



2024 Annual Campus Safety Report

East Georgia State College – Statesboro Campus

Campus Security & Fire Safety Information

Published October 15, 2024

East Georgia State College prepares this Annual Security Report (ASR) in compliance with the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

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East Georgia State College-Statesboro is a shared campus, located on the Georgia Southern University Statesboro (GSU) campus since January 1, 2022. EGSC Statesboro students have access to GSU academic and support services, with limited exceptions. Georgia Southern University Police Department provides police services for EGSC Statesboro campus. This report was completed in collaboration with the Georgia Southern University Police Department and contains Clery Act crime statistics for the East Georgia State College (EGSC) Statesboro campus. The report covers 2023, 2022 and 2021 calendar year crime statistics. The report contains the safety and security policies of GSU as well as additional Clery Act reporting requirements for the EGSC Statesboro campus.

Introduction

From the President

To the East Georgia State College Community –

It is up to each one of us to help foster a secure and supportive environment at East Georgia State College — an environment where individuals can feel safe to visit, learn, work and live. Primary to this goal are the principles of responsibility and respect. These values are essential to any community and serve as the foundation for the success and productivity of our students, faculty, and staff. Safety on campus is one of the highest concerns.

A truly safe campus can only be achieved through the cooperation of everyone. This publication contains information about campus safety measures and reports statistics about crime in our college community. It also describes our efforts to combat alcohol and drug abuse. Please take the time to read it and help foster a more caring and safer environment.

David L. Schecter, President

From the Director of Public Safety

To the East Georgia State College Community –

On behalf of the members of the East Georgia State College Police Department, I want to thank you for your interest in our Annual Security and Fire Safety Report. The report is published by the Police Department and Legal Affairs. We publish this report because it contains valuable information for our campus community. We also publish the report to comply with the important provisions of the Clery Act. Campus safety and security and compliance with the Clery Act should be a part of everyone's responsibility at East Georgia State College.

We encourage you to review the information available in this document. You will find information about our organization including descriptions of certain services that we provide. You will also become familiar with our strong commitment to victims of crimes and the specific services we make available to crime victims. Lastly, you will find important information about security policies and procedures on our campus, crime data, and crime prevention information. We share in the College's commitment to foster a secure and supportive environment at East Georgia State College.

Campus safety and security is a collaborative effort at East Georgia State College. We partner with the many departments at the College that have a critical role in fostering campus safety, including Academic and Student Affairs, Plant Operations, Legal Affairs and other College offices. The men and women of the East Georgia State College Police Department are committed to making the College campus a safe place in which to live, work, and study.

Trey Drawdy, Director of Public Safety / Chief of Police

Reporting Crimes & Other Emergencies

East Georgia State College (EGSC or College) encourages the prompt and accurate reporting of crimes to law enforcement when the victim elects to. Individuals should report to the Georgia Southern Police Department or the local law enforcement agency for where the offense occurred. If a victim is unable to make a report, including due to incapacitation, EGSC encourages community members to seek emergency assistance including making a report to law enforcement.

It is important that all crime and suspicious activity be reported to Georgia Southern University Police and other appropriate law enforcement agencies, accurately and promptly when the victim of crime elects to, or is unable to make such a report. Members of the university community can report criminal activities, serious incidences or other emergencies in several different ways. Reports can be made in person. GSUPD is located at 1220 Forest Drive, directly across the street from the GSU Center for Wildlife Education and on the Armstrong campus at the corner of Arts and Library Drives. The departments are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and officers are always available to answer questions or respond to a complaint. Reports can be made by phone at 912-478-5234, through the LiveSafe App or by use of the Emergency Call Boxes. Georgia Southern University Police should be notified of any crime, whether or not an investigation continues to assure the university can assess any and all security concerns and inform the community if there is a significant threat to the university community.

When GSUPD receives a report of a crime, the responding officers initiate a preliminary investigation. Based on the results of the preliminary investigation and the presence of solvability factors, the Criminal Investigative Division will conduct follow-up investigations. All GSUPD incident reports involving students alleging sexual violence (including sexual harassment) are shared with the Title IX Office and the Office of Student Affairs who then coordinate outreach and next steps. GSUPD does not investigate these reports unless the complainant wishes to file criminal charges.

The Georgia Southern University Police Department's policy to monitor crimes off-campus against recognized student organizations is structured by an agreement with local police agencies. It is the desire of the GSU Police Department to provide timely warning of crimes to the Georgia Southern University community whether the incident involved a student organization on campus or in a surrounding jurisdiction.

Reporting Methods

Emergency Call Boxes

Georgia Southern University has installed emergency call boxes throughout the university campuses. Emergency Call Boxes are located in public areas, parking lots, outside residence hall complexes, outside administration buildings, and other outdoor locations. Emergency Call Boxes provide direct voice communications to the Georgia Southern University Police Dispatch Center.

LiveSafe App

The LiveSafe app provides two-way, real-time interactions with GSU Public Safety that include location-tagged text, calls, photos and videos; relevant safety resources and peer-to-peer safety tools. Visit <https://finops.georgiasouthern.edu/publicsafety/contact-us/livesafe/> for more information on this valuable resource.

Panic Buttons

Panic buttons are located in all residential buildings on the Statesboro campus and in many of the university's individual departments. When a panic button is activated, the GSUPD dispatcher is alerted of the location and immediately sends officers to the location to assist. Residents and employees should familiarize themselves with these buttons and their locations. Unlike Emergency Call Boxes, Panic Buttons will not connect you through a phone to the dispatcher.

Anonymous Reporting

If you are interested in reporting a crime anonymously, you can utilize the University Eagle Eye Witness program: <https://finops.georgiasouthern.edu/publicsafety/contact-us/eyewitness/>. We do not attempt to trace the origin of the person who submits this form, unless such is deemed necessary for public safety.

