assistance of the Director of Safety, conduct investigations regarding all reported incidents. Individuals reporting an alleged crime should attempt to preserve evidence. If assistance is required from the Orange Police Department or the Orange Fire Department, Campus Safety will contact the appropriate unit. Campus Safety will cooperate with law enforcement and first responders during investigations.

LSCO Campus Safety incident reports are reviewed by the Director of Safety and, as appropriate, referred to the Dean of Student Services for potential action. If a sexual assault or rape should occur, staff on scene, including Campus Safety, will offer the victim a wide variety of services.

Geography

The definitions for the LSCO Clery geography provided by Federal law are as follows: for the purpose of collecting statistics on the crimes listed in Clery for submission to the Department of Education and inclusion in an institution's Annual Security Report, Clery geography includes:

- Buildings and property that are part of the LSCO's campus
- LSCO's Non-Campus buildings and property
- Public Property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the LSCO Campus
- Student Housing Facilities *LSCO does not own or control any student housing facilities*

Separate Campus Policy Application

All policy statements contained in this report apply to all campuses unless otherwise indicated. A separate map is provided in this report for all LSCO campuses.

Reporting is compiled separately for each of the Lamar State College Orange campuses:

- Main Campus 410 Front Street, Orange, TX 77630
- LSCO Lumberton Campus 344 S. Main Street, Lumberton, TX 77657
- TSUS Polk County Center (PCC) 1015 US 59 N Loop, Livingston, TX 77351

Lamar State College Orange Geography Definitions

The proper identification of LSCO's property ensures that statistical reporting to the LSCO community is accurate and dependable. Campus geography is defined by the U.S. Department of Education and for purposes on the charts and maps included in this report the definitions below describe specific geography.

On Campus

On-campus is defined as property owned or controlled by the institution within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area and used by the institution for educational purposes. It specifically includes residence halls. It also includes property that is within or reasonably contiguous to the area identified above, that is owned by the institution but controlled by another person, is frequently used by students, and supports institutional purposes, such as food establishments or other retail vendors.

Non-Campus Buildings or Property

Non-Campus is defined as (1) any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution, or (2) buildings or property owned or controlled by the institution that are used in direct support of, or in relation to, the institutions educational purposes, are frequently used by students, and are not within the same reasonably

contiguous geographic area of the institution.

Public Property

Public Property is defined as all public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, that are within the campus, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.

On Campus Student Housing

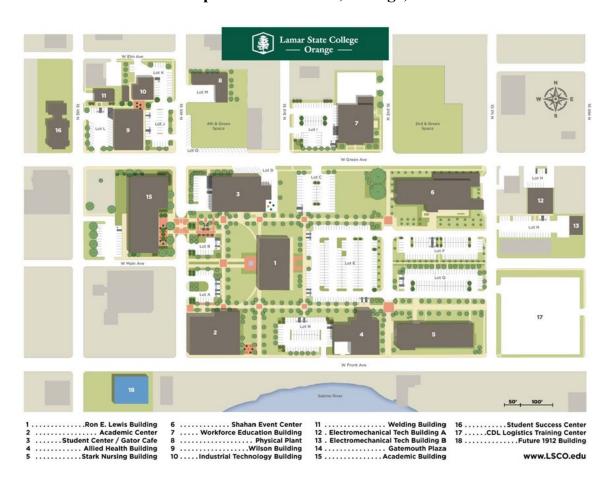
Under the Clery Act, an institution that has on-campus student housing facilities must separately disclose two sets of on-campus statistics:

- 1) The total number of crimes that occurred on-campus, including crimes that occurred in student housing facilities, and
- 2) The number of crimes that occurred in on-campus student housing facilities as a subset of the total On-campus student housing is defined as any student housing facility that is owned or controlled by the institution, or is located on property that is owned or controlled by the institution, and is within the reasonably contiguous geographic area that makes up the campus is considered a non-campus student housing facility.

*LSCO does not have any On-Campus Student Housing facilities.

LAMAR STATE COLLEGE ORANGE MAPS

Main Campus – 410 Front St, Orange, TX 77630



LSCO Lumberton Campus – 344 S Main St, Lumberton, TX 77657



TSUS Polk County Center (PCC) – 1015 US 59 N Loop, Livingston, TX 77351



Timely Warnings and Emergency Notifications

Campus Procedures for Timely Warning Reports – Crime Alerts

LSCO provides Timely Warnings to the campus community when a Clery Act crime is reported to have occurred on LSCO's Clery Act Geography (on-campus, public property, and non-campus property), that, in the judgement of the LSCO's Director of Safety constitutes a serious and continuing threat.

The purpose of the Timely Warning is to notify the Gator Community of incidents and to provide information that may enable the community members to protect themselves from similar incidents. The considerations used in determining the issuance of a Timely Warning include the nature of the crime and the continuing danger to the campus community.

Timely Warnings are usually distributed for the following Uniformed Crime Reporting Program (UCR)/National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) classifications, and include the following crimes:

- Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter
- Manslaughter by Negligence
- Aggravated Assault (cases involving assaults among known parties, such as two roommates
 fighting which results in an aggravated injury, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to
 determine if the individual is believed to be an ongoing threat to the larger LSCO community)
- Robbery involving force or violence (cases including pick pocketing and purse snatching will typically not result in the issuance of a timely warning notice, but will be assessed on a case-by-case basis)
- Sexual Assault (considered on a case-by-case basis depending on the facts of the case, when and where the incident occurred, when it was reported, and the amount information known by law enforcement). In cases involving sexual assault, they are often reported long after the incident occurred, thus there is no ability to distribute a timely warning notice to the community. All cases of sexual assault, including stranger and non-stranger/acquaintance cases, will be assessed for potential issuance of a Timely Warning
- A string of Burglaries or Motor Vehicle Thefts that occur in reasonably close proximity to one another
- Major incidents of Arson
- Other Clery crimes as determined necessary by the LSCO Director of Safety, or his/her designee in his/her absence.

LSCO provides timely warning notices to the campus community when a Clery Act crime is reported to have occurred on LSCO's Clery Act Geography (on-campus, public property, and non-campus property), that, in the judgement of LSCO's Director of Safety, constitutes a serious or continuing threat. All initial Timely Warning messages will begin with "LSCO Alert: Timely Warning" to indicate the severity of the message and will provide, at a minimum, a brief description of the incident. The following information may also be included, if known and applicable to the incident:

- Type of crime that triggered the warning
- Date, time, and location of crime

- Available suspect information
- Safety tips to help with the risk of being involved in a similar incident

Decisions concerning whether to issue a Timely Warning will be made on a case-by-case basis using the following criteria:

- Nature of crime
- Danger and continuing danger to the campus
- Risk of compromising law enforcement efforts

The Timely Warnings are typically written by the Director of Safety and Director of Marketing Communications and submitted to the President for final approval. Once authorized, the Director of Marketing Communications will distribute the Timely Warning. Timely Warnings will be distributed as soon as pertinent information is available and contain information about the nature of the threat and allow members of the community to take protective action. LSCO may include, in emergency circumstances, in a manner that withholds the names of victims as confidential, personally identifiable information generally protected from disclosure under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) using identifying information. (See FERPA and Timely Warning citation 34 CFR 99.36.)

Timely Warning Notices will be issued to the campus community via e-mail blast to all LSCO email accounts sent through the BlackboardConnect system or building postings by Building Administrators. The Director of Safety, along with the Director of Marketing Communications, will compose the Warning message and initiate the BlackboardConnect system. LSCO is not required to issue a Timely Warning with respect to crimes reported to a pastoral or professional counselor by the Counseling policy and Campus Security Authority exemptions.

Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures

Only portions of the Emergency Management and Business Continuity Plan have been included in this document. A full version of the plan can be located at <u>Emergency Management and Business Continuity</u> Plan.

Purpose

The LSCO Emergency Management and Business Continuity Plan (EMBCP) is intended to establish policies, procedures, and organizational structure for mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery to emergencies that are of sufficient magnitude to cause a significant disruption of the functioning of all or portions of LSCO. This plan describes the roles and responsibilities of departments, units, and personnel during emergency situations. The basic emergency procedures are designed to protect lives and property through effective use of LSCO and community resources. Since an emergency may be sudden and without warning, these procedures are designed to be flexible in order to accommodate contingencies of various types and magnitudes.

This EMBCP addresses each type of emergency on an individual basis, providing guidelines for the containment of the incident. EMBCP Roles and Responsibilities provides emergency instructions for the LSCO Incident Commander. This document also provides emergency response information primarily for use by Staff, Faculty and other on-site personnel who may be initial responders to an emergency.

Scope

This plan is a campus-level plan that guides the emergency response of LSCO personnel and

resources. It is the official emergency response plan of LSCO and precludes actions not in concert with the intent of this plan or the organization created by it. However, nothing in this plan shall be construed in a manner that limits the use of good judgment and common sense in matters not foreseen or covered by the elements of the plan.

This plan and organization shall be subordinate to federal, state or local plans during a disaster declaration by those authorities. The EMBCP is consistent with established practices relating to coordination of emergency response. Accordingly, this plan incorporates the use of the Incident Command System to facilitate interagency coordination, promote the use of common emergency response terminology and command structure, and facilitate the flow of information between responding agencies.

LSCO will cooperate with Campus Safety, State, County, local law enforcement agencies, and other responders in the development of emergency response plans and participate in multijurisdictional emergency planning exercises.

Emergencies occurring on campus should be reported to the Safety and Security Department at (409) 670-0789.

Individuals can report emergencies by calling 911 or Campus Safety at (409) 670-0789. Given the potential day-to-day and large-scale hazards that may affect the LSCO campus, a tiered approach has been established to define the appropriate response to any campus emergency. Each of the response levels is relative to the magnitude of the emergency. The approach is flexible enough to be used in an emergency response situation regardless of the size, type, or complexity of the emergency

Levels of Emergencies

Routine Response

Routine incidents occur on campus daily and are often handled by Campus Safety. These incidents can be handled through normal response procedures and do not require additional resources from other campus units. The scope of the incident is well-defined, and it can be resolved within a short time period. Policies and procedures relating to routine responses are developed and maintained by the responding units. A routine response does not require activation of the Emergency Management and Business Continuity Plan or the Emergency Management Team.

Limited Emergency

Limited emergencies are those incidents that significantly impact one or multiple campus units; are complex or require interaction with outside response organizations; and/or require a longer or more intense response than the affected unit(s) can effectively manage. These incidents include extended power outages affecting single or multiple buildings, localized flooding, and hazardous material releases. Limited emergencies may be handled by the responding departments with support from local first responders such as Police and/or Fire Departments. The Director of Safety will notify the President and/or Emergency Management Team members who will provide leadership and coordination support. The Emergency Management and Business Continuity Plan may be partially activated to support a limited emergency.

Major Emergency

Major emergencies include those incidents where many, if not all, campus units are impacted; normal campus operations are interrupted; response and recovery activities will continue for an extended period of time; and routine response procedures and resources are overwhelmed. Procedures for responding to a major emergency are contained within this plan. Major emergencies will likely require partial or full EMBCP activation and full Emergency Management Team participation.

Emergency (Immediate) Notifications

Lamar State College Orange is committed to ensuring the campus community receives timely, accurate, and useful information in the event of a significant emergency or dangerous situation on or near campus, that poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of campus community members.

The Gator Community will be notified via BlackboardConnect of any emergency or dangerous situation that is currently occurring or imminently threatening campus. Notifications may be via phone, email, and/or text utilizing the BlackboardConnect system. Additional notification systems may include email, fire alarms, posted advisory messages on Blackboard and/or our social media channels, and notifications from city, county, or state officials emergency systems. If any of these systems fail or the College deems it appropriate, in-person communication may be used to communicate in an emergency.

Employees can update their contact information by contacting and the Human Resource Department. Students can update their information by contacting the Admissions Department.

Lamar State College Orange has developed a process to notify the campus community in cases of emergency. While it is impossible to predict every significant emergency or dangerous situation that may occur on campus, the following identified situations are examples which may warrant an emergency (immediate) notification after confirmation:

- Bomb/explosives threat /suspicious package
- Campus disturbance/demonstration
- Civil disturbance, on or off campus
- Fire
- Hazardous release/spill, on or off campus
- Armed/Hostile intruder
- Natural disaster (severe weather)
- Public health crisis
- Terrorist incident, on or off campus
- Technology disaster
- Utility outage

Individuals can report emergencies occurring at Lamar State College Orange by calling (409) 670-0789.

Notifying the Campus Community

In the event of an emergency, Lamar State College Orange will initiate and provide, without delay, immediate notifications to the appropriate segment(s) of the College community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students, employees and visitors. In the event of a situation that poses an

immediate threat to the health or safety of students, employees and visitors, LSCO has various systems in place for communicating information quickly. Notification will be made by using some or all these methods depending on the type of emergency. These methods of communication include the mass notification system BlackboardConnect, (which contains email, text, voice message alert); fire alarm (where available), LSCO's e-mail system, and verbal (in person) announcements-may be used to communicate an emergency. LSCO may post updates during a

System to use	Primary	Backup	Authority for	Primary	Backup
	Message	Message	approving &	Message	Message
	Creator	Creator	sending	Sender/	Sender/
			messages	Distributor	Distributor
PRIMARY					
BlackboardConnect	Director	Director of	Director of Safety;	Director of	Director of
	Safety	Marketing	Director of	Marketing	Safety
	,	Communications	Marketing Communications	Communications	
Social Media	Director	Director of	Director of	Director of	Director of
	of Safety	Marketing	Safety; Director	Marketing	Safety
		Communications	of Marketing	Communications	
			Communications		
SECONDARY					
Internal Email	Director	Director of	Director of	Director of	Director of
System	of Safety	Marketing	Safety; Director	Marketing	Safety
		Communications	of Marketing	Communications	
			Communications		

Disseminating Information on Campus Crime

Media Relations

The Director of Safety and the Director of Marketing Communications prepare news releases on crimes for distribution to campus media, the KOGT radio station, and other media outlets, as needed.

Crime Alert Notification

The Director of Safety and the Director of Marketing Communications may alert faculty, staff, or students by other means that may include campus e-mail, postings on designated websites, or through departmental communications.

Emergency Notifications (BlackboardConnect)

For incidents that are deemed to be an emergency that will affect the Gator Community in the immediate and represent a serious or continuing threat to students and employees, the BlackboardConnect Emergency Messaging System will be implemented by the Director of Marketing Communications, Director of Safety, or other designated college employee. BlackboardConnect notifies via voicemail, email, or text (as set up by the recipient).

Employees can update their contact information by contacting the *Human Resource Department*. Students can update their information by contacting the *Admissions Department*. All employees and students are automatically signed up for Blackboard Connect alerts.

The BlackboardConnect Alert message, audience, and timing of dissemination are determined by the Director of Safety and Director of Marketing Communications. In non-emergency situations, a coordinated review by the President's Cabinet may take place.

The BlackboardConnect Alert system is tested yearly by Campus Safety and Marketing Communications.

Confirming the Need to Initiate the Emergency Notification System

Campus Safety and/or other first responders may become aware of a critical incident or other emergency that potentially affects the health and/or safety of the campus community. Generally, Campus Safety Officers become aware of these situations when Campus Safety receives a report or upon discovery during the CSOs patrol or other assignments. Once CSOs confirm that there is, in fact, an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of the campus community, CSOs will immediately notify the Director of Safety.

If the Director of Safety confirms that there is an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all members of the LSCO community, the Director of Safety, the Director of Marketing Communications, and/ or the President will determine the content of the message. LSCO will use some or all of the systems to communicate the threat to the LSCO Community or to the appropriate segment of the community, if the threat is limited to a particular building or segment of the population.

LSCO will without delay – and considering the safety of the community – determine the content of emergency notification messages and initiate the notification system unless in the professional judgment of the responsible authorities/first responders, issuing a notification potentially compromises efforts to assist a victim or contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

Contents of Emergency Notification

LSCO and/or local first responders on the scene of a critical incident or dangerous situation will assist those preparing the emergency notification and will distribute the notification to the entire campus in the event of an emergency. LSCO will also post applicable messages about the dangerous conditions on the LSCO website homepage to ensure the rest of the campus is aware of the situation and the steps they should take to maintain personal and campus safety.

The Director of Safety and the Director of Marketing Communication will compose an emergency notification for distribution. The goal is to ensure individuals are aware of the situation and that they know the steps to take for their personal and community safety. Follow-up information will be distributed using some or all of the identified communication systems (except fire alarm). LSCO will notify the larger community through the local media outlets, working with the local public safety agencies' Public Information Officers, and by providing information on social media sites, as well as LSCO's website.

If there is an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on campus

an institution must follow its emergency notification procedures. An institution that follows its emergency notification procedures is not required to issue a timely warning based on the same circumstance; however, the institution must provide adequate follow-up information to the community as needed.

Evacuation Procedures

Emergency Evacuation Procedures

Students and employees are strongly encouraged to learn the locations of the emergency exits in buildings and are provided with guidance about the direction they should travel when exiting each facility for a short-term building evacuation. Campus Safety does not tell building occupants in advance about the designated locations for long-term evacuations because those decisions are affected by time of day, location of the building being evacuated, the availability of the various designated emergency gathering locations on campus, and other factors such as the location and nature of the threat. In both cases, Campus Safety personnel on the scene will communicate information to the occupants regarding the developing situation or any evacuation status changes. Emergency evacuation routes for each building, including assembly areas, are identified in Appendix D Emergency Management and Business Continuity Plan (page 76) and can be found on our website. The recommended evacuation routes and assembly points should be utilized by the Building Liaison in an emergency situation requiring evacuation.

The purpose of the evacuation drill is to prepare building occupants for an organized evacuation in case of a fire or other emergency. At LSCO evacuation drills are used as a way to educate and train occupants on fire safety issues specific to their building. During the drill, occupants "practice" drill procedures and familiarize themselves with the location of exits and sound of the fire alarm.

General Evacuation Procedures

At the sound of a fire alarm or if you are instructed to evacuate, leave your work area immediately and proceed to the nearest exit, and leave the building. If you are the first to recognize a fire situation, activate the alarm, evacuate to a safe location using the nearest exit, and notify Campus Safety at 409.670.0789 or call 911.

- 1. Remain Calm
- 2. Do NOT use elevators. Use the Stairs
- 3. Assist the physically impaired. If he/she is unable to exit without using an elevator, secure a safe location near a stairwell, and immediately inform Campus Safety or the responding Fire Department of the individual's location.
- 4. Proceed to a clear area at least 150 feet from the building. Keep all walkways clear for emergency vehicles.
- 5. Make sure all personnel are out of the building.
- 6. Do not re-enter the building unless you are instructed to do so by Campus Safety.

Shelter-in-Place

There are a few emergency situations where an evacuation of a building and/or classroom is not advisable – tornadoes, hostile intruder, hazardous release outside, terrorist attack, etc. Please refer to the Shelter in Place document found on Blackboard under the Employee Resources/Work Life tab in the Safety Section.

What it Means to "Shelter-in-Place"

If an incident occurs and you are told to "shelter in place," it means finding a safe location indoors and staying there until you are given an "all clear" or told to evacuate by authorities. Thus, to "shelter-in-place" means to make a shelter of the building that you are in, and with a few adjustments this location can be made even safer and more comfortable until it is safe to go outside.

Shelter-in-Place Communications

- A "Shelter-in-Place" will be announced via BlackboardConnect.
- If a situation that may require a Shelter-in-Place is discovered, the individual making the discovery shall immediately contact LSCO's Campus Safety Officers who will advise and provide as much information as possible.
- Fire evacuation alarms are **NOT** to be sounded.

Shelter-in-Place Procedures

No matter where you are, the basic steps of shelter-in-place will generally remain the same. Should the need ever arise, follow these steps, unless instructed otherwise by local emergency personnel. If you are inside, stay where you are. Collect any emergency shelter-in-place supplies and a telephone to be used in case of emergency.

- Lock the classroom and other doors.
- Close windows & window treatments.
- Turn off lights, air conditioners, heaters, and fans.
- Close vents to ventilation systems if you are able. (College staff will turn off the ventilation as quickly as possible.)
- Everyone is to remain quiet and not enter hallways.
- Should the fire alarm sound, do **not** evacuate the building unless:
- You have firsthand knowledge that there is a fire in the building, or
- You have been advised by LSCO Officials or Local Law Enforcement to evacuate the building.
- Crouch down in areas that are out of sight from doors and windows.
- Students in hallways are to seek shelter in the nearest classroom.
- Students in outdoor areas should immediately take cover, proceed into the closest building quickly or follow instructions from emergency personnel on scene.
- Make a list of people with you and ask someone (hall staff, faculty, or other staff) to call the list in to Campus Safety so they know where you are sheltering. If only students are present, one of the students should call in the list.
- Turn on a radio or TV and listen for further instructions.
- Make yourself comfortable.

Drills, Exercises, and Training

The purpose of evacuation drills is to prepare building occupants for an organized evacuation in case of a fire or other emergency. LSCO evacuations drills are used as a way to educate and train occupants on fire safety issues specific to their building. During the drill, occupants "practice" drill procedures and familiarize themselves with the location of exits and the sound of the alarm.

To ensure LSCO's emergency management plans remain current and actionable, LSCO in conjunction with other emergency agencies, will conduct emergency response drills and exercises,

at a minimum, once a year. These exercises may include tabletop drills, emergency operations center exercises, or full-scale emergency response exercises, and tests of the emergency notification systems on campus. These tests, which may be announced or unannounced, are designed to assess and evaluate the emergency plans and capabilities of the institution. LSCO conducts after-action reviews of all emergency management exercises.

Each test is documented and includes a description of the exercise, the date and time of the exercise, and whether it was announced or unannounced.

The campus publicizes a summary of the emergency response and evacuation procedures via email at least once each year in conjunction with a test (exercise and drill) that meets all the requirements of the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

Security of and Access to Campus Facilities

Access to Campus Facilities

Exterior access to facilities is generally available to faculty, staff, and students from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays. Weekend hours vary according to class and event schedules. In accordance with Administrative Policy 5.19, employees may request building access keys. Employees receiving building access keys must agree to follow entrance/exit procedures. The Director of Physical Plant will designate a key mechanic who will maintain all campus locks and manufacture keys as needed. No other person is authorized to install, alter, or remove locks without the approval of the President, the Director of Safety, or the Director of Physical Plant.

LSCO is a public and open campus. We do not make an effort to restrain the general public from entering the campus. However, LSCO reserves the right to bar individuals considered a threat to the well-being of the Gator community. LSCO schedules access to academic buildings, so they are open on weekends only as needed. Access to individual classrooms and laboratories is limited to those enrolled in the courses meeting there. Likewise, access to most programs is limited to those enrolled in the program or otherwise authorized.

Campus Safety Officers conduct routine patrols of campus buildings and property to evaluate and monitor security related matters. Surveillance cameras are also monitored in conjunction with patrols.

Residence Hall Access

Lamar State College Orange has no residence halls.

Maintenance of Campus Facilities

LSCO maintains campus facilities in a manner that minimizes hazardous and unsafe conditions. Parking lots and pathways are illuminated with lighting. LSCO will address burned out lights promptly as well as malfunctioning door locks or other physical conditions that enhance security.

The Director of Physical Plant is responsible for all preventative maintenance including monitoring all buildings and mechanical systems to ensure their integrity and proper operation; schedule and perform preventive maintenance on buildings and building-related equipment as necessary; maintain the safety of all facilities and equipment; coordinate the licensure and inspection of all building-related equipment/facilities as required by law.

The Director of Physical Plant will designate a key mechanic who will maintain all campus locks and manufacture keys as needed. No other person is authorized to install, alter, ore remove locks without the approval of the President, the Director of Safety, or the Director Physical Plant.

We encourage community members to promptly report any security concerns, including concerns about locking mechanism, lighting, or landscaping to the Director of Safety or to Physical Plant Management.

Director of Physical Plant <u>Marlin.McMullen@lsco.edu</u> (409) 882-3367

Crime Definitions and Statistics

Definitions Used in Classification of Crime Statistics

(Listed in order of reporting hierarchy)

Primary Crimes

- Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter The willful (non- negligent) killing of one human being by another.
- Manslaughter by Negligence The killing of another person through gross negligence.
- Rape The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus, with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. This offense includes the rape of both males and females.
- **Fondling** The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.
- **Incest** Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- Statutory Rape Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.
- **Robbery** The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.
- Aggravated Assault An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. (It is not necessary that injury result from an aggravated assault when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed.)
- **Burglary** The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. For reporting purposes this definition includes unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or felony; breaking and entering with intent to commit a larceny; housebreaking; safecracking; and all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.
- Motor Vehicle Theft Theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.
- **Arson** Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

Violence Against Women Act Crimes

Domestic Violence

A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed by;

- A current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
- A person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
- A person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
- A person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred; By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.
- By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's
 acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of
 violence occurred.

Dating Violence

Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim.

- The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
- For the purposes of this definition—
- Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
- Dating violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

Stalking

Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress.

- When reporting crimes of stalking that include activities in more than one calendar year, LSCO will record crime statistics for each and every year in which the course of conduct is reported to our Safety and Security Department, local law enforcement, or to a CSA.
- Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property.
- Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.
- Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

Arrests and Disciplinary Referrals

• Weapons: Carrying, possessing, etc. is defined as the violation of laws or ordinances

- prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or other deadly weapons. This classification encompasses weapons offenses that are regulatory in nature.
- **Drug Abuse Violations:** The violation of laws prohibiting the production, distribution and/or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in their preparation and/or use. The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance. Arrest for violations of state and local laws, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs.
- **Liquor Law Violations:** The violation of state or local laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of alcoholic beverages, not including driving under the influence and drunkenness.

Hate Crime (Any of the Above Offenses and Those Below)

A criminal offense that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim.

- Larceny-Theft: The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.
- **Simple Assault:** An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness and is counted only in relation to a reported hate crime.
- **Intimidation:** To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack and is counted only in relation to a reported hate crime
- **Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property:** To willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface, or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

*Categories of bias are Race, Gender, Gender Identity, Religion, Sexual Orientation, Ethnicity, National Origin, and Disability.

Unfounded Crimes

Law Enforcement may on occasion, due to investigation and the totality of information, "unfound" a crime due to it being false or baseless. If the statistics were originally reported, it may be removed from any statistics originally reported, and it would be included in the total count of unfounded crimes for the year in which it was reported. The un-founding of the crime requires changing the reported crime in the daily log or police activity report within two business days once the investigation is completed.

The Hierarchy Rule

As required by the Clery Act and under LSCO Policy, when more than one criminal offense was committed during a single incident within LSCO's Clery Act Geography, LSCO will only count the most serious offense, with some exceptions. Those exceptions include when reporting arson and sexual assault along with another serious offense.

Daily Crime Log

LSCO maintains a daily crime log which contains information concerning crimes that were reported to Campus Safety by the victim, Campus Security Authority (CSA), Title IX Coordinator or local law enforcement. Data in the report includes date/time crime was reported, nature/classification of crime, date/time crime occurred, general location, and the disposition.

The Daily Crime log is accessible in person at the main campus during normal business hours, with the Director of Safety. (Ron Lewis Library, Room 222C, <u>Rebecca.Gentry@lsco.edu</u>, (409) 882-3910).

Definitions of Clery Geography

On-Campus Buildings or Property

- Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area and used by the institution in direct support of or in a manner related to the institution's educational purposes, including residence halls; and
- Any building or property that is within or reasonably contiguous to the area identified in the above paragraph, that is owned by the institution but controlled by another person, is frequently used by students and supports institutional purposes (such as food or other retail vendor).

Non-Campus Buildings or Property

- Any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution; or
- Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of or in relation to the institution's educational purposes, is frequently used by students, and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution.

Public Property

• All public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, is within the campus or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.

On Campus Student Housing

 On-campus student housing is defined as any student housing facility that is owned or controlled by the institution or is located on property that is owned or controlled by the institution, and is within the reasonably contiguous geographic area that makes up the campus is considered a non-campus student housing facility.

*LSCO does not have any Student Housing facilities.

LSCO crime statistics do not include crimes that occur in privately owned homes or businesses. A listing of on-campus and non-campus LSCO buildings or property is collected annually from the Business Office. The list is given to the Director of Campus Safety to collect appropriate crime statistics for Clery Act-defined geography.

Crime Statistics

Crime Statistic chart for the Lamar State College Orange Main Campus is listed below.

UNFOUNDED CRIMES: There were zero (0) unfounded crimes for LSCO Main campus in 2022, 2023, or 2024.