Voluntary, Confidential Reporting

Georgia Southern University does not currently have a policy regarding voluntary, confidential reporting of crimes by complainants or witnesses for inclusion in crime statistics, nor does Georgia Southern University currently have a policy or procedures that encourage pastoral and professional counselors, at their professional discretion, to inform the persons they are counseling of any such procedures to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in crime statistics.

Campus Security Authorities

A student who is a victim of a crime may be more inclined to report it to someone other than the campus police. For this reason, the Clery Act requires all institutions to collect crime reports from a variety of individuals and organizations that Clery considers to be "Campus Security Authorities". Campus Security Authorities are those individuals at the institution that have significant responsibility for student and campus activities including but not limited to Sexual Assault Response Team, Resident Assistants, Residence Directors, Student Access Monitors, the Title IX Office, Student Affairs Professionals and Director(s) of Athletics. CSA online reporting is also at: <https://students.georgiasouthern.edu/conduct/report-an-incident/>.

Law Enforcement Authority

The Division of Public Safety (georgiasouthern.edu/police) operates as a fully certified law enforcement agency and handles calls for service and those dealing with criminal acts within the jurisdiction of Georgia Southern University. University police officers are authorized under Georgia O.C.G.A. 20-3-72 to make arrest on, and within 500 yards of any property owned or controlled by the Board of Regents within the State of Georgia. Officers may operate beyond the 500 yards if they are in pursuit of an individual; assistance is requested from a surrounding agency with whom the university has a mutual aid agreement and; or on any campus under the control of the Board of Regents. The Division of Public Safety is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. We employ State of Georgia sworn police officers, all of whom are certified as law enforcement officers by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council. We are responsible for the protection of persons and property on the campus proper. To accomplish this objective, we routinely patrol the campus (including residence halls) on foot, on bicycles, and in vehicles. Our police officers enforce all Georgia laws (including traffic laws) as well as the rules and regulations of the University. It is the policy of the Division of Public Safety at Georgia Southern University to professionally investigate and refer for prosecution any crime within our jurisdiction. Our Criminal Investigations Division investigates all crimes which occur on campus and can assist outside agencies if students, faculty, or staff are involved in incidents off campus.

All crimes or other emergencies occurring on the Georgia Southern University campus should be reported to the Georgia Southern University Public Safety Division, Police Department. The Georgia Southern University policies and procedures designate Public Safety Division's Police Department as the law enforcement unit for the institution. Students are encouraged to report crimes directly to Public Safety in a timely manner. Campus personnel are informed of this procedure through new employee/student orientation, as well as through the Crime Prevention Unit. Written reports are made and followed up by the appropriate personnel in Public Safety. Georgia Southern University has a method of "anonymously" reporting crimes to the campus Police Department at Eagle Eye Witness: georgiasouthern.edu/police (Public Safety/Crime Prevention: Campus Services – Eagle Eye Witness), via telephone at 912-478-5234, Emergency Call Boxes or the LiveSafe App. The Public Safety Division provides a walking escort service to faculty, staff, students, and visitors 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. In addition, the Public Safety Division's Patrol Division provides a dedicated walking escort service staffed by part-time student workers during peak hours, 6 p.m. to 2 a.m., Sundays through Fridays while classes are in session. Additional information on the Service Officer Escort can be found at: georgiasouthern.edu/police (Public Safety/Crime Prevention: Campus Services – Service Officer Escorts).

The Georgia Southern University Police maintains a cooperative relationship with the Georgia State Patrol, Statesboro Police, Savannah Police, Hinesville Police, Bulloch County, Chatham County and Liberty County Sheriff's Offices, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, and surrounding police agencies. This includes intraoperative radio capability, training programs, special events coordination, investigation of serious incidents and cooperation about situations reported that may warrant an emergency response.

Georgia Southern University Police participates in Mutual Aid Agreements that authorize police officers and supervisors of the participating agencies to request mutual aid for investigating

incidents based upon a reasonable belief that such aid will enhance the public's and/or officer's safety and efficiency. The agencies participating in the agreement include Statesboro Police, Savannah Police, Hinesville Police, Bulloch County, Chatham County and Liberty County Sheriff's Offices, Ogeechee Technical College Police Department, Georgia State Patrol, Ogeechee Circuit District Attorney's Office and State Court Solicitor's Office. The agreement also allows for joint training and cooperation on other matters, such as pre-planned large-scale special events, amongst the participating agencies.

Security & Safety Programming

In an effort to promote safety awareness and risk reduction programs, recognizing that a crime risk exists and taking some corrective action to eliminate or reduce that risk, Georgia Southern University Police maintains a strong working relationship with the community. This relationship includes offering a variety of awareness programs, risk reduction programs, primary prevention programs & on-going prevention and awareness campaigns designed to continually promote the awareness of personal safety. If you or your organization would like to request a specific program or inquire as to the frequency or dates of a specific program please contact the Georgia Southern University Police Crime Prevention Coordinator, Sergeant Danny Garrigus, at 912-478- 5234, dr Garrigus@georgiasouthern.edu, 1220 Forest Drive, Statesboro, Georgia 30460.

Safety Awareness Programs

- Active Shooter on Campus – Preparing students, faculty, staff and visitors to prepare to react in the event of an active shooter event.
- Personal Safety - A program that provides information on a safe way for students to move around campus and in the community.
- Cyber Security - Protecting information, networks, computers, and resources against security attacks.
- Theft Measures – Information and methods regarding the safeguarding of personal items. ● Rights and Responsibilities – Information on the rights and responsibilities of University students, faculty, staff and visitors.
- Alcohol/Drug Awareness and Prevention – Programs designed to prevent and delay use of alcohol and other drugs, as well as to minimize the potential future harm from use.
- Binge Drinking – A prevention program designed to establish strong social and community norms against underage and binge drinking.
- Thefts from Vehicles - Information and methods regarding the safeguarding of personal items in vehicles.
- Financial Security - Information and methods regarding the safeguarding of finances. ● “Smarties & Dumb-Dumbs” – Awareness program regarding unsecured doors in residence halls.
- Bike, Pedestrian, Runner Safety – Awareness program to promote road safety.
- RAD Classes – Rape Aggression Defense self-defense course for female students, faculty and staff.
- Stalking – Defining Stalking? What to do?
- Domestic Violence – Defining Domestic Violence. What to do?
- Dating Violence – Defining Dating Violence. What to do?