HATE CRIME REPORTING: There were zero (0) hate crimes reported for LSCO main campus in 2022, 2023, or 2024. LSCO has no residence halls.

Lamar State	College Oran	ge Repor		s (Main Ca	mpus)
Primary Crimes	Year	On Campus	Non-Campus Building or Property	Public Property	Total
Murder and Non-Negligent	2022	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter By	2022	0	0	0	0
Negligence	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
Dana	2022 2023	0	0	0	0
Rape	2023	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
Fondling	2023	0	0	0	0
1 viidinig	2024	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
Incest	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2023	0	0	0	0
-	2024	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
Arson	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
		VAWA Offens		0	
D (* 17.1	2022	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
Damastias Vielense	2022 2023	0	0	0	0
Domestice Violence	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
Stalking	2023	1	0	0	1
Starking	2024	2	0	0	2
			sciplinary Action		
	2022	0	0	0	0
iquar I aw Violations America	2022	0	0	0	0
iquor Law Violations Arrest	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Violations Arrest	2023	0	0	0	0
Ding Dan violations Affest	2023	0	0	1	1
	2024	0	0	0	0
eapons Law Violations Arres	2023	0	0	0	0
	2024	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	2022	0	0	0	0
Referrals for Disciplinary	2023	0	0	0	0
Action	2024	0	0	0	0
Drug Law Violations	2022	0	0	0	0
Violations Referrals for	2023	0	0	0	0
Disciplinary Action	2024	0	0	0	0
Weapons Law Violations	2022	0	0	0	0
Referrals for Displinary	2023	0	0	0	0
Action	2024	0	0	0	0

SEXUAL OFFENSES, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE

LSCO's Response to Sexual and Gender Violence

LSCO is committed to providing a safe learning and working environment, and in compliance with federal law has adopted procedures to prevent and respond to incidents of sexual violence including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. These guidelines apply to all students, faculty, staff, contractors, and visitors: Sexual Misconduct & Title IX.

The TSUS Sexual Misconduct Policy classifies sexual misconduct matters as either Title IX Sexual Harassment or Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct. Allegations of sexual misconduct shall be classified as Title IX Sexual Harassment provided:

- The sexual misconduct meets the definition of Title IX Sexual Harassment.
- The sexual misconduct occurred against a person participating in or attempting to participate in a university's education program or activity; and
- The sexual misconduct occurred against a person located within the United States.
- Sexual Misconduct that does not meet all the requirements does not constitute Title IX Sexual Harassment and shall be classified as Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct.

Title IX Sexual Harassment refers to sexual misconduct that meets one or more of the following three behaviors:

- A university's employee conditioning provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the university on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct ("quid pro quo" harassment which may be express or implied and need not be "severe" or "pervasive" as a single incident is inherently "offensive" and jeopardizes equal educational access);
- Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the university's education program or activity; or
- "Sexual Assault", "Dating Violence", "Domestic Violence", or "Stalking" as defined in referenced statutes.

Sexual Harassment under other applicable state and federal law means unwelcomed sex-based verbal or physical conduct that:

- In the employment context, unreasonably interferes with a person's work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment; or
- In the education context, is sufficiently severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that the conduct interferes with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from educational programs or activities at a postsecondary educational institution.

Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing a range of non-consensual sexual activity or unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes but is not limited to sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual intimidation, sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Sexual misconduct can be committed by men or women, strangers, or acquaintances, and can occur between or among people of the same or opposite sex.

Prohibited Conduct

LSCO prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking (as defined by the Clery Act) and reaffirms its commitment to maintaining a campus environment that emphasizes the dignity and worth of all members of the Gator community. Toward that end, LSCO issues this statement of policy to inform the campus community of our programs to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking as well as the procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, which will be followed regardless of whether the incident occurs on or off campus when it is reported to a LSCO official.

Dating Violence is violence committed by a person:

- Who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the Victim; and
- Where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on consideration of the following factors:
- The length of the relationship
- The type of relationship
- The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship

Family (Domestic)

Violence includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner or roommate, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the State of Texas, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the State of Texas.

Retaliation

Means any adverse action threatened or taken against a person because they have filed, supported, or provided information in connection with a complaint of sexual misconduct, including but not limited to direct and indirect intimidation, threats, and harassment.

Sexual Assault

Means any form of non-consensual sexual activity representing a continuum of conduct from forcible rape to non-physical forms of pressure designed to compel individuals to engage in sexual activity against their will. Sexual Assault is defined as forcible or nonforcible sex offenses under the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (U.C.R) program [20 U.S.C. 1092 (f)(6)(A)(v)], which includes these two offense categories:

Sex Offenses, Forcible

Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

Forcible Rape (Except Statutory Rape)

The carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Forcible Sodomy

Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Sex Offenses, Nonforcible

(Except Prostitution Offenses) Unlawful, nonforcible sexual intercourse.

Incest

Nonforcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Statutory Rape

Nonforcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Examples of Sexual Assault include, but are not limited to, the following nonconsensual sexual activity:

- Sexual intercourse (vaginal and/or anal);
- Oral sex;
- Rape or attempted rape;
- Penetration of an orifice (anal, vaginal, oral) with the penis, finger, or other object;
- Unwanted touching of a sexual nature;
- Use of coercion, manipulation, or force to make someone else engage in sexual touching, including touching of breasts, chest, buttocks, and genitalia;
- Engaging in sexual activity with a person who is unable to provide consent; or
- Knowingly transmitting a sexually transmitted disease to another.

Sexual Exploitation

Occurs when a person takes nonconsensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for their own advantage or benefit, or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the one being exploited.

Examples can include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Prostituting another;
- Non-consensual electronic recording, photographing, or transmitting intimate or sexual utterances, sounds, or images without the knowledge and consent of all parties involved;
- Voyeurism (spying on others who are in intimate or sexual situations);
- Going beyond the boundaries of consent (such as letting friends hide in a closet to watch another friend having consensual sex); or
- Distributing intimate or sexual information about another person without that person's consent.

Sexual Violence

Refers to physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent. All such acts are forms of sexual misconduct.

Stalking

Means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

- Fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or
- Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Protecting Minors on Campus

Protecting Minors on Campus: Texas state law requires anyone who suspects child abuse or neglect to report those suspicions to the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) or to a law enforcement agency. Any person who has reason to believe that a child's physical or mental health or welfare has been adversely affected by abuse or neglect by another person *must* immediately report the suspected abuse or neglect. This obligation applies to *ALL* members of the College community, including faculty, administrators, staff, and even students. In addition, there are special reporting obligations for certain employees defined as "professionals." Licensed professionals including, "teachers, nurses, doctors, day care employees, and employees of a clinic or health care facility that provides reproductive services" have a specific duty to make a report not later than 48 hours after suspecting that a child has been or may be abused or neglected or that the child is the victim of the offense of indecency with a child.

A "child" is a person under 18 years of age. Neither Texas law nor any LSCO policy allows individuals to delegate their duty to report child abuse or neglect.

Reporting suspicion to another individual or to an official does not satisfy the reporting requirement. All employees are required to comply with LSCO policy (Administrative Policy and Procedures, 5.21 Child Abuse Reporting and Training Requirements); however, an employee's first obligation is to protect the child by reporting to law enforcement or the Department of Family and Protective Services. Any person who knowingly fails to report suspected child abuse or neglect commits a Class A Misdemeanor, which is punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a fine of up to \$4,000. One can contact: • 911 to report an emergency • Local law enforcement in your area • Texas Department of Family and Protective Services at its toll-free, 24-hour Family Violence Hotline at 1-800-252-5400.

LSCO Related Policies

The following policies will address how LSCO will proceed once reported.

- Policies: Texas State University System
- LSCO Policies & Procedures | Lamar State College Orange
- Conduct and Discipline Lamar State College Orange Modern Campus CatalogTM
- <u>Student Rights and Responsibilities Lamar State College Orange Modern Campus CatalogTM</u>

Federal Clery Act Definitions of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

The Clery Act defines the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking as follows:

https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-34/section-668.46 (Code of Federal Regulations, Institutional Security Policies and Crime Statistics)

Domestic Violence

- i. A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed
 - a. By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
 - b. By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
 - c. By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabited with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
 - d. By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred; or
 - e. By any person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.
- ii. For the purposes of complying with the requirements of this section and §668.41, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

Dating Violence

Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim.

- i. The existence of such a relationship shall be based on the reporting party's statement and with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the people involved in the relationship.
- ii. For the purposes of this definition
 - a. Dating Violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
 - b. Dating Violence does not include acts covered under the definition of Domestic Violence.
- iii. For the purposes of complying with the requirements of this section and §668.41, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

Sexual Assault

An offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest, or statutory rape as used in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. Per the National Incident-Based Reporting System User Manual from the FBI UCR Program, a sex offense is "any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim if incapable of giving consent."

- Rape is defined as the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim.
- Fondling is defined as the touching of the private parts of another person for the purposes of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.
- Incest is defined as sexual intercourse between the persons who are related to each other withing the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- Statutory Rape is defined as sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Stalking

- i. Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would case a reasonable person to
 - a. Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or
 - b. Suffer substantial emotional distress.
- ii. For the purposes of this definition
 - a. Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts, which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property.
 - b. Reasonable Person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim.
 - c. Substantial Emotional Distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.
- iii. For the purposes of complying with the requirements of this section and section 668.41, any incident meeting this definition is considered a crime for the purposes of Clery Act reporting.

<u>Texas Definitions of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking</u>

The State of Texas criminalizes domestic violence, dating violence, family violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Law enforcement can investigate a reported crime.

Dating Violence

Dating Violence, as defined by the <u>Section 71.0021</u>, states dating violence means an act, other than a defensive measure to protect oneself, by an actor that:

- 1. Is committed against a victim or applicant for a protective order:
 - a. With whom the actor has or has had a dating relationship; or
 - b. Because of the victim's or applicant's marriage to or dating relationship with an individual with whom the actor is or has been in a dating relationship or marriage; and
- 2. Is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the victim or applicant in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault.

For purposes of this title, "dating relationship" means a relationship between individuals who have or have had a continuing relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on consideration of:

- Length of relationship;
- Nature of relationship; and
- Frequency and type of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

A casual acquaintanceship or ordinary fraternization in a business or social context does not constitute a "dating relationship" under Subsection (b).

Family Violence (Domestic Violence included)

Domestic Violence, Family Violence, as defined by the Texas Family Code, <u>Section 71.004</u> states family violence means:

- 1. An act by a member of the family or household against another member of the family or household that is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the member in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault, but does not include defensive measures to protect oneself;
- 2. Abuse, as that term is defined by Sections 261.001(1)(C), (E), (G), (H), (I), (J), and (K), by a member of a family or household toward a child of the family or household; or
- 3. Dating violence, as that term is defined by Texas Family Code, Section 71.0021.

Sexual Assault

As defined by Texas Penal Code, <u>Section 22.011</u>. Forcible or nonforcible sex offenses under the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program [20 U.S.C. 1092 (f)(6)(A)(v)], which includes these two offense categories:

- i. Sex Offenses, Forcible: Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.
 - a) Forcible Rape: (Except Statutory Rape) The carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
 - b) Forcible Sodomy: Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
 - c) Sexual Assault with an Object: To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
 - d) Forcible Fondling: The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will or not forcibly or against the person's will in instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.
- ii. Sex Offenses, Nonforcible: (Except Prostitution Offenses) Unlawful, nonforcible sexual intercourse.
 - a) Incest: Nonforcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
 - b) Statutory Rape: Nonforcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Examples of sexual assault include, but are not limited to, the following nonconsensual sexual activity;

- Sexual intercourse (vaginal or anal);
- Oral sex;
- Rape or attempted rape;
- Penetration of an orifice (anal, vaginal, oral) with the penis, finger, or other object;
- Unwanted touching of a sexual nature;
- Use of coercion, manipulation or force to make someone else engage in sexual touching, including touching of breasts, chest, buttocks, and genitalia;
- Engaging in sexual activity with a person who is unable to provide consent; or
- Knowingly transmitting a sexually transmitted disease to another.

Stalking

Stalking, as defined by the <u>Texas Penal Code</u>, <u>Section 42.072</u>, states a person commits an offense if the person, on more than one occasion and pursuant to the same scheme or course of conduct that is directed specifically at another person, knowingly engages in conduct that:

- 1. Constitutes an offense under <u>Section 42.07 (Harassment)</u>, or that the actor knows or reasonably should know the other person will regard as threatening;
 - a. Bodily injury or death for the other person;
 - b. Bodily injury or death for a member of the other person's family or household or for an individual with whom the other person has a dating relationship; or
 - c. An offense will be committed against the other person's property;
- 2. Causes the other person, a member of the other person's family or household, or an individual with whom the other person has a dating relationship to be placed in fear of bodily injury or death or in fear that an offense will be committed against the person's property, or to feel harassed, annoyed, alarmed, abused, tormented, embarrassed, or offended; and
- 3. Would cause a reasonable person to:
 - a. Fear bodily injury or death for him/herself;
 - b. Fear bodily injury or death for a member of the person's family or household or for an individual with whom the person has a dating relationship;
 - c. Fear that an offense will be committed against the person's property; or
 - d. Feels harassed, annoyed, alarmed, abused, tormented, embarrassed, or offended.

Related Texas Laws

Consent (State Law Definition)

Consent is an informed and freely and affirmatively communicated willingness to participate in a particular sexual activity. Consent can be expressed either by words or by clear and unambiguous actions, as long as those words or actions create mutually understandable permission regarding the conditions of each instance of sexual activity. It is the responsibility of the person who wants to engage in sexual activity to ensure that he/she has the consent of the other to engage in each instance of sexual activity. (The definition of consent for the crime of sexual assault in Texas can be found at Texas Penal Code 22.011.

The law states a sexual assault under Section 1, is without the consent of the other person if:

- 1. The actor compels the other person to submit or participate by the use of physical force or violence;
- 2. The actor compels the other person to submit or participate by threatening to use force or violence against the other person, and the other person believes that the actor has the present ability to execute the threat;
- 3. The other person has not consented, and the actor knows the other person is unconscious or physically unable to resist;
- 4. The actor knows that as a result of mental disease or defect the other person is, at the time of the sexual assault, incapable either of appraising the nature of the act or resisting it;
- 5. The other person has not consented, and the actor knows the other person is unaware that the sexual assault is occurring;
- 6. The actor has intentionally impaired the other person's power to appraise or control the other person's conduct by administering any substance without the other person's knowledge;
- 7. The actor compels the other person to submit or participate by threatening to use force or violence against any person, and the person believes that the actor has the ability to execute the threat;
- 8. The actor is a public servant who coerces the other person to submit or participate;
- 9. The actor is a mental health services provider or a health care services provider who causes the other person, who is a patient or former patient of the actor, to submit or participate by exploiting the other;
- 10. Person's emotional dependency on the actor;
- 11. The actor is a clergyman who causes the other person to submit or participate by exploiting the other person's emotional dependency on the clergyman in the clergyman's professional character as a spiritual advisor; or
- 12. The actor is an employee of a facility where the other person is a resident, unless the employee and resident are formally or informally married to each other under Chapter 2, Texas Family Code.

The Texas State University System defines consent in the Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures as an informed and freely and affirmatively communicated willingness to participate in a particular sexual activity. Consent can be expressed either by words or by clear and unambiguous actions, as long as those words or actions create mutually understandable permission regarding the conditions of each instance of sexual activity.

It is the responsibility of the person who wants to engage in sexual activity to ensure that s/he has the consent of the other to engage in each instance of sexual activity. The College will consider the following factors in determining whether consent was provided:

- 1. consent is a voluntary agreement or assent to engage in sexual activity;
- 2. someone who is incapacitated cannot consent;
- 3. consent can be withdrawn at any time;
- 4. past consent does not imply future consent;
- 5. silence or an absence of resistance does not imply consent;
- 6. consent to engage in sexual activity with one person does not imply consent to engage in sexual activity with another;
- 7. coercion, force, or threat invalidates consent; and

8. being intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or any other substance is never an excuse for engaging in Sexual Misconduct.

Victims' Bill of Rights

The Campus Sexual Assault Victims' Bill of Rights is a federal law (part of the Clery Act) that requires all colleges and universities participating in federal student aid programs to give sexual assault Victims certain basic rights.

The following rights are provided in writing to the Victim:

- Victims shall be notified of their options to notify law enforcement.
- The accuser and accused must have the same opportunity to have other present.
- Both parties shall be simultaneously informed of the outcome of any disciplinary proceeding.
- Victims shall be notified of counseling services.
- Victims shall be notified of options for changing academic and living situations.

A victim of crime is defined by <u>Chapter 56A</u>, <u>Code of Criminal Procedure</u> as a person who:

- Is a victim of the offense of sexual assault; kidnapping; aggravated robbery; trafficking of persons;
- Or injury to a child, elderly, or disabled individual; or
- Has suffered personal injury or death as a result of the criminal conduct of another.

The law also applies to victims of juvenile crime, including victims who suffer property loss.

The State of Texas intends that victims of crime receive the following safeguards, assurances, and considerations:

- The Texas Constitution (Article I, Section 30) provides victims of violent crime with the right, upon their request, to receive notice about court proceedings and the conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, and release of the accused.
- Texas Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) is a system that notified registered persons of suspect/offender status and court event changes. Notifications are sent when a suspect/offender is released or transferred, there is a change in custody status (e.g., death, escape), or a court event has been set or changed.
 - O VINE 24-hour information on jail status and court events: 1-877-894-8463
 - o VINE website: VINELink Empowering Victims of Crime
- Victims may also be eligible for the <u>Texas Crime Victims Compensation Program</u>

<u>Sexual Misconduct Policy, Prevention, and Reporting Policy Statement</u> Excerpt from TSUS Sexual Misconduct Policy & Procedures

TSUS Sexual Misconduct Policy

Texas State University System Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures Educational programs and campaigns citation 34 CFR 668.46(j). Procedures victims should follow citation 34 CFR 668.46(b) (11)(i) Procedure's institutions should follow citation 668.46(b)(11)(ii) Procedures for institutional disciplinary action citation 34 CFR 668.46(k).

"The Texas State University System (TSUS), its colleges, and universities (collectively referred to as "System" and/or "Components" and used interchangeably herein) are committed to creating and maintaining educational communities in which each individual is respected, appreciated, and valued. The System's focus on tolerance, openness, and respect is key in providing every member of the TSUS community with basic human dignity free from all forms of Sexual Misconduct, including Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking. Any report of behavior that threatens our institutional values and breaches this Policy shall be promptly investigated and remediated in accordance with principles of law, fairness, and equity to all Parties involved."

Purpose of Policy

The purpose of this Sexual Misconduct Policy is to ensure that:

- Sexual Misconduct is not tolerated on LSCO property or any LSCO educational program or activity;
- LSCO maintains an environment that promotes prompt reporting of all forms of Sexual Misconduct and the timely and fair resolution of Sexual Misconduct Complaints or Reports;
- LSCO will take prompt and appropriate action to eliminate Sexual Misconduct, prevent its recurrence, and remedy its effects;
- LSCO complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding Sexual Misconduct, including sexual discrimination, in higher education; and
- LSCO has a uniform policy that defines and describes prohibited sexual conduct, establishes procedures for processing complaints or reports of Sexual Misconduct, permits appropriate sanctions, and identified available resources.

Notice of Sexual Misconduct Violations

Sexual Misconduct as defined, constitutes a violation of this Policy. Students and Employees reported as having engaged in Sexual Misconduct are subject to investigation for violating this Policy. Should an investigation result in a Finding that this Policy was violated, the violator may be subject to sanctions as defined herein.

Applicability of this Policy

This Policy applies to all students, faculty, staff, and Third Parties within LSCO's education programs or activities and prohibits Sexual Misconduct committed by or against students, faculty, staff, or Third Parties.

The Policy applies to:

- All incidents of sexual misconduct;
- All incidents of sexual misconduct occurring on or after the effective date of this policy;
- All incidents of Title IX Sexual Harassment; and
- With the exception of incidents of Title IX Sexual Harassment, all incidents of Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct occurring prior to the effective date of the policy are control by the policy in effect at the time.

Equal Access

LSCO shall ensure, to the greatest extent practicable, equal access for students enrolled at or employees of LSCO who are persons with disabilities. LSCO shall make reasonable efforts to

consult with a disability services office, advocacy groups for people with disabilities, and other relevant stakeholders to assist with complying with LSCO's duties under this policy.

First Amendment Rights

Freedom of speech and principles of academic freedom are central to the mission of institutions of higher education. Constitutionally protected expression cannot be considered Sexual Misconduct under this policy.

Prevention

Personal Safety and Crime Prevention Programs

The LSCO Environmental Health Specialist is responsible for building inspections, recommending training modules, and addressing concerns brought forth by the Gator Community concerning the safety and security of our campus. It is the intent of Lamar State College Orange to inform students of good crime prevention and security awareness practices.

During the 2024 calendar year, LSCO offered approximately multiple crime prevention and security awareness programs. Topics such as personal safety, drug and alcohol abuse awareness and sexual assault prevention are some examples of programs offered during the prior academic year.

All crime prevention and security awareness programs encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own security and the security of others. Participants in these programs are asked to be alert, security-conscious and involved and advised to call Campus Safety to report suspicious behavior. For additional questions regarding crime prevention, contact the department directly at (409) 882-3910.

Campus Safety focuses attention on crime prevention through increased emphasis on community-oriented policing. Throughout the calendar year there will be group programs and individual counseling on crime prevention presented by Campus Safety Officers, Orange Police Department, and other local first responder groups. Programs by the Criminal Justice Department are also available. The Director of Safety speaks to new students during orientation and employees during convocation about general campus safety, crime prevention, reporting procedures and locations, as well as guidance on any current trends on campus. Topics of these presentations include personal safety awareness, crime prevention strategies and reporting, Title IX topics, hazing, and property protection strategies.

<u>Programs to Prevent Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking</u>

LSCO engages in comprehensive, intentional, and integrated programming, initiatives, strategies, and campaigns intended to end dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking that:

- Are culturally relevant, inclusive of diverse communities and identities, sustainable, responsive to community needs, and informed by research, or asses for value, effectiveness, or outcome; and
- Consider the environmental risk and protective factors as the occur on the individual, relationship, institutional, community and societal levels.

LSCO is committed to increasing awareness and preventing sexual violence. LSCO provides all incoming students and new employees with ongoing awareness and prevention campaigns. We intend for these to prevent rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. We hope to affect a culture shift through the changing of social norms and other approaches that include;

- A clear statement that LSCO prohibits such acts of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking (as defined by the Clery Act);
- Their definitions of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking according to applicable jurisdictional definitions of these terms (Texas state law);
- What behavior and actions constitute consent, in reference to sexual activity, in the State of Texas;
- The institution's definition of consent and the purposes for which that definition is used;
- A description of safe and positive options for bystander intervention. Bystander intervention means safe and positive options that may be carried out by an individual or individuals to prevent harm or to intervene when there is risk of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Bystander intervention includes recognizing situations of potential harm, understanding institutional structures and cultural conditions that facilitate violence, overcoming barriers to intervening, identifying safe and effective intervention options, and taking actions to intervene;
- Information about risk reduction. Risk reduction means options designed to decrease perpetration and bystander inaction, and to increase empowerment for victims in order to promote safety and to help individuals and communities address conditions that facilitate violence.
- Information regarding:
 - o Procedures victims should follow if a crime of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking occurs (as described in "Procedures Victims Should Follow if a Crime of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Occurs" elsewhere in this document);
 - How the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties (as described in "assistance for Victims: Rights and Options" elsewhere in this document);
 - Existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services available for victims, both within the institution and in the community (as described in "Assistance for Victims: Rights and Options" elsewhere in the document); and
 - Options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, transportation, and working situations or protective measures (as described in "Assistance for Victims: Rights and Options" elsewhere in this document);
 - Procedures for institutional disciplinary action in cases of alleged dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking (as described in "Adjudication of Violations" elsewhere in this document)

Primary Crime Prevention and Awareness Programs

During the 2024 calendar year, LSCO offered TSUS Ethics training programs. Topics such as personal safety, drug and alcohol abuse awareness, drunk/distracted driving awareness, bystander intervention, sexual assault prevention, and domestic violence awareness/prevention are some examples of programs offered during the prior calendar year. These programs are sponsored by the Title IX office, Campus Safety, Student Services, and other departments.

New Hire Orientation

New Hire orientations are held at the same time of hire, and employees are given an overview of LSOC's benefits which include the Employee Assistance Program. The EAP offers assistance on a range of issues including mental or substance abuse disorders, health and social issues. The Administrative Policies and Procedures are located online.

Incoming Students

Sexual Assault Prevention for Undergraduates

Title IX and Clery Act training that engages undergraduate students in fostering healthy relationship behaviors and preparing them to recognize and respond to sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, when it occurs. The training is culturally relevant, inclusive of diverse communities and identities, and developed by informed research to ensure effectiveness.

The course contents include:

- Importance of Values
- Risk Reduction
- Aspects of (Un) Healthy Relationships
- Gender Socialization
- Definitions of Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, & Stalking
- Consent
- Bystander Intervention
- Victim Support
- Reporting and Responding

AlcoholEdu for College

This course encourages students to reflect on their drinking and encourages safe decision-making, making campuses safer for everyone. The course is designed for first-year college students. It is an interactive online program using the latest evidence-based prevention methods to create a highly engaging user experience, inspiring students to make healthier decisions related to alcohol and other drugs.

The course content includes:

- Overview of key definitions
- Myths and misperceptions
- Alcohol and motivation
- Blood alcohol concentration
- Strategies for drinkers / non-drinkers

- Bystander intervention
- Academic brain science
- Media literacy and expectations
- Alcohol and the law
- College, drinking, and stress

Vector's Sexual Assault Prevention and AlcoholEdu are a comprehensive education and training solution required of all incoming freshman and transfer students.

Faculty and staff are required to take VECTOR's Preventing Harassment and Discrimination/Title IX/Clery Act training at hire. The course content includes:

- Preventing harassment and discrimination
- □ Developing awareness and recognizing discrimination
- Cultivating attitudes and identifying harassment
- □ Taking action against retaliation
- □ Maintaining positive workplaces
- Bystander intervention
- □ Aspects of (Un)Healthy relationships
- □ Consent
- □ Sexual Assault
- Stalking
- □ Reporting and disclosure
- □ Supportive measures
- □ Grievance process

Additionally, the faculty and staff are made aware of additional relevant information, such as recent legislative updates, ongoing throughout the year.

Ongoing Prevention and Awareness Campaigns

The College has developed an annual education campaign of educational materials distributed at student orientation and posted throughout campus. Campus events, such as Octoberfest and Gatorama, offer opportunities for non-profit organizations, student organizations, and campus departments to have booths that present educational materials to students and employees. The Annual Fall and Spring Career Fairs feature non-profit organizations that also provide information on prevention and awareness programs. Student Life offers programs throughout the year, including Stalking Awareness & Prevention in January, Dating Violence Awareness in February, Alcohol and Drug Awareness in March, Sexual Assault Awareness in April and Domestic Violence Awareness in October.

All LSCO employees must complete this training upon new hire and every two years thereafter. Title IX staff are required to take specialized training.

Preventing Harassment & Discrimination – Gateway

Prepares employees to cultivate and maintain a workplace culture resistant to discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. Employees will be equipped with the information and skills that

promote intervention, empathy, and allyship.

Building Supportive Communities – Clery Act and Title IX

Takes a closer look at the issue of sexual harassment, including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking in higher education.

All crime prevention and security awareness programs encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own security and the security of others. Participants in these programs are asked to be alert, security-conscious and involved and advised to call Campus Safety to report suspicious behavior. For additional questions or programs regarding crime prevention, contact the Director of Safety at (409) 882-3910.

Name of Program	Date	Location Held	Which Prohibited Behavior* Covered?
Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention	April	LSCO	SA, DaV, DoV, S
Gatorama	April	LSCO	SA, DaV, DoV, S
Octoberfest	October	LSCO	SA, DaV, DoV, S

^{**}DoV means Domestic Violence, DaV means Dating Violence, SA means Sexual Assault and S means Stalking.

Risk Reduction

Risk Reduction is defined as remedies designed to:

- Understand and respect personal boundaries.
- Decrease perpetration.
- Take affirmative responsibility for alcohol and drug consumption and acknowledge alcohol and drugs lower sexual inhibitions and make a person vulnerable to someone who views a person under the influence as a target.

With no intent to victim blame and recognizing that only abusers are responsible for their abuse, the following are some strategies to reduce one's risk of sexual assault or harassment (taken from Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network -RAINN).