- SOAR – During SOAR Sessions (Student Orientation and Registration), all incoming students are required to attend a session with the Dean of Students Office. During this session the Dean of Students staff discuss the dangers of alcohol use / abuse, campus safety and policies pertaining to Violence against Women Act (VAWA), Title IX and other acts of violence against students such as responsible reporters and employees who could offer confidential reporting.
- Tell Someone – The Dean of Students conducts a campaign on campus for Bystander Intervention called “Tell Someone”. The campaign focuses on educating students on topics where intervention may be necessary (substance abuse, sexual assault, etc.) as well as strategies and tips for intervening. The Dean of Student staff presents training in a number of first Year Experience classes as well as to Greek Life during Hazing Prevention Week. This campaign also encourages students to report acts of violence or other situations through the on-line reporting form, including the use of an anonymous option.

Preparing Annual Crime Statistics

The Georgia Southern University Police Department prepares this report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Crime statistics Act using information maintained by the University Police Department. GSUPD submits the annual crime statistics published in the report to the Department of Education (ED). The statistical information gathered by the Department of Education is available to the public through the ED website.

The Georgia Southern University Clery Committee is responsible for collecting the crime statistics, preparing, publishing and distributing the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report. The committee gathers and tracks crime and disciplinary referral data from internal and external sources such as the Office of Student Conduct and local law enforcement agencies.

The procedures for preparing the annual disclosure of crime statistics include reporting statistics from the following sources: the GSU Police Department (GSUPD), Statesboro PD, Savannah PD, Bulloch County Sheriff’s Office, Chatham County PD, Chatham County Sheriff’s Office, Hinesville PD, Liberty County Sheriff’s Office and non-police officials. For statistical purposes, crime statistics reported to any of these sources are recorded in the calendar year the crime was reported. We also communicate with departments at institutions our students travel to throughout the academic year in order to obtain the necessary statistics.

A written request for statistical information is made on an annual basis to all non-police officials who include campus security authorities. A designated campus security authority includes, but is not limited to, university deans, directors, department heads, residence life staff and counselors. Members of the Title IX Office and Student Conduct also provide statistics to GSUPD about cases they have dealt with where the survivor chose not to report the incident to GSUPD.

Recordkeeping

EGSC retains records related to compliance with federal campus safety requirements, including the Clery Act and Higher Education Act fire safety provisions, for a period of at least seven (7) years. These records include police reports, reports made by CSAs, educational programming, the

public crime and fire log, timely warnings, emergency notifications, and responses to reports of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

Timely Warning

Students, faculty, staff and visitors are encouraged to report all crimes and public safety-related incidents to GSUPD in a timely manner to aid in providing accurate and timely warning notices to the community when appropriate, and to ensure inclusion in the annual crime statistics. Georgia Southern University issues Timely Warnings, branded as “Eagle Alerts”, as soon as pertinent information is available when a Clery Act-defined crime represents an ongoing, serious or continuing threat to the campus community and that crime occurs within the university’s Clery Act geography. Timely Warnings include the date, time and location of the crime and provide information that promotes safety and allows individuals to protect themselves. The identity of victims is never included.

Georgia Southern University PD is responsible for issuing timely warnings. The Chief of Police or their designee will authorize sending timely warnings. In the absence of the Chief of Police, the designated authority will then follow the chain of command in descending order to include the GSU PD on-duty shift supervisor.

Timely warnings are issued all current student, faculty and staff by the following methods:

1. University email
2. Phone calls
3. Text messages
4. Desktop notifications
5. Georgia Southern University website and MyGeorgia Southern website
6. University social media account: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
7. Digital signage on each campus

Georgia State College Bobcat-to-Eagle students have access to all student services and resources of Georgia Southern University. B2E students receive Timely Warnings and Emergency Notifications via the Eagle Alert System.

Emergency Notification

The Office of Public Safety and GSU Environmental Safety monitor events on and around GSU campuses daily. If the Office of Public Safety and/or University Marketing and Communications 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 GSU community, the university will activate emergency notification procedures to provide immediate notification of the threat to the GSU community unless issuing a notification will, in the judgement of the first responders compromise the efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency. The university will, without delay and considering the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification. This will be based on the nature of the situation as well as the instructions recipients should follow. If the university determines that the threat is limited in scope, the

notification may be segmented to a specific group of recipients (e.g., those residing in a particular residence hall).

The Office of Public Safety and University Marketing and Communications serve as the primary message creators, approvers and senders of emergency notifications.

In the event of a serious incident that poses an immediate threat to members of the GSU community, the university has various systems in place for communicating information quickly. Some of all of these methods of communication may be activated in the event of an immediate threat to the GSU campus community. These methods of communication include Eagle Alert, a system that provides voicemail and/or text message alerts to members of the GSU community. Students, faculty and staff are automatically signed up the email alerts through their official GSU email address. Alerts are often sent out through official GSU social media, including Facebook and Twitter. In emergency situations, alerts may also appear at the top of university webpages. Members of the larger community who are interested in receiving information about emergencies on campus should use the official GSU social media or campus website.

GSU community members are encouraged to notify GSUPD of any situation or incident on campus that involves a significant emergency or dangerous situation that may involve an immediate or ongoing threat to the health and safety of students, faculty, staff or visitors on campus. Georgia Southern University Police Department has the responsibility of responding to and summoning the necessary resources to mitigate, investigate and document any situation that may cause a significant emergency or dangerous situation. In addition, GSUPD has a responsibility to respond to such incidents to determine if the situation does in fact pose a threat to the community. If so, federal law requires that the institution notify the campus community or the appropriate segments of the community that may be affected by the situation.

Daily Crime Log

GSU PD maintains a combined Daily Crime & Fire Log of all incidents, criminal incidents, alleged criminal incidents and fire incidents reported to the department, to Campus Security Authorities and local law enforcement agencies. Reported crimes are recorded in the log by that date they were reported to the UPD. The entries include the date the crime was reported, the date and time the crime occurred, the nature of the crime, the general location of the crime and the disposition of the complaint (if known). An entry, an addition to an entry or a change in the disposition of a crime is recorded within two business days of the reporting information. The Daily Crime & Fire Log is published Monday-Friday when the university is open for normal operations. It is available 24 hours per day to members of the public. The most current 60 days of information is available at the Public Safety Building located at 1220 Forest Drive, Statesboro, GA and 11935 Abercorn Street Savannah, GA. These records are retained electronically for seven years. Archived copies are available for public inspection within two business days of a request. The Daily Crime & Fire Log will never include information that would jeopardize the confidentiality of a victim.

Security of Facilities

The Georgia Southern University campus is open to the public. The campus is accessible 24 hours a day. At Georgia Southern, administrative buildings are generally open from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and academic buildings are open at various times. Academic buildings are scheduled to be 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. Most facilities have individual hours, and the hours may vary at different times of the year. Access to some buildings is controlled by card readers after normal business hours. All buildings have varied levels of access. Georgia Southern University Police Officers patrol the academic and administrative buildings on a regular basis. For information about the access protocol for a specific building, contact the building department head.

The Georgia Southern University buildings and grounds are maintained in a manner that provides a safe environment for all who come to campus. GSU PD regularly patrols all campuses and reports malfunctioning lights and other unsafe physical conditions to Facilities Services for repair. Personnel from various departments including Facilities Services, Auxiliary Services, Housing and University Police work together to ensure all components that comprise the safety systems are operational. This includes exterior lighting, fire and smoke detection systems, emergency call boxes and maintenance of landscaping, sidewalks and traffic control. Members of the university community should promptly report safety issues to GSUPD or to Facilities Services.

GSUPD: 912-478-5234

Housing Maintenance: 912-478-5234

Statesboro Campus Facilities Services: 912-478-5558

Armstrong Campus Facilities Services: 912-344-2545

Residence Hall Access

Access to residence halls is restricted to residents, their approved guests and other approved members of the university community. Residents are given access to their room as well and their building. Individuals not residing in a particular building do not have access to it unless a resident of that building escorts them. University Police patrol the residence halls on a regular basis and work with Resident Directors, Graduate Resident Directors and Resident Advisors to enforce security measures in the residential halls and work with residents to achieve a community respectful of individual and group rights and responsibilities.

Georgia Southern University is a member of the Crime Free Housing Initiative. Crime Free Housing is a program that partners property owners, residents and law enforcement personnel in an effort to eliminate crime in GSU Housing.

Emergency Response

The Georgia Southern University Emergency Operations Plan addresses the university's response to emergencies by taking an all-hazards approach to both natural and human-caused hazards.

Divisions, departments and offices should familiarize themselves with information in this plan. <https://finops.georgiasouthern.edu/emergencymanagement/plans-and-safety-guides/>

Individuals should familiarize themselves with preparedness resources available on the Emergency Management website.

The Office of Public Safety is responsible for the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). This plan is designed to be an all-hazards disaster response and emergency management plan that complies with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) guidelines for Higher Education that includes planning, prevention, preparedness and mitigation, response and recovery actions. In the event of a significant emergency or dangerous situation on campus or in the local area that poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of campus community, Georgia Southern University uses the Emergency Notification – Eagle Alert or Timely Warning system. Emergency Notification – Eagle Alert or Timely Warnings are an emergency notification service available to students, faculty and staff who wish to subscribe. Emergency Notifications and Timely warnings can be used to send emergency messages rapidly at the outset of the occurrence of an incident. Other methods of communication include the university's email system and verbal announcements within buildings and the public address system on police vehicles. Educational information is posted on each floor of the residential halls and referenced during annual drills. The university will post updates during a critical incident on the Georgia Southern University homepage.

GSU performs a university-wide annual test of the Emergency Notification – Eagle Alert and Timely Warning system. The test is announced to the GSU community through the GSU email system.

Emergency Evacuation

Students receive information about evacuation and shelter-in-place procedures during Georgia Southern's Orientation, Advisement and Registration (SOAR) and other educational sessions that they can participate in throughout the year. Students learn the locations of the emergency exits in the buildings and are provided guidance about the direction they should travel when exiting each facility for a building evacuation. Residential Hall staff members are trained in these procedures as well and act as an on-going resource for the students living in the residential facilities. GSU will publish a summary of its emergency response and evacuation procedures in conjunction with at least one drill or exercise each calendar year.

Educational information is posted on each floor of the residence halls and referenced during drills. In addition to educating the occupants of each building about the evacuation procedures during the drills, the process also provides the university an opportunity to test the operation of the fire alarm system components.

Evacuation drills are monitored by GSU PD and the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) to evaluate egress and behavioral patterns. Reports are prepared by the participating departments and recommendations for improvements are submitted to the appropriate departments/offices for consideration. Drills are documented by EHS.

Missing Students

The Clery Act requires institutions that maintain on-campus housing facilities to establish a Missing Student Notification Policy and related procedures (20 USC 1092 (j) Section 488 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008).

If a member of the university community has reason to believe that a student who resides in on-campus housing has been missing, he or she should immediately notify GSU Public Safety at 912-478-5234, any local law enforcement agency, Housing, Dean of Students, Student Affairs, Counseling Services any CSA or any person they deem appropriate and responsible.