- Be aware of your surroundings. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you to find a way to get out of a bad situation.
- Try to avoid isolated areas. It is more difficult to get help if no one is around.
- Walk with a purpose. Even if you don't know where you are going, act like you do.
- Trust your instincts. If a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable, it probably isn't the best place to be.
- Try not to load yourself down with packages or bags as this can make you appear more vulnerable.
- Make sure your cell phone is with you and charged and that you download a rideshare app or have coordinated transportation with friends.

- Don't allow yourself to be isolated with someone you don't trust or someone you don't know.
- Avoid outing music headphones in both ears so that you can be more aware of your surroundings, especially if you are walking alone.
- When you go to a social gathering, go with a group of friends. Arrive together, check in with each other throughout the evening, and leave together. Knowing where you are and who is around you may help you find a way out of a bad situation.
- Don't leave your drink unattended while talking, dancing, using the restroom, or making a phone call. If you've left your drink alone, just get a new one.
- Don't accept drinks from people you don't know or trust. If you choose to accept a drink, go with the person to the bar to order it, watch it being poured, and carry it yourself. At parties, don't drink from punch bowls or other large, common, open containers.
- Watch out for your friends, and vice versa. If a friend seems out of it, is way too intoxicated for the amount of alcohol they've had, or is acting out of character, get him or her to a safe place immediately.
- If you suspect you or a friend has been drugged, contact law enforcement immediately (local law enforcement can be reached by calling 911 in most areas of the U.S.). Be explicit with doctors so they can give you the correct tests (urine and possibly other tests).
- When trying to get out of an uncomfortable or scary situation here are some things that you can try:
 - Remember that being in this situation is not your fault. You did not do anything wrong: it is the person who is making you feel uncomfortable that is to blame.
 - Be true to yourself. Don't feel obligated to do anything you don't want to do. "I don't
 want to" is always a good enough reason. Do what feels right to you and what you are
 comfortable with.
 - Have a code word with your friends and family so that if you don't feel comfortable
 you can call them and communicate your discomfort without the person you are with
 knowing. Your friends and family can then come get you or make up an excuse for you
 to leave.
 - Lie. If you don't want to hurt the person's feelings it is better to lie and make up a reason to leave than to stay and be uncomfortable, scared, or worse. Some excuses you could use are needing to take care of a friend or family member, not feeling well, having somewhere else that you need to be, etc.
 - Try to think of an escape route. How would you try to get out of the room? Where are the doors? Windows? Are there people around who might be able to help you? Is there an emergency phone nearby?
 - o If you and/or the other person have been drinking, you can say that you would rather wait until you both have your full judgement before doing anything that you may regret later.

Bystander Intervention – Be an active bystander

Bystanders have an opportunity to play a critical role in the prevention of relationship violence. They are individuals who directly or indirectly observe violence or the conditions that perpetuate it. Bystanders have the choice to intervene, speak up, and do something about the situation. At LSCO, we want a culture of community accountability where bystanders actively engage in the prevention of violence without causing further harm. Bystanders may not always know what to

do, even if you want to help. Below is a list of some ways to be an active bystander. If you or someone else are in immediate danger, dial 911. For example, when a person is yelling at or being physically abusive towards another and it is not safe for you to interrupt.

- ✓ Watch out for your friends and fellow students/employees. If you see someone who looks like he or she could be in trouble or needs help, ask if they are ok.
- ✓ Confront people who seclude, hit on, try to make out with, or have sex with people who are incapacitated.
- ✓ Speak up when someone discusses plans to take sexual advantage of another person.
- ✓ Believe someone who discloses sexual assault, abusive behavior, or experience with stalking.
- ✓ Refer people to on- or off campus resources for support in health, counseling, or with legal assistance.

Reporting Options and Protocols (TSUS Sexual Misconduct Policy Section 4) General Information

LSCO will identify and provide complete contact information for their Title IX Coordinator and all Deputy Coordinators in various locations, including but not limited to the LSCO's website; the student's catalog; the Dean of Students Office; Human Resources; and Campus Safety; or their equivalents. Once a Complaint or Report of Sexual Misconduct is received by LSCO, the Title IX Coordinator will determine the appropriate grievance process for resolution.

Victim Reporting Options

Although a victim of Sexual Misconduct may decline to report the incident, LSCO supports, encourages, and will assist those who have been the victim of Sexual Misconduct to report the incident to any of the sources below. The alleged victim may use a pseudonym form when making a report to a law enforcement agency.

A victim may request administrative action by LSCO with or without filing an official police report. Filing a police report does not oblige the victim to continue with criminal proceedings or LSCO's disciplinary action.

Title IX Coordinator

If you have been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, you should report the incident promptly to the Title IX Coordinator (Rebecca Gentry, 409-882-3910, titleixcoordinator@lsco.edu, Ron Lewis Library Building, Room 222C) by calling, writing, or coming to the office to report in person. Reports of all domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking made to Campus Safety, or a Campus Security Authority (CSA) will automatically be referred to the Title IX Coordinator for investigation regardless of if the complainant choses to pursue criminal charges. You may also choose to complete the form on the LSCO website: Title IX/Clery: Anonymous Reporting Form

The Title IX Coordinator will discuss with the reporting Party the options for:

- □ Filing a formal complaint of a Title IX Sexual Harassment incident, if applicable; or
- ☐ Filing a report of a Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct incident, if applicable.

Official with Authority

An individual may report alleged Sexual Misconduct to an Official with Authority. A report to an Official with Authority will impose actual knowledge of the incident, provided that the reported incident of Sexual Misconduct meets the definition of Title IX Sexual Harassment. LSCO will identify and provide contact information of the Official with Authority in various locations, including but not limited to LSCO's website and the applicable online handbooks and catalogs.

CSA (Campus Security Authority)

Reports of Sexual Misconduct may be made to a Campus Security Authority (CSA) as defined in the Annual Security Report. All CSAs shall promptly inform the Title IX Coordinator of the complaint and comply with all other reporting obligations required by the Clery Act.

Electronic Reporting

LSCO shall provide an option for electronic reporting of an incident of Sexual Misconduct (<u>Anonymous Title IX/Clery Reporting Form</u>). The electronic reporting option must:

- Enable an individual to report the alleged offense anonymously; and
- Be easily accessible through an identifiable link on the LSCO's website home page.

Anonymous Reports

Individuals who choose to file anonymous reports are advised that:

- It may be difficult, and in some cases, not possible for LSCO to investigate an anonymous report; and
- Filing a report is not necessary in order to secure supportive measures.

Responsible Employee Mandatory Reporting

A Responsible Employee who has knowledge of Sexual Misconduct <u>must report promptly</u> to the Title IX Coordinator all relevant details known to the Employee about the alleged Sexual Misconduct shared by the Complainant or Reporting Party. A Responsible Employee must share all information relevant to the investigation, and if applicable, redress of the incident, including whether the Complainant has expressed a desire for confidentiality in reporting the incident.

- ❖ Before a Complainant reveals any information to a Responsible Employee, the employee should inform the Complainant of the employee's reporting obligations. If the Complainant requests anonymity and confidentiality, the employee should refer the Complainant to Confidential Employees. A Responsible Employee may not honor a request for anonymity. They must report to the Title IX Coordinator.
- ❖ A Responsible Employee should not share information with law enforcement without the Complainant's consent, unless the Complainant has also reported the incident to law enforcement.
- ❖ If the Complainant reports an incident to the Responsible Employee and requests confidentiality or no investigation, the employee will tell the Complainant that LSCO will consider the request but cannot guarantee that LSCO will be able to honor it. In reporting the details of the incident to the Title IX Coordinator, the Responsible Employee will

inform the Title IX Coordinator of the Complainant's request for confidentiality or no investigation.

A Responsible Employee will promptly report to the Title IX Coordinator all incidents of Sexual Misconduct, provided:

- > the employee is in the course and scope of employment at the time the employee witnesses or receives information regarding the occurrence of Sexual Misconduct;
- the employee reasonably believes the incident constitutes Sexual Misconduct; and,
- > the incident of Sexual Misconduct was committed either by or against an enrolled Student or an Employee of LSCO at the time of the Sexual Misconduct.

LSCO may expand, but shall not narrow, the reporting obligations of Responsible Employees under this subsection. If LSCO expands the reporting obligations of a Responsible Employee, LSCO shall inform such Responsible Employees of their mandatory reporting obligations.

Confidential Employees

LSCO will identify and provide contact information for confidential employees in various locations, including but not limited to LSCO's website and appropriate online handbooks and catalogs. These confidential employees will assist in a crisis and provide information about possible resources, some of which may include law enforcement, medical assistance, psychological counseling, victim advocacy assistance, legal assistance, LSCO's disciplinary action, immigration services, and criminal prosecution. Training for confidential employees may be through their professional organizations, if any, or through the Title IX Coordinator. A confidential employee who receives information about an incident reported will provide such information to the Director of Safety for purposes of the Annual Security Report (ASR). *LSCO does not employ any confidential employees*.

Termination for Failure to Report or Making a False Report

LSCO shall terminate an employee if it determines to have either:

- Knowingly failed to make a report of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking when the responsible employee was required to do so; or
- Knowingly made a false report of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking, with intent to harm or deceive.

No Report Required

An employee is not required to report an incident of sexual misconduct to the Title Coordinator if:

- The employee was the victim of such conduct; or
- The employee received information due to a disclosure made at a public awareness event sponsored by LSCO or by a student organization affiliated with LSCO.

Request for Anonymity by Complainant

When considering reporting options, Complainants should be aware that confidential employees are permitted to honor a request for anonymity and can maintain confidentiality. (LSCO does not employ any confidential employees). LSCO employees have a mandatory reporting and response obligation, regardless of the Complainant's request for anonymity or confidentiality. The complaint or report shall be used as an anonymous report for data collection purposes under the Clery Act.

<u>Confidentiality – Texas Public Information Act</u>

In reference to the TSUS Sexual Misconduct Policy section 3.15:

The identity of the following individuals is confidential and not subject to disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act, unless such individual(s) waive nondisclosure in writing:

- An alleged victim of an incident of Sexual Misconduct;
- A person who reports an incident of Sexual Misconduct;
- A person who sought guidance from the Component (College) concerning such an incident;
- A person who participated in the Component's investigation of such an incident; or
- A person who is alleged to have committed or assisted in the commission of Sexual Misconduct, provided that after the completion of the investigation, the Component determines the Complaint or Report to be unsubstantiated or without merit.

The identity of the individual(s) referenced in Section 3.15.1 may only be disclosed to the following:

- A Component, as necessary to conduct an investigation and resolution of the investigation;
- The person or persons alleged to have perpetrated the incident of Sexual Misconduct defined in this Policy, to the extent that required by other law;
- A law enforcement officer, as necessary to conduct a criminal investigation;
- Potential witnesses to the incident, as necessary to conduct an investigation; or
- A health care provider in an emergency situation, as determined necessary by the Component.
- Information reported to a health care provider or other medical provider employed by the Component is confidential and may be shared by the provider only with the Complainant's consent. The provider must provide aggregate data or other non-identifying information regarding incidents of Sexual Misconduct to the Component's Title IX Coordinator.
- Breaches of confidentiality or privacy committed by employees receiving a complaint or report of alleged Sexual Misconduct or investigating the report of alleged Sexual Misconduct may result in disciplinary sanctions.
- Release of information to the individuals reference in Section 3.1.5.2 shall not be construed as a voluntary disclosure for purposes of the Texas Public Information Act.
- If there is a direct conflict between the requirements of FERPA and the requirements of Title IX, such that enforcement of FERPA would interfere with the primary purpose of Title IX to eliminate sex-based discrimination in schools, the requirements of Title IX override any conflicting FERPA provisions.

The Texas Public Information Act permits the identity of Victims of sexual assault to be withheld from those seeking records under the Act (Texas Attorney General Open Records Decision 339 (1982).

Victims may request that directory information on file with the College be withheld by requesting assistance from the Registrar's Office (located in the Student Success Center).

Regardless of whether a victim has opted-out of allowing the College to share "directory information", personally identifiable information about the victim and other necessary parties will be treated as confidential and only shared with persons who have a specific need-to-know, i.e., those who are investigating/adjudicating the report or those involved in providing support services

to the victim including providing accommodation and protective measures provided to the victim to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the institution to provide the accommodations or protective measures.

The College does not publish the name of crime victims or other identifiable information regarding victims in the Daily Crime Log or in the annual crime statistics that are disclosed in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act. Furthermore, if a Timely Warning Notice is issued on the basis of a report of domestic violence, dating viole3nce, sexual assault or stalking, the name of the victim and other personally identifiable information about the victim will be withheld.

<u>Victims' Procedures of a Crime of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking</u>

After an incident of sexual assault, dating violence or domestic violence, the victim should consider seeking medical attention as soon as possible at local hospitals in the nearby vicinity. (Baptist Beaumont Hospital or CHRISTUS -St Elizabeth Beaumont.)

As time passes, evidence may dissipate or become lost or unavailable, thereby making investigation, possible prosecution, disciplinary proceedings, or obtaining protection from abuse orders related to the incident more difficult. If a victim chooses not to make a complaint regarding an incident, he or she nevertheless should consider speaking with law enforcement to preserve evidence in the event that the victim decides to report the incident to law enforcement or the Institution at a later date to assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred or that may be helpful in obtaining a protection order.

Procedure for Victims

The following information provides steps to follow should a sexual assault occur:

- ✓ Get to a safe place as soon as possible.
- ✓ Try to preserve all physical evidence The victim of rape should not bathe, shower, brush teeth, douche, use the toilet, or change clothing or clean the bed/linen/area where they were assaulted if the offense occurred within the past 96 hours so that evidence may be preserved that may assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred/or is occurring or may be helpful in obtaining a protection order. In circumstances of sexual assault, if victims do not opt for forensic evidence collection, health care providers can still treat injuries and take steps to address concerns of pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted infections. Victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence are encouraged to also preserve evidence by saving text messages, instant messages, social networking pages, other communications, and keeping pictures, logs or other copies of documents, if they have any, that would be useful to Institution adjudicators/investigators or police.
- ✓ Contact a close friend or relative, if available, who can provide support and accompany the victim to the medical exam and/or police department. Advocates from the Women's Resource Center can be available to the victim to provide support.
- ✓ Get medical attention as soon as possible An exam may reveal the presence of physical injury of which the victim is unaware. Following a sexual assault, antibiotics are typically given at the time of the exam to help prevent the victim from acquiring certain sexually transmitted diseases. Emergency contraceptive pills are offered to all victims at the time of the exam (if the victim presents within 120 hours) to help prevent pregnancy from occurring as a result of the rape. If the victim reports memory loss, loss of consciousness

- or other circumstances suspicious for a drug facilitated assault, a urine test may be done if the victim presents within 96 hours. However, some of the commonly used "date rape" drugs are only detectable in the urine for 6-8 hours after ingestion.
- ✓ Contact Law Enforcement Sexual assault is a crime; it is vital to report it. It is important to remember that reporting a crime is not the same as prosecuting the crime. The decision to prosecute may be made at another time. Final decision to prosecute is determined by the District Attorney.
- ✓ Consider talking to a counselor Seeing a counselor may be important in helping the victim understand their feelings and begin the process of recovery.