When it is determined that a residential student is missing from the university, staff at Georgia Southern University, in collaboration with local law enforcement, will be guided by this Missing Student Notification Policy and related procedures.

Each student who lives in on-campus housing, regardless of age, is advised that he or she may register one or more individuals to be contacted strictly for missing person purposes. In addition to registering an emergency contact, students residing in on-campus housing have the option to identify, confidentially, an individual to be contacted by GSUPD in the event the student is determined to be missing for more than 24 hours. If a student has identified such an individual, GSU will notify that individual as soon as practical and no later than 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing. A student who wishes to identify a confidential contact person can do so through the Housing Office at the time of registration. The student's confidential contact information will be accessible only by authorized campus officials and law enforcement as appropriate.

In accordance with Georgia Southern University's Missing Student Policy, it should be noted that Georgia Southern University notifies each student who is under 18 years of age (and not an emancipated individual) that GSU is required to contact the student's parents or guardian in addition to the person identified as the missing student's contact person. This contact will be made no later than 24 hours after the time that the student is determined to be missing.

To report a missing student, please call GSUPD on your campus:
Statesboro: 912-478-5234
Armstrong/Liberty: 912-344-3333

Alcoholic Beverages & Illegal Drugs

The College, consistent with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any of its activities.

The EGSC Police Department enforces state and local ordinances pertaining to the illegal possession, use, and sale of alcoholic beverages and underage drinking laws as well as illegal drug

possession and use. It is illegal for persons under 21 years of age to possess, consume, or purchase alcoholic beverages. It is illegal for any person to furnish alcoholic beverages to persons less than 21 years of age. Enforcement actions include arrests and referrals for disciplinary action.

EGSC requires all new, transfer, and dual-enrolled students to complete an online AlcoholEdu program about alcohol and drug abuse awareness and risk reduction. EGSC employees have access to alcohol and drug concerns counseling and programming through Acentra Health's Employee Assistance Program.

Sex Offender Registry

Information about registered sex offenders carrying on a vocation and/or enrolled at East Georgia State College may be found at <https://gbi.georgia.gov/services/georgia-sex-offender-registry>



Crime Statistics for 2021, 2022 & 2023

Statesboro Campus

Reported in accordance with Uniform Crime Reporting procedures and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act January 1 – December 31.

Offense	Year	On Campus	Residential Facility	Non- Campus	Public Property	Total
Murder/ Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	2021	11	11	0	0	11
	2022	20	20	0	0	20
	2023	8	7	0	0	8
Fondling	2021	4	4	0	0	4
	2022	2	2	1	0	3
	2023	11	6	0	0	11
Incest	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0

	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2021	1	0	0	0	1
	2022	2	0	0	0	2
	2023	1	0	0	0	1
Aggravated Assault	2021	4	1	0	2	6
	2022	2	1	0	0	2
	2023	3	2	1	0	4
Burglary	2021	6	4	0	0	6
	2022	10	10	0	0	10
	2023	7	5	0	0	7
Motor Vehicle Theft	2021	2	0	0	0	2
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	5	0	0	0	5
Arson	2021	1	1	0	0	1
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0

Crime Statistics for 2021, 2022 & 2023

Statesboro Campus

(Continued)

Arrests & Judicial Referrals	Year	On Campus	Residential Facility	Non- Campus	Public Property	Total
Arrests: Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, Etc.	2021	4	3	0	0	4
	2022	0	0	0	1	1
	2023	2	0	0	0	2
Disciplinary Referrals: Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, Etc.	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests: Drug Law Violations	2021	28	13	0	25	53
	2022	27	18	0	10	37
	2023	10	3	0	2	12
Disciplinary Referrals: Drug Law Violations	2021	94	82	0	1	95
	2022	67	67	0	0	67
	2023	74	62	0	1	75
Arrests: Liquor Law Violations	2021	24	14	2	12	38

	2022	21	11	0	15	36
	2023	6	3	0	3	9
Disciplinary Referrals: Liquor Law Violations	2021	142	130	0	2	144
	2022	148	134	0	1	149
	2023	160	151	0	2	162

Arrests & Judicial Referrals	Year	On Campus	Residential Facility	Non-Campus	Public Property	Total
Domestic Violence	2021	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0
	2023	2	2	0	0	2
Dating Violence	2021	4	3	0	0	4
	2022	9	9	0	0	9
	2023	6	4	0	0	6
Stalking	2021	4	0	0	0	4
	2022	6	0	0	0	6
	2023	6	1	0	0	6

2021: No Hate Crimes reported.

2022: No Hate Crimes reported.

2023: Two on-campus Intimidation incidents characterized by Racial Bias.

There was one unfounded crime in 2021.

There were no unfounded crimes in 2022 or 2023.

East Georgia State College's Response to Sexual and Gender Violence

East Georgia State College is committed to a learning and working environment for all campus community members that is free from sex-based discrimination. The campus community includes students, faculty, and staff, as well as contractors, vendors, visitors, and guests.

If you or someone close to you are the victim of sex-based discrimination, know that you are not alone. The information in this report will help you navigate some of what you may be experiencing. No matter what you have experienced or how you are feeling now, it is important to prioritize your safety.

You do not have to go through this alone, and this information is intended to help you navigate the process. The College will provide a student or employee who reports they have been the victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whether the offense occurred on or off campus, with a written explanation of their rights and options as described in this report.

Victims have the option to: Notify proper law enforcement authorities, including on-campus and local police; Be assisted by campus authorities in notifying law enforcement authorities if the victim so chooses; and decline to notify such authorities.

Reporting

- EGSC Police Department 478-289-2090 Swainsboro or call 911
- EGSC Title IX Coordinator 478-289-2152; titleix@ega.edu
- EGSC Assistant Student Conduct Director: 478-289-2152;
- Local Law Enforcement 911
- EGSC Counselor 478-289-2039; or Rape Crisis Center* (Confidential Report)
- Anonymous reporting through EGSC Hotline:
<https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/76595/index.html>
- Decline to file a complaint (EGSC may continue investigation to the extent that it can as required by Title IX)

If you are a victim of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, it can be helpful to preserve evidence that may be useful in documenting the criminal activity. To preserve evidence refrain from:

- bathing,
- douching,
- smoking,
- changing clothes, and
- cleaning the linens or area where an assault occurred.

If you have changed clothes or linens, do not wash them until you have met with a law enforcement agency and/or health care provider. Seeking medical care does not mean you must report to law enforcement, so be sure to prioritize your health and safety when making decisions. Local hospitals can complete a forensic examination for collecting evidence that helps preserve your options should you choose to notify law enforcement. Photos, text messages, social media posts, instant messages, and any other communications or documents may provide information useful for College hearings or investigations, so save those, too.

Assistance

Upon request, East Georgia State College will make any reasonably available change to a victim's academic, living, transportation, and or working situation regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus police or local law enforcement. Students and employees may contact the Title IX Coordinator for assistance. The College will maintain as confidential any accommodations or 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.

If a victim reports to law enforcement, they may assist them in obtaining a temporary protection order from a criminal court. East Georgia State College is committed to ensuring that any such order is fully upheld on all institutionally owned and controlled property.

Employees can also contact the Director of Human Resources at 478-289-2035. Accommodations or supportive measures provided to a victim will remain confidential to the extent that maintaining confidentiality would not impair the ability of the institution to provide the accommodation or protective measures. Immigration and Visa assistance can be obtained by contacting EGSC Admissions Office 478-289-2169.

East Georgia State College recognizes the sensitive nature of sexual violence and is committed to protecting the privacy of any individual who reports an incident of sexual violence. The Clery Act prohibits the disclosure of a victim's personally identifying information in crime statistics, the crime log, and timely warnings. Different officials on campus are, however, able to offer varying levels of privacy protection to victims. Reports made to law enforcement, including if criminal prosecution is pursued, may be made public and shared with the accused.

Reports made to East Georgia State College officials will be kept confidential, and identifying information about the victim shall not be made public. Information about reports will only be shared with institutional personnel as needed to investigate and effectively respond to the report. Reports made to medical professionals or licensed mental health counselors will not be shared with any third parties except in cases of imminent danger to the victim or a third party.

Resources

Counseling: Immediate crisis counseling is available through UWILL Direct Crisis Connection and the EGSC Counseling and Disability Services Office. Counseling services are available for all EGSC students 24/7 by calling (833) 646-1526. Employee victims will be referred to an off-

campus provider. Student and employee client contacts with the EGSC Counseling Center are confidential.

Mental Health Resources and Rape Crisis Centers: Off campus counseling and support services can be obtained through the Ogeechee Behavioral Health in Swainsboro and the Refuge Sexual Assault Center- 912-538-9935 or <https://www.therefugeshelter.org/>. Such licensed off campus provider will also have a privilege with his or her clients and are subject to the above Georgia confidentiality provisions.

Victim Advocacy Programs: Victim advocate programs in Emanuel County District Attorney's Office in Swainsboro 478-237-7846, can provide on-going information and assistance.

Legal Assistance: Georgia Legal Services (800) 498-9469 can provide legal assistance.

Prevention Programming

The Title IX Coordinator is primarily responsible for sexual assault and sexual misconduct education and awareness in collaboration with many offices at the college. Together, these offices offer a variety of programming focusing on sexual and gender violence. Below is a list of some of the programs available at the College. A comprehensive program on Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Stalking and Prevention is provided via Vector Solutions to all first semester students both Fall and Spring Semesters. Students are provided definitions of sexual misconduct, sexual assault in the Vector Solutions Sexual Assault awareness online trainings and alcohol and drug awareness online training, sexual violence, consent, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking, and what to do if a victim of the above crimes, bystander intervention measures (to step in and distract, direct, delay, document, or delegate to someone to intervene), information on confidentiality and reporting options and ramifications, victim rights, the student conduct process and possible sanctions, and interim measures.

Information and materials are posted on the webpages of Title IX, Counseling and Disability Services, Police Department, Human Resources, Housing, Student Conduct, and Academic and Student Affairs. East Georgia State College Police Department may also participate in such programs. Domestic violence awareness brochures, emergency shelter information, and victim advocate contact information is provided to students.

During the college's annual "Compliance Month" training event, faculty and staff will receive annual training on prevention and awareness of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking, how to respond if a victim, what to do if you receive a report, college and off campus resources, the college disciplinary process and possible sanctions, and the role of the Title IX Coordinator. As part of their onboarding, new employees are provided training modules via Vector Solutions to educate them on these topics as well. All Resident Assistants and Housing Staff are provided with additional training on how to respond to Sexual Misconduct Reports.

In addition to disciplinary action by the College, individuals may face significant criminal sanctions for violations of state criminal laws prohibiting sexual misconduct.

State Definitions

Georgia Code § 16-6-1. Rape

(a) A person commits the offense of rape when he has carnal knowledge of:

(1) A female forcibly and against her will; or

(2) A female who is less than ten years of age.

Carnal knowledge in rape occurs when there is any penetration of the female sex organ by the male sex organ. The fact that the person allegedly raped is the wife of the defendant shall not be a defense to a charge of rape.

(b) A person convicted of the offense of rape shall be punished by death, by imprisonment for life without parole, by imprisonment for life, or by a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment for not less than 25 years and not exceeding life imprisonment, followed by probation for life. Any person convicted under this Code section shall, in addition, be subject to the sentencing and punishment provisions of Code Sections 17-10-6.1 and 17-10-7.