Assistance for Victims

On and Off Campus Services for Victims

Upon receipt of a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, Lamar State College Orange will provide written notification to students and employees about existing assistance with and/or information about obtaining resources and services including counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid and assistance in notifying appropriate local law enforcement. These resources include the following:

ON CAMPUS	Type of Services Available	Service Provider	Contact Information
Counseling	N/A		
Health	N/A		
Mental Health	N/A		
Victim Advocacy	N/A		
Legal Assistance	N/A		
Visa and Immigration Assistance	N/A		
Student Financial Aid	Financial assistance includes federal, state, and local aid - grants, loans, work-study, veteran's assistance, and scholarships.	Department of Financial Aid	finaid@lsco.edu 409-882-3317
	Basic Support, Counseling, Self-Care, Health Couching	timelycare.com/LSCO	1-833-4-TIMELY
OFF CAMPUS	Type of Services Available	Service Provider	Contact Information
Counseling	Counseling Services	Samaritan Counseling Center of Southeast Texas	877-385-3347
Health	Urgent, non-life- threatening medical	Orange County Urgent Care	409-330-4707

	services		
		Golden Triangle Emergency Center- Orange	409-920-4470
Mental Health	Mental health, substance abuse, and crisis screening – Local Mental Health Authority	Spindletop Crisis MHMR	409-883-3864
Mental Health	Mental Health & Counseling	Timely Care/ LSCO	1-833-4-TIMELY
Victim Advocacy	Victim Advocacy & legal assistance	Orange County District & County Attorney or Victim Assistance Coordinator	409-883-6764
Legal Assistance	Victim Advocacy & legal assistance	Orange County District & County Attorney or Victim Assistance Coordinator	409-883-6764
Visa and Immigration Assistance	Visa and immigration services	Catholic Charities of Southeast Texas	409-924-4400
Student Financial Aid	N/A		
Other - Financial Assistance	Assists with food, clothes, utility payments, rent and prescription bills as funding allows	Orange Christian Services	409-886-0938
Other – Financial Assistance	Financial Assistance	Bridge City/Orangefield Ministerial Alliance	409-735-8296
Other – Crisis Hotline	24 HR Hotline providing intervention & referrals for suicide, sexual assault, general crisis situations	Rape & Suicide Crisis of Southeast Texas	800-7-WE-CARE
OFF CAMPUS	Type of Services Available	Service Provider	Contact Information
Other – Crisis Hotline Louisiana	Domestic violence 24 HR crisis line	Calcasieu Women's Shelter	337-436-4552 or 800-223-8066
Other – Forensic Nurse Examiner	On call 24 hours a day; evidence collection for sexual assault, child and elder abuse, domestic violence	<u>Christus St. Elizabeth -</u> <u>Beaumont Forensic</u> <u>Nurse Examiner</u>	409-892-7171

Other resources available to persons who report being the victim of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, include:

https://rainn.org/
Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network

- ★ https://www.justice.gov/ovw/sexual-assault Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)
- https://www.ed.gov/about/ed-offices/ocr Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights

Preservation of evidence is critical in incidents of sexual misconduct. If you experience sexual

Preservation of Evidence

violence, LSCO strongly encourages you to seek immediate medical care. This can be done at any of the area's emergency rooms, hospitals, or urgent care facilities. Also, preserving DNA evidence can be key to identifying the perpetrator in a sexual violence case. Victims can undergo a medical exam to preserve physical evidence with or without police involvement. If possible, this should be done immediately. If an immediate medical exam is not possible, individuals who have experienced a sexual assault may still have a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) performed by a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) within 4 days of the incident. With the victim's consent, the physical evidence collected during this medical exam can be used in a criminal investigation; however, a person may undergo a SAFE even without contacting, or intending to contact, the police. In Texas, evidence may be collected even if you choose not to make a report to law enforcement.

The Non-Reported Sexual Assault Evidence Program was created in HB 2626 by the 81st Legislature and went into effect June 21, 2009. The program allows survivors of a sexual assault to obtain a medical forensic exam and have evidence collected, without cost to the victims, even if they do not wish to involve law enforcement at the time of evidence collection. This allows the evidence to be secured while giving the survivor time to consider whether they want to report the assault. A patient who has requested and obtained a non-reported sexual assault medical forensic examination has up to two years to decide to report the crime. Information related to the program can be found in Chapter 56.065 Code of Criminal Procedure.

Rights and Options

Regardless of whether a victim elects to pursue a criminal complaint or whether the offense is alleged to have occurred on or off campus, LSCO will assist survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, relationship violence, and stalking and will provide each survivor with a written explanation of their rights and options, including:

- ♣ The procedures victims should follow if a crime of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking has occurred;
- ♣ Information about how the institution will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties;
- A statement that the institution will provide written notification to students and employees about victim services within the institution and in the community;

- A statement regarding the institution's provisions about options for, available assistance in, and how to request accommodations and protective measures; and
- ♣ An explanation of the procedures for institutional disciplinary action.

LSCO Procedures for Crime of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking

The College has procedures in place that serve to be sensitive to the victims who report sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including informing individuals about their right to file criminal charges as well as the availability of counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid and other services on and/or off campus as well as additional remedies to prevent contact between a complainant and an accused party, such as changes to housing, academic, protective orders, transportation and working situations, if reasonably available. The College will make such accommodations or protective measures, if the victim requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to Campus Safety or law enforcement. Students and employees should contact the Title IX Coordinator, Rebecca Gentry, rebecca.gentry@lsco.edu (409.882.3910) for assistance.

Procedures

If a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking is reported to LSCO, below are the procedures that LSCO will follow:

Incident Being Reported	Procedure Institution Will Follow
Sexual Assault	 Depending on when reported (immediate vs delayed report), institution will provide complainant with access to medical care Institution will assess immediate safety needs of complainant Institution will assist complainant with contacting local police if complainant requests AND provide the complainant with contact information for local police department Institution will provide complainant with referrals to off campus mental health providers Institution will assess the need to implement interim or long-term protective measures, if appropriate. Institution will provide the complainant with a written explanation of the victim's rights and options Institution will provide a "No trespass" (PNG) directive to accused party if deemed appropriate Institution will provide written instructions on how to apply for Protective Order

- 9. Institution will provide a copy of the policy applicable to Sexual Assault to the complainant and inform the complainant regarding time frames for inquiry, investigation, and resolution
- 10. Institution will inform the complainant of the outcome of the investigation, whether or not the accused will be administratively charged and what the outcome of the hearing is
- 11. Institution will enforce the anti-retaliation policy and take immediate and separate action against parties that retaliate against a person for complaining of sex-based discrimination or for assisting in the investigation
- 12. Institution officials receiving the report will forward the report to the Title IX Coordinator in accordance with the institution's policy and procedure

Stalking Dating	 Institution will assess immediate safety needs of complainant Institution will assist complainant with contacting local police if complainant requests AND provide the complainant with contact information for local police department Institution will provide written instructions on how to apply for Protective Order Institution will provide written information to complainant on how to preserve evidence Institution will assess need to implement interim or long-term protective measures to protect the complainant, if appropriate Institution will provide the complainant with a written explanation of the victim's rights and options Institution will provide a "No trespass" (PNG) directive to accused party if deemed appropriate Institution official receiving the report will forward the report to the Title IX Coordinator in accordance with the institution's policy and procedure. Institution will assess immediate safety needs of complainant
Violence	2. Institution will assist complainant with contacting local police if complainant requests AND provide the complainant with contact information for local police department 3. Institution will provide written instructions on how to apply for Protective Order 4. Institution will provide written information to complainant on how to preserve evidence 5. Institution will assess need to implement interim or long-term protective measures to protect the complainant, if appropriate 6. Institution will provide the complainant with a written explanation of the victim's rights and options 7. Institution will provide a "No trespass" (PNG) directive to accused party if deemed appropriate 8. Institution official receiving the report will forward the report to the Title IX Coordinator in accordance with the institution's policy and procedure
Domestic Violence	1. Institution will assess immediate safety needs of complainant 2. Institution will assist complainant with contacting local police if complainant requests AND complainant provided with contact information for local police department 3. Institution will provide written instructions on how to apply for Protective Order 4. Institution will provide written information to complainant on how to preserve evidence 5. Institution will assess need to implement interim or long-term protective measures to protect the complainant, if appropriate

- 6. Institution will provide the complainant with a written explanation of the victim's rights and options
- 7. Institution will provide a "No trespass" (PNG) directive to accused party if deemed appropriate
- 8. Institution official receiving the report will forward the report to the Title IX Coordinator in accordance with the institution's policy and procedure.

Accommodation and Supportive Measures Available for Victims

Any student or employee, who reports an incident of sexual violence, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, shall receive a written explanation of their rights and options as well as accommodations available to make any reasonably available changes to a victim's academic, transportation and/or working situation. This written explanation identifies the availability of counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid and other services on and/or off campus as well as additional remedies to prevent contact between a complainant and the respondent.

At the victim's request, the Title IX Coordinator will work cooperatively to assist the victim in obtaining accommodation, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus or local law enforcement.

Supportive measures are confidential to the extent allowed by law and to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality will not impair the ability to provide the measures. If reasonably available, a victim may be offered changes to academic, working, protective measures or transportation situations regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus security or local law enforcement. The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the effective implementation of Supportive Measures, and the duration of such measures. To request changes to academic, transportation and/or working situations or protective measures, a victim should contact the Title IX Coordinator by email at titleixcoordinator@lsco.edu; by phone at 409-882-3910; or in person in the Ron Lew Library Building, Room 222C.

Supportive Measures may include, but are not limited to:

- counseling provided by a counselor who does not provide counseling to any other person involved in the incident, including a person who reports an incident of Sexual Misconduct;
- o extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments;
- o without any academic penalty, modifications of work or class schedules or assignments, including the option of dropping a course in which both parties are enrolled;
- o campus escort;
- o mutual restrictions on contact between the parties;
- o chances in work locations if employed on campus;
- o leaves of absence:
- o restrictions from specific activities or facilities; and
- o increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus.

Emergency removal of an employee or student prior to a final decision in the grievance process

must comply with Texas State University System Rules and Regulations.

Supportive Measures when Anonymity is Required

LSCO's inability to take disciplinary action against an alleged Respondent because of a Complainant's insistence on anonymity will not restrict LSCO's ability to provide appropriate measures for the reasonable safety of the LSCO community.

Unreasonable Burden

Supportive Measures may not impose an unreasonable burden on the other Party.

Failure to Adhere to Supportive Measures

Failure to adhere to the parameters of any Supportive Measures may be considered a separate violation of this Policy and may result in disciplinary sanctions.

LSCO's Responsibilities for Orders of Protection, "No Contact" Orders, Restraining Orders, or Similar Lawful Orders Issued by a Criminal, Civil, or Tribal Court or by the Institution

LSCO complies with Texas law in recognizing orders of protection. Any person who obtains an order of protection from Texas should provide a copy to the Director of Safety and the Title IX Coordinator. A complainant may then meet with the Director of Safety to develop a Safety Action Plan, which is a plan for campus safety and the victim to reduce risk of harm while on campus or coming and going from campus. This plan may include, but is not limited to: escorts, special parking arrangements, changing classroom location or allowing a student to complete assignments from home, etc. LSCO cannot apply for a legal order of protection, no contact order or restraining order for a victim from the applicable jurisdiction(s).

Type of Order:	Who Can File for One:	Court:	Based On:
Domestic Violence Civil Protection Order – up to 5 years, can be renewed**	Family or household members including: • Spouses, former spouses • Parent, child, foster parent • People who have kids together • Intimate partners who lived together in the last 5 years • Same sex couples are eligible	Domestic Relations Court – where victim lives, where abuser lives or has a business, or where incident(s) occurred	Causing or trying to cause injury or placing someone in fear of imminent serious harm (Courts use different requirements for how recent the incident must be)
Stalking Protection Order - up to 5 years, can be renewed**	Any person who is a victim of stalking. No relationship with stalker is required.	Common Pleas Court - where victim lives (if family or household member, can be filed as DV Protection Order, see above)	Pattern of conduct (2 or more events), closely related in time, that cause distress or make a victim believe the stalker will cause harm
Sexually Oriented Offense Protection Order - up to 5 years, can be renewed**	Any person who was a victim of a sexually oriented offense (see ORC 2950.01). No relationship with offender is required. Case does not have to be criminally prosecuted.	Common Pleas Court – where victim lives	Sexual assault or unwanted sexual contact (see ORC 2950.01)
Juvenile Protection Order – until abuser reaches age 18	Victim of abuse by a person who is under age 18, or the victim's parent or other household member, or other parties the Court approves.	Juvenile Court – where victim lives	Assault, stalking, sexual offenses, threats of harm or aggravated trespass

LSCO may issue an institutional no contact order if deemed appropriate or at the request of the victim or accused. If the College receives a report that such an institutional no contact order has been violated, the College will initiate disciplinary proceedings appropriate to the status of the accused (student, employee, etc.) and will impose sanctions if the accused is found responsible for violating the no contact order.

Adjudication of Violations

The College's disciplinary process includes a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation and resolution process. In all instances, the process will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the institution's policy and that is transparent to the accuser and accused.

Equitable Treatment

LSCO's response to an allegation of Sexual Misconduct must treat Complainants and Respondents equitably by offering Supportive Measures to Complainants and Respondents, and by following a grievance process as described herein against a Respondent prior to the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not Supportive Measures.