(c) When evidence relating to an allegation of rape is collected in the course of a medical examination of the person who is the victim of the alleged crime, the Georgia Crime Victims Emergency Fund, as provided for in Chapter 15 of Title 17, shall be responsible for the cost of the medical examination to the extent that expense is incurred for the limited purpose of collecting evidence.

(d)(1) As used in this subsection, the term “sexual felony” shall have the same meaning as set forth in paragraph (2) of subsection (j) of Code Section 16-5-21.

(2) Any person having been previously convicted of a sexual felony who is convicted of the offense of rape shall be punished by imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life. As a condition of probation, the court shall impose the requirement of electronic monitoring as set forth in paragraph (14) of subsection (a) of Code Section 42-8-35.

Georgia Code § 16-6-22.1. Sexual battery (Fondling)

(a) For the purposes of this Code section, the term “intimate parts” means the primary genital area, anus, groin, inner thighs, or buttocks of a male or female and the breasts of a female.

(b) A person commits the offense of sexual battery when he or she intentionally makes physical contact with the intimate parts of the body of another person without the consent of that person.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this Code section, a person convicted of the offense of sexual battery shall be punished as for a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature.

(d) A person convicted of the offense of sexual battery against any child under the age of 16 years shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than five years.

(e) Upon a second or subsequent conviction under subsection (b) of this Code section, a person shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be imprisoned for not less than one nor more than five years and, in addition, shall be subject to the sentencing and punishment provisions of Code Section 17-10-6.2.

(f) When the alleged victim is under the age of 16 years and the conduct is for the purpose of sexual arousal on the part of the alleged offender or alleged victim, consent of the alleged victim shall not be a defense to a prosecution under this Code section; provided, however, that if at the time of the offense the alleged victim is at least 13 but less than 16 years of age and the accused is 18 years of age or younger and no more than 48 months older than the alleged victim, this subsection shall not be applicable.

Georgia Code § 16-6-3. Statutory rape

(a) A person commits the offense of statutory rape when he or she engages in sexual intercourse with any person under the age of 16 years and not his or her spouse, provided that no conviction shall be had for this offense on the unsupported testimony of the victim.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this Code section, a person convicted of the offense of statutory rape shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one nor more than 20 years; provided, however, that if the person so convicted is 21 years of age or older, such person shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than ten nor more than 20 years. Any person convicted under this subsection of the offense of statutory rape shall, in addition, be subject to the sentencing and punishment provisions of Code Section 17-10-6.2.

(c) If the victim is at least 14 but less than 16 years of age and the person convicted of statutory rape is 18 years of age or younger and is no more than four years older than the victim, such person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

(d)(1) As used in this subsection, the term “sexual felony” shall have the same meaning as set forth in paragraph (2) of subsection (j) of Code Section 16-5-21.

(2) Any person having been previously convicted of a sexual felony who is convicted of the felony offense of statutory rape when the individual convicted was 21 years of age or older, shall be punished by imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life. As a condition of probation, the court shall impose the requirement of electronic monitoring as set forth in paragraph (14) of subsection (a) of Code Section 42-8-35.

Georgia Code § 16-6-22. Incest

(a) A person commits the offense of incest when such person engages in sexual intercourse or sodomy, as such term is defined in Code Section 16-6-2, with a person whom he or she knows he or she is related to either by blood or by marriage as follows:

- (1) Father and child or stepchild;
- (2) Mother and child or stepchild;
- (3) Siblings of the whole blood or of the half blood;
- (4) Grandparent and grandchild of the whole blood or of the half blood;
- (5) Aunt and niece or nephew of the whole blood or of the half blood; or
- (6) Uncle and niece or nephew of the whole blood or of the half blood.

(b) A person convicted of the offense of incest shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than ten nor more than 30 years; provided, however, that any person convicted of the offense of incest under this subsection with a child under the age of 14 years shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than 25 nor more than 50 years. Any person convicted under this Code section of the offense of incest shall, in addition, be subject to the sentencing and punishment provisions of Code Section 17-10-6.2.

(c)(1) As used in this subsection, the term “sexual felony” shall have the same meaning as set forth in paragraph (2) of subsection (j) of Code Section 16-5-21.

(2) Any person having been previously convicted of a sexual felony who is convicted of the offense of incest shall be punished by imprisonment for life or a split sentence that is a term of imprisonment followed by probation for life. As a condition of probation, the court shall impose the requirement of electronic monitoring as set forth in paragraph (14) of subsection (a) of Code Section 42-8-35.

Georgia Code § 19-13A-1. (Dating Violence)

As used in this chapter, the term:

(1) “Dating relationship” means a committed romantic relationship characterized by a level of intimacy that is not associated with mere friendship or between persons in an ordinary business, social, or educational context; provided, however, that such term shall not require sexual involvement.

(2) “Dating violence” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between persons through whom a current pregnancy has developed or who are currently, or within the last 12 months were, in a dating relationship:

- (A) Any felony; or
- (B) Commission of the offenses of simple battery, battery, simple assault, or stalking.

Georgia Code § 19-13-1. “Family violence” defined (Domestic Violence)

As used in this article, the term “family violence” means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between past or present spouses, persons who are parents of the same child,

parents and children, stepparents and stepchildren, foster parents and foster children, or other persons living or formerly living in the same household:

(1) Any felony; or

(2) Commission of offenses of battery, simple battery, simple assault, assault, stalking, criminal damage to property, unlawful restraint, or criminal trespass.

The term “family violence” shall not be deemed to include reasonable discipline administered by a parent to a child in the form of corporal punishment, restraint, or detention.

Georgia Code § 16-5-90. Stalking

(a)(1) A person commits the offense of stalking when he or she follows, places under surveillance, or contacts another person at or about a place or places without the consent of the other person for the purpose of harassing and intimidating the other person. For the purpose of this article, the terms “computer” and “computer network” shall have the same meanings as set out in Code Section 16-9-92; the term “contact” shall mean any communication including without being limited to communication in person, by telephone, by mail, by broadcast, by computer, by computer network, or by any other electronic device; and the place or places that contact by telephone, mail, broadcast, computer, computer network, or any other electronic device is deemed to occur shall be the place or places where such communication is received. For the purpose of this article, the term “place or places” shall include any public or private property occupied by the victim other than the residence of the defendant. For the purposes of this article, the term “harassing and intimidating” means a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person which causes emotional distress by placing such person in reasonable fear for such person's safety or the safety of a member of his or her immediate family, by establishing a pattern of harassing and intimidating behavior, and which serves no legitimate purpose. This Code section shall not be construed to require that an overt threat of death or bodily injury has been made.

(2) A person commits the offense of stalking when such person, in violation of a bond to keep the peace posted pursuant to Code Section 17-6-110, standing order issued under Code Section 19-1-1, temporary restraining order, temporary protective order, permanent restraining order, permanent protective order, preliminary injunction, or permanent injunction or condition of pretrial release, condition of probation, or condition of parole in effect prohibiting the harassment or intimidation of another person, broadcasts or publishes, including electronic publication, the picture, name, address, or phone number of a person for whose benefit the bond, order, or condition was made and without such person's consent in such a manner that causes other persons to harass or intimidate such person and the person making the broadcast or publication knew or had reason to believe that such broadcast or publication would cause such person to be harassed or intimidated by others.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this Code section, a person who commits the offense of stalking is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(c) Upon the second conviction, and all subsequent convictions, for stalking, the defendant shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than one year nor more than ten years.

(d) Before sentencing a defendant for any conviction of stalking under this Code section or aggravated stalking under Code Section 16-5-91, the sentencing judge may require psychological evaluation of the offender and shall consider the entire criminal record of the offender. At the time of sentencing, the judge is authorized to issue a permanent restraining order against the offender to protect the person stalked and the members of such person's immediate family, and the judge is authorized to require psychological treatment of the offender as a part of the sentence, or as a condition for suspension or stay of sentence, or for probation.

Georgia Code § 16-1-3. (Consent)

“Without his consent” means that a person whose concurrence is required has not, with knowledge of the essential facts, voluntarily yielded to the proposal of the accused or of another.

Disciplinary Proceedings

East Georgia State College prohibits the crimes of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking (collectively known as the Violence Against Women Act or VAWA Offenses). Complaints are processed consistent with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act), the University System of Georgia (USG) Sexual Misconduct Policy, and the East Georgia State College (EGSC) Sexual Misconduct Policy.

Disciplinary complaints may be made by any campus community member and should be directed to the EGSC Title IX Coordinator at the Shot Strange Clubhouse, or by calling 478-289-2360. A written complaint can be submitted to titleix@ega.edu or by completing an Incident Reporting Form at https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?EastGAState&layout_id=0 . You can also address a letter to Sherrie Helms, Associate AVP of Student Conduct & Title IX, 131 College Circle Swainsboro, GA 30401. Complaints made to the Title IX Coordinator will not initiate a law enforcement investigation.

Disciplinary proceedings for accused students will be handled by the Office of Student Conduct. Disciplinary proceedings for accused employees will be handled by the Human Resource Director pursuant to the Sexual Misconduct Policy. In all proceedings, both the Complainant and Respondent are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present including the right to be accompanied by an advisor of their choice.

In our proceedings any individual who is alleged to have experienced conduct that violates this Policy is considered a Complainant, and any individual who is alleged to have engaged in conduct that violates this Policy is considered a Respondent. A third-party individual who reports an allegation of conduct that may violate this Policy but who is not a party to the complaint is considered a Reporter.

What to Expect

Upon notice of the alleged misconduct, the institution will assess whether a formal investigation, informal resolution, or dismissal would be appropriate. In making this determination, the institution will assess whether the allegation(s), if true, would rise to the level of prohibited conduct, whether an investigation is appropriate in light of the circumstances, whether the parties prefer an informal resolution, and whether any safety concerns exist for the campus community. The need to issue a broader warning to the community in compliance with the Clery Act shall be assessed in compliance with federal law.

The USG uses different types of proceedings when a student is accused and when an employee is accused. Additionally, federal regulations implementing Title IX require us to use certain procedures in “Title IX Sexual Misconduct” cases that aren’t required in “Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct” cases. Both types of sexual misconduct include the VAWA Offenses as well as other forms of sex discrimination and sexual harassment.

“Title IX Sexual Misconduct” matters are when the alleged misconduct occurs against a person in the United States on institution property, or at institution-sponsored or affiliated events where the institution exercises substantial control over both the Respondent and the context, or in buildings owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution.

“Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct” matters are when the alleged misconduct occurs off-campus and or when the Complainant is not participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the institution occurring within the United States at the time of the filing, and when prohibited by other Board or institution conduct policies.

In Title IX Sexual Misconduct matters a Formal Complaint is required. A Formal Complaint is a written document filed by the Complainant or signed by the Coordinator alleging sexual harassment, as defined by Title IX and its implementing regulations, against a Respondent and requesting that the institution open an investigation. In order to file a Formal Complaint, the Complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of the institution occurring within the United States at the time of the filing.

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for determining which type of proceeding will be used or if a complaint is to be dismissed and will provide simultaneous written notice of their determination to the parties at their institutional e-mails. If the Title IX Coordinator dismisses a complaint the notice provided to the parties will include the reason and a right to appeal. If a complaint moves forward an investigator will be assigned and the notice will include their identity.

Prompt, Fair, and Impartial Proceedings

In all cases proceedings will afford a prompt, fair, and impartial process from the initial investigation to the final result for all parties. Proceedings will be conducted in a manner consistent with the institution's policies, and be transparent to the Complainant and Respondent.

The institution is responsible for proving cases by the preponderance of the evidence standard in both student and employee cases. This means that it is more likely