Standard of Evidence

<u>Presumption of Non-Responsibility.</u> Any person accused of Sexual Misconduct under this Policy is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a determination regarding

responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process.

Preponderance of the Evidence Standard

The Decision Maker will weigh the admissible evidence using the preponderance of the evidence standard. LSCO officials involved in the investigation or adjudication of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking complaints are trained annually on the issues related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as well as how to conduct an investigation and hearing process that protects the safety of the victim and promotes accountability. Furthermore, each policy provides that:

- The Complainant and the Respondent will have timely notice for meetings at which the Complainant or Respondent, or both, may be present.
- The Complainant, the Respondent and appropriate officials will have timely and equal access to any information that will be used during formal and informal disciplinary meetings and hearings.

Conflicts of Interest

Any individual designated by LSCO as a Title IX Liaison, Coordinator, Investigator, Decision Maker, Informal Resolution Facilitator, Appellate Authority, or Campus Administrator may not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally, or against an individual Complainant or Respondent. The Title IX Coordinator shall not serve as Decision Maker or Appellate Authority.

Promptness

LSCO shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that the resolution of a Sexual Misconduct Complaint or Report occurs in as efficient a manner as possible.

Modification of Deadlines

The Title IX Coordinator may modify any deadlines contained in this Policy as necessary to accomplish the purposes stated and for good cause, including, but not limited to, complexity of the investigation and to accommodate semester breaks.

Immunity/Amnesty

Reporting, investigating, and adjudicating incidents of Sexual Misconduct is of paramount importance. LSCO does not condone underage drinking, illegal use of drugs, or other criminal behavior. However, LSCO will not take any disciplinary action for prohibited conduct in relation to or concurrently with an incident of Sexual Misconduct, against a person who is enrolled with or employed by LSCO for any violation of the applicable code of conduct, provided:

- The person acts in good faith;
- The violation of the Code of Conduct arises out of the same facts or circumstances as a Complaint or Report of Sexual Misconduct;
- The violation of the code of conduct is not punishable by suspension or expulsion; and
- The person is not reporting his or her own commission or assistance in the commission of Sexual Misconduct.

Complainant & Respondent Rights

You have the right to:

- □ Report sexual misconduct to the college without discouragement and have the report promptly, equitably, and fairly investigated.
- □ Be treated with respect by college officials.
- □ Preservation of privacy, to extent possible and allowed by law.
- □ Be informed of available resources such as counseling, medical, mental health, law enforcement, immigration, or services for victims/respondents, both on campus and in the community.
- □ Be fully informed of the sexual misconduct policy and process as described in the sexual misconduct policy.
- □ Petition that any investigator, coordinator, or college administrator be removed from the process on the basis of demonstrated bias.
- □ Timely notice of any meetings.
- Be provided with timely access to review relevant documents or materials, subject to privacy limitations imposed by state and federal law.
- □ Identify and ask the investigator to question relevant witnesses.
- Have a representative or advisor present during any meetings with Investigator, Liaison, Coordinator, or Appellate Authority. The College will not limit the choice of advisor or presence for either the accuser or the accessed in any meeting or institutional disciplinary proceeding. However, the role of the representative or advisor may not directly participate.
- □ Be informed in writing, simultaneously, of the outcome and sanction of any investigation involving sexual misconduct.
- A finding and sanction (if any) based solely on evidence presented during the investigation.
- Appeal the findings and sanction of the applicable administrator, in accordance with the sexual misconduct policy, the accuser and the accused will be notified simultaneously in writing, of the procedures for the accused and the victim to appeal the result of the institutional disciplinary proceeding. When an appeal is filed, the accuser and the accused will be notified simultaneously in writing of any of any change to the result prior to the time it becomes final as well as of the final result once the appeal is resolved.
- ☐ Have college policies and procedures followed without material deviation.
- Be informed in advance, when possible, of any public release of information regarding the complaint.

Title IX and LSCO policies protect students and employees from discrimination and sexual misconduct. If accused of such behavior, you also have rights as a Respondent.

Complainant and Respondent Rights- Know Your Nine

- 1. Title IX prohibits gender discrimination in education programs that receive federal funding. This means all public and charter k-12 schools, some private k-12 schools, and nearly all colleges and universities.
- 2. Sexual harassment, including sexual assault, is a type of gender discrimination that's banned by Title IX.
- 3. Title IX is not exclusive to female students. Title IX applies to and protects all students, faculty, and staff.
- 4. Schools must have established procedures for handling gender discrimination and sexual assault.

- 5. Schools must take prompt action to ensure complainants continue their education free of ongoing harassment.
- 6. Schools must not retaliate against someone filing a complaint and must have procedures to protect complainants from retaliation.
- 7. Schools can issue "No Contact" directives to prevent accused respondents from interacting with victims and other parties.
- 8. Sexual harassment and assault create a hostile environment that interferes with students' abilities to benefit from educational programs.
- 9. If a school knows (or has actual knowledge) about sexual harassment, including sexual assault, that creates a hostile environment, Title IX requires the school to eliminate the harassment, prevent its reoccurrence, and address its effects.

Types of Disciplinary Proceedings Utilized in Cases of Alleged Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

Whether or not criminal charges are filed, LSCO or a person (student or employee) may file a complaint under the Texas State University System Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures. This section contains an overview of the process.

Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process

LSCO's Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures can be found on our website at <u>Sexual Misconduct & Title IX | Lamar State College Orange</u>. This policy applies to all faculty, staff, and students as LSCO.

Informal Resolution

Eligibility for Informal Resolution

Informal Resolution is available after a Formal Complaint has been filed in a Title IX Sexual Harassment incident or a Report has been received in a Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct incident. Informal Resolution may be pursued if:

- Both parties are willing to engage in Informal Resolution and consent to do so in writing;
- The Complainant and Respondent are both students or are both employees at LSCO;
- The Title IX Coordinator agrees that the Informal Resolution is an appropriate mechanism for resolving the complaint; and
- LSCO provides written notice to the Parties in accordance with this policy.

Informal Resolution Procedures

The Title IX Coordinator shall provide written notice to the Parties of the availability of informal resolution, including:

- The allegations:
- The requirements of the informal resolution process, including the circumstances under which the Parties are precluded from resuming a Formal Complaint arising from the same allegations;
- Any consequences resulting from participating in the informal resolution process, including the records that will be maintained, could be shared; and

• The Parties' right to withdraw consent to the Informal Resolution at any time prior to reaching an agreement and resume the Formal Grievance Process.

Referral for an Investigation

The Title IX Coordinator will terminate informal resolution and continue the investigation if:

- The Parties are not able to reach an agreement prior to the exhaustion of the administrative process;
- One or more of the Parties withdraws consent to informal resolution; or
- The Title IX Coordinator determines that Informal Resolution is no longer appropriate.

Formal Resolution

Filing a Formal Complaint

Incidents of Sexual Misconduct should be reported as per the reporting section of this Policy. A Formal Complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator, Rebecca Gentry, in person at 410 Front Street, Ron Lewis Library Building, Room 222C (409.882.3910), by electronic email to titleixcoordinator@lsco.edu, or Title IX/Clery Anonymous Reporting Form.

Cases Initiated by the Title IX Coordinator

If the Title IX Coordinator signs a Formal Complaint, the Title IX Coordinator is not a Complainant or otherwise a Party.

Notice of Allegations

In response to a Formal Complaint, LSCO must give written notice of the allegations to the Parties. This notice must include:

- Notice of LSCO's grievance process, including informal resolution;
- Sufficient details of the allegations known at the time;
- Identifies of the Parties involved;
- The conduct allegedly constituting Title IX Sexual Harassment;
- The date and location of the alleged incident;
- A statement that the Respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility will be made at the conclusion of the grievance process;
- That the Parties may have an Advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be an attorney;
- That the Parties may inspect and review evidence gathered during the process;
- Knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process is prohibited; and
- The availability of Supportive Measures to the Complainant and Respondent.

Right to Advisor

Each Party may be accompanied by an Advisor of their choice to any related meeting, interview, or proceeding.

- If a Party does not have an Advisor to conduct cross-examination at the live hearing, LSCO will provide the Party with an Advisor, who need not be an attorney, for the limited purpose of conducting cross-examination at the live hearing.
- Each Party's Advisor is requested to meet with the Title IX Coordinator to discuss hearing procedure and protocols prior to the live hearing, if any.

- LSCO will not limit the choice of advisor or presence for either the Complainant or the Respondent in any meeting or institutional disciplinary proceeding.
- The Advisor may be, but need not be, an attorney who may provide support, guidance, or advice to the Party. The Advisor may not otherwise directly participate in any meeting, interview, or proceeding except for the limited purpose of conducting cross-examination at a live hearing, if any.

Consolidation of Complaints

LSCO may consolidate Formal Complaints as to allegations involving the same circumstances or involving allegations against more than one Respondent, or by more than one Complainant, where the allegations arise out of the same facts or circumstances.

Investigation

- > Scheduling. An assigned Investigator will provide written notice to a Party whose participation is invited or expected, of the date, time, location, and purpose of all hearings, investigative interviews, or other meetings, with sufficient time for the Party to prepare to participate.
- > Information Gathering. The investigator will gather and review information from Complainant, Respondent, and Witnesses. Investigators shall conduct a site inspection, if necessary, and obtain other information as appropriate.
- ➤ Equal Opportunity to Present Evidence and Witnesses. All Parties will have equal opportunity to present fact and expert witnesses and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence during the course of the investigation. LSCO may not restrict the ability of either Party to discuss the allegations under investigation, or to gather and present relevant evidence.
- ➤ **Burden on LSCO.** The burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests on LSCO and not on the Parties. However, LSCO cannot access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a Party's Confidential Treatment Records, unless that Party consents to such access.
- ➤ **Privileges**. The process must not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitutes, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding such privilege has waived the privilege.
- ➤ Right to Inspect and Review Evidence Prior to Completion of the Investigation. Once the assigned Investigator concludes all fact finding and evidence gathering activities, each Party and their respective Advisors must have equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations in the Formal Complaint, including the evidence upon which LSCO does not intend to rely in reaching a determination regarding responsibility and inculpatory or exculpatory evidence whether obtained from a Party or other source, so that each Party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to the conclusion of the investigation.
 - Each Party and their Advisor will be sent such evidence in electronic format or hard copy. Each Party will have ten (10) calendar days from the date they are notified to inspect, review, and respond to the evidence.
 - o The written response of each Party, if any, must be considered by the Investigator prior to completion of the Investigative Report.

Investigative Report

Investigator will complete a written Investigative Report that includes summaries of interviews conducted; photographs, if any; documents and materials received; descriptions of relevant evidence; summaries of relevant electronic records; and a detailed report of the events related to the incident. When the Investigator is not the Title IX Coordinator, the Investigative Report will be submitted to the Title IX Coordinator to ensure all elements of the investigation have been completed. The Title IX Coordinator will forward the Investigative Report to the Decision Maker.

Notice of Hearing

Upon completion of the Investigative Report, the Title IX Coordinator will send the Notice of Hearing and the Investigative Report to all Parties and their Advisors. The Notice of Hearing and Investigative Report will be sent no less than ten (10) calendar days prior to the scheduled hearing to allow all Parties an opportunity for response.

Pre-Hearing Instructions

The following items should be provided to the Decision Maker no later than three (3) calendar days prior to the date of hearing and apply equally to both Parties:

- Any written response to the investigative report;
- Documents, or other evidence to be used at the hearing;
- The name of each witness who is to appear on that Party's behalf (witnesses not previously interviewed or identified may be allowed to testify only at the discretion of the Decision Maker); and,
- A list of initial questions and cross-examination questions for the opposing Party and any designated witness. Each Party, through their Advisor, will be permitted to conduct cross-examination even if written questions are not previously submitted by the Party.

Live Hearings

All investigations not dismissed shall have a live hearing. The following are the participants at a live hearing:

- **Decision Maker:** The Decision Maker determines the relevancy of all questions asked during the hearing, may ask questions of any witness or Party during the hearing, and ultimately issues the written decision of responsibility and sanction, if any, after the hearing. LSCO's Title IX Coordinator or the Investigator who conducted the investigation or prepared the Investigative Report may not serve as Decision Maker.
- Parties: The Parties are the Complainant and Respondent. Each Party may give a statement, answer questions, present evidence, and witnesses, and cross-examine the other Party and witnesses through their Advisor.
- Advisor: Each Party is entitled to have an Advisor of their choice at the hearing. Each Party must have an Advisor to conduct cross-examination of the other Party and witnesses. An Advisor may, but is not required to be, an attorney. In addition to cross-examination, the Advisor may provide support, guidance, or advice to the Complainant or Respondent, but may not otherwise directly participate in the hearing. If a Party does not have an Advisor, LSCO will appoint an Advisor of LSCO's choice, without fee or cost to the Party, for the limited purpose of conducting cross-examination, including questions challenging the Party or witness's credibility. LSCO is not required to appoint an attorney as an Advisor.

- **Investigator**: The Investigator will be present at the hearing and may answer questions from either Party about the investigation and the summary of evidence in the Investigative Report.
- **Title IX Coordinator:** The Title IX Coordinator may be present at the live hearing.

Availability of Investigative Evidence

LSCO must make all evidence subject to the Parties' inspection and review available at any hearing to give each Party equal opportunity to refer to such evidence during the hearing, including for purposes of cross-examination.

Documents

Each Party shall have the opportunity to present relevant documents to the Decision Maker for consideration at the hearing. Only documents and other evidence pre-submitted in accordance with this policy will be considered. Any assertion of fact that is contained within a document may not be considered by the Decision Maker unless the person making the assertion of fact in the document submits to cross-examination by the other Party's Advisor.

Witnesses

Each Party shall have the opportunity to present fact and/or expert witnesses to the Decision Maker for consideration at the hearing.

Determination of Relevance of Ouestions

Only relevant questions may be asked of a Party or witness during the hearing. Before a Party or witness answers a cross-examination or other question, the Decision Maker must first determine whether the question is relevant.

- Questions concerning a Party's prior sexual behavior are not relevant unless offered to prove that someone other than the Respondent committed the alleged misconduct or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the Complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the Respondent and are offered to prove Consent.
- The Decision Maker will explain to the Party's Advisor why a question excluded is not relevant. The Decision Maker's relevancy decision is final and may only be challenged as a procedural defect on appeal, as provided in this Policy.

Live Cross-Examination (Directly, Orally, in real time)

The cross-examination of a Party or witness must be conducted by the other Party's Advisor, orally, and in real time. A Party may not directly question the other Party or witness.

Excluding Statements from a Party or Witness Not Subject to Cross-Examination

If a Party or witness does not submit to cross-examination at the hearing, the Decision Maker must not rely on any statement of that Party or witness in reaching a determination regarding responsibility; and the Decision Maker may not draw an inference about responsibility based solely on a Party's or witness's absence from the hearing or refusal to answer cross-examination or other questions.

Alternative Hearing Locations

The hearing may be conducted with all Parties and witnesses physically present in the same geographic location or, at LSCO's discretion, any or all Parties, witnesses, or other participants may appear at the hearing virtually. At the request of either Party, LSCO shall provide for the entire hearing, including cross-examination, to occur with the Parties in separate rooms with

technology that enables the Parties to see and hear each other or the witness answering questions, at all times while the hearing is in session.

Recording of Hearing Proceedings

LSCO shall create an audio or audiovisual recording, or transcript, of any live hearing and make such recording or transcript available to the Parties for inspection and review.

Preponderance of the Evidence Standard

The Decision Maker will weigh the admissible evidence using the preponderance of the evidence standard.

Decision and Sanctions

Once the live hearing has been concluded, the Decision Maker will issue a written determination, which shall be sent simultaneously to the Parties, along with information about how to appeal the determination.

The contents of the decision will include:

- Identification of allegations potentially constituting Title IX Sexual Harassment;
- A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the Formal Complaint through the determination, including any notifications to the Parties, interviews with Parties and witnesses, site visits, methods used to gather other evidence, and hearings held;
- Findings of facts supporting the determination;
- Conclusions regarding the application of this Policy to the facts;
- A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions LSCO imposes on the Respondent, and whether remedies designed to restore ore preserve equal access to LSCO's Education Program or Activity will be provided by LSCO to the Complainant;
- LSCO's procedures and permissible bases for the Complainant and Respondent to appeal; and
- The identity and contact information of the appropriate Appellate Authority.

Appeals

Both Parties must be offered an appeal from a determination regarding responsibility, and from a dismissal of a Formal Complaint or any allegations therein.

Grounds for Appeal

The only grounds for appeal are:

- Procedural irregularity, including a relevancy determination, that affected the outcome of the matter;
- New evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made and that could affect the outcome of the matter;
- The Title IX Coordinator, Investigator, or Decision Maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against Complainants or Respondents generally or the individual Complainant or Respondent that affected the outcome of the matter; and,
- The Sanction is substantially disproportionate to the written decision.

Procedure for Appeal

Either Party may appeal a dismissal or Decision Maker's determination by filing a written request to appeal, with supporting information, with the appropriate Appellate Authority within ten (10) calendar days of issuance of the decision. If a Complainant or Respondent appeals, LSCO must:

- Notify both Parties simultaneously in writing within five (5) calendar days from when an appeal is filed and implement appeal procedures equally for both Parties;
- Give the non-appealing Party seven (7) calendar days from when LSCO notifies the non-appealing Party that an appeal has been filed to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome, a copy of which will be provided to the appealing Party; and
- Issue a written decision of any change to the result prior to the time that it becomes final, including the rationale therefore, simultaneously to both Parties within twenty-one (21) calendar days from the date the notice is issued. The decision of the Appellate Authority is final.

Implementation of Sanction

No sanction shall be implemented until the appeal, if any, has been concluded, or until the time for either Party to submit an appeal has elapsed.

Sanctions

Sanctions for a finding of a Policy violation will depend upon the nature and gravity of the misconduct and/or any record of prior discipline for Sexual Misconduct. Sanctions include the following:

Students:

- No-contact orders
- Probation (including disciplinary and academic probation)
- Restricted access to activities or facilities
- Mandated counseling (this may include, but not limited to education programs and batterer intervention)
- Disqualification from student employment positions
- Revocation of admission and/or degree
- Withholding of official transcript or degree
- Bar against readmission
- Monetary restitution
- Withdrawing from a course with a grade of W, F, or WF
- Expulsion, suspension, or dismissal
- Relevant training
- Employees
- Withholding a promotion or pay increase
- Reassigning employment, including, but not limited to demotion in rank
- Terminating employment
- Barring future employment
- Temporary suspension without pay
- Compensation adjustments

- No-contact orders
- Relevant training
- Recommendation to revoke tenure

Implementation of Remedies

Upon the issuance of the written determination and the conclusion of any appeal, if the Decision Maker determines remedies will be provided, the Title IX Coordinator will communicate with Complainant separately to discuss what remedies are appropriate to restore or preserve the Complainant's equal access to the LSCO's Education Program or Activity.

Remedies

Remedies for a finding of a violation of this Policy must be designed to restore or preserve equal access to LSCO's Education Program or Activity to the Complainant. Such remedies may include the same individualized services described in the "Supportive Measures" section of this policy; however, remedies need not be non-disciplinary or non-punitive and need not avoid burdening the Respondent.

- The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for the effective implementation of remedies;
- Any remedy that does not directly affect the Respondent must not be disclosed to the Respondent.

LSCO-Initiated Protective Measures

In addition to those protective measures previously described the Title IX Coordinator or their designee will determine whether interim interventions and protective measures should be implemented, and, if so, take steps to implement those protective measures as soon as possible.

Examples of interim protective measures include but are not limited to: LSCO's order of no contact, adjustment of course schedules, extensions of deadlines or other course related adjustments, a leave of absence, or reassignment to a different supervisor or position. These remedies may be applied to one, both, or multiple parties involved.

Violations of the Title IX Coordinator's directives and/or protective measures will constitute related violations that may lead to additional disciplinary action. Protective measures imposed may be temporary pending the results of an investigation or may become permanent as determined by LSCO.

Retaliation Prohibited

No person may intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or this Policy, or because the individual has made a Complaint or Report, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this Policy. Any person who believes that she or he has been subjected to Retaliation should immediately report this concern to the Title IX Coordinator.

- By the College
 - LSCO may not discipline or discriminate against an employee who in good faith makes a report of Sexual Misconduct as required by this Policy.
 - o This does not apply to an employee who perpetrates or assists in perpetrating an incident of Sexual Misconduct.
- By Others

• The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment does not constitute retaliation prohibited under this section.

Disclosure of Disciplinary Proceeding Outcome to Victims (or Next of Kin)

LSCO will, upon written request, disclose to the alleged victim of a crime of violence, or a non-forcible sex offense, the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by such institution against a student who is the alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of such crime or offense, the next of kin of such victim shall be treated as the alleged victim.

Student Conduct and Discipline

Acquaintance with Policies, Rules, and Regulations

Each student is expected to be fully acquainted with and comply with all published policies, rules, and regulations of the College and of the Texas State University System, which are accessible online via the <u>LSCO 2025-2026 Catalog</u>. Students are also expected to comply with all federal and state laws.

Monitoring and Recording of Criminal Activity by Students at Non-campus Locations

If the perpetrator of a crime is identified as an LSCO student by law enforcement or if an event occurs off-campus, local law enforcement usually notifies the campus via the Department of Safety and Security. The campus has secured MOUs with outside agencies to further our efforts to partner with local agencies to prevent crime on our campus. Regardless of action taken in the court system, students can experience the student disciplinary process on campus simultaneously. LSCO does not have any officially recognized student organizations with non-campus locations.

Alcohol & Drugs

Lamar State College Orange prohibits the unlawful possession, use, and sale of alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs on campus. LSCO maintains an awareness of public laws in relation to drugs and alcohol and supports their enforcement through our Security Office. Any violations of state law in relation to drugs or alcohol (possession, use, and sale) are processed legally through local law enforcement and referred to the Dean of Student Services for campus disciplinary procedures, concurrently. More information about our policy can be found in the LSCO Catalog.

Use of Illegal Drugs

A student who, by a preponderance of the evidence, under the *Rules and Regulations*, Texas State University System, is found to have illegally possessed, used, sold or distributed any drug, narcotic, controlled substance, or drug paraphernalia including residue, whether the infraction is found to have occurred on or off campus, shall be subject to discipline, ranging from mandatory, college approved counseling to expulsion.

Students for whom there is a reasonable suspicion of involvement with drugs or controlled substances may be required to submit to an appropriate drug test. Mitigating or aggravating factors in assessing the proper level of discipline shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the student's motive for engaging in the behavior, disciplinary history, effect of the behavior on safety and security of the college community, and the likelihood that the behavior will recur. The college will exercise their right as a result of being found guilty of a violation of the drug policy and placed on probation to perform random drug tests on students at any time during the probation.

If at any time the student is found to test positive for any illegal drugs, the student will be suspended per the duration above. A student who has been suspended, dismissed, probated, or expelled from the university shall be ineligible to enroll at any other Texas State University System university during the applicable period of discipline.

The registrar is authorized to make an appropriate notation on the student's transcript to accomplish this objective and to remove the notation when the student's disciplinary record has been cleared. A second infraction for a drug-related offense shall result in permanent expulsion from the University and from all other institutions in The Texas State University System. (Texas State University System Policies, VI, 5.9(20) pg.VI-13).

Available Counseling and Treatment Program

LSCO offers drug and alcohol abuse education programs through a third-party vendor, Vector Solutions. AlcoholEdu is an interactive online program that uses the latest evidence-based prevention methods to create a highly engaging user experience, inspiring students to make healthier decisions related to alcohol and other drugs. Drug and alcohol abuse counseling is available through the Counseling office in the Student Success Center, (409) 882.3340. This office also provides off-campus referrals to treatment programs and facilities in the local and surrounding areas.

Drug Free Schools and Communities Act

In compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, Lamar State College Orange publishes information regarding that the College has adopted a drug-free workplace policy and implemented a drug awareness program to prevent the illicit use of drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees. The LSCO Drug-Free Workplace Policy prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of drugs and alcohol by employees or students on college property or as any part of the college activity. The unlawful use, possession or distribution of drugs or alcohol will result in a disciplinary action depending upon the circumstances.

The LSCO drug awareness program is a three-part program to inform employees and students about:

- 1. Health risk involved in the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol which often results in poor health and premature death.
- 2. Help available for drug and alcohol counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation that is offered to all LSCO employees.
- 3. Local sanctions that include fines and/or imprisonment for violation of local, state or federal drug laws.
- 4. A complete description of these topics, as provided in the Lamar State College Orange 's annual notification to students and employees, is available online at: https://lscostudents-tx.vectorlmsedu.com/login

Lamar State College Orange is obligated to uphold laws that prohibit the possession, use or distribution of controlled substances. Any employee or student found to be in violation of these laws will be dismissed and referred to the appropriate legal authority for prosecution.

The LSCO Advising and Counseling Center provides information and confidential assistance for students seeking help for a drug or alcohol-related problem. Students should contact the Advising

and Counseling Center, located in the Student Success Center or by phone at 409-882-3340 if they need additional information about this program.

The LSCO Human Resource Department provides information and confidential assistance for employees seeking help with a drug or alcohol-related problem. Employees should contact the HR Department, located in Room 218, Ron E. Lewis Building or by phone at 409-882-3343 if they need additional information about this program.

Hazing Policy Statements

Lamar State College Orange prohibits students, employees, officers, contractors, and volunteers from engaging or attempting to engage in Hazing. The College defines Hazing as:

- 1. Any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that
 - a. Is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and
 - b. Causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participating in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury including
 - i. Whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone's body, or similar activity;
 - ii. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;
 - iii. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
 - iv. Causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts:
 - v. Any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
 - vi. Any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law; and
 - vii. Any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law.
- 2. Hazing also involves any other activity not addressed by (1) of this definition that is expected of someone joining or participating in a student organization that humiliates, degrades, abuses, or endangers them, regardless of a person's willingness to participate.

For the purposes of the College's Hazing policy, the phrase "student organization" means "an organization at LSCO (such as a club, society, association, varsity or junior varsity athletic team, fraternity, sorority, band, or student government) in which two or more of the members are students enrolled at the College". While student organizations that are not recognized or established by the College are not subject to the College's disciplinary jurisdiction, individuals who engage in violations of the standards of conduct outlined in the College's Hazing Policy will be held

accountable regardless of whether the student organization in which the hazing activities occurred is recognized or established by the institution.

Any student organization recognized or established by the College that is found to be responsible for violating the College's Hazing policy will be recorded in the Campus Hazing Transparency Report (posted on the college website as required by law). However, all reports of hazing involving student organizations that occur in the College's Clery geography will be included in the crime statistics regardless of whether the organization is established or recognized by the institution.

LSCO reserves the right to hold a sub-group of an organization accountable for Hazing policy violations, rather that the entire student organization, when circumstances reasonably indicate a sub-group, not the entire student organization, committed the Hazing policy violation. For example, affinity groups or position groups within an athletic team that meet the definition of student organization may be held accountable for Hazing in lieu of the entire athletic team.

How to Report Hazing

Any individual who experiences or witnesses Hazing is strongly encouraged to report the incident immediately. Any incident involving an in-progress crime or emergency should be reported immediately to the local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction by dialing 911.

Reports can be made to LSCO personnel in person, by phone, or by email using the contact information below:

Director of Safety: Rebecca Gentry, Ron Lewis Building, Rm 222C, 409.882.3910 or rebecca.gentry@lsco.edu.

Campus Safety Officers: Ron Lewis Library, Room 222, 409.670.0789.

Reports can be submitted on-line by using our <u>Hazing Intake Form</u> (located on the Campus Safety page of our website).

Reports can also be made by contacting student organization advisors, Campus Security Authorities, any Responsible Employee, or the Dean of Student Services located in the Student Success Center.

Incidents involving employees can be reported to the Director of Safety, Human Resources, or by utilizing the <u>Hazing Intake Form</u>.

Sex Offender Registration - Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act

Megan's Law

The federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act, enacted on October 28, 2000, requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by a State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained. It

also requires sex offenders already required to register in a State to provide notice, as required under State law, of each institution of higher education in that State at which the person is employed, carries on a vocation, volunteers services or is a student. In Texas, convicted sex offenders must register with the Texas Department of Public Safety (TxDPS). This information can be found on the <u>Tx DPS Sex Offender Registration Program.</u>

Missing Student Notification

In accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act, Institutions must develop and implement certain procedures to be followed when residential students are determined to be missing for 24 hours.

LSCO does not have any residential facilities.



A member of the Texas State University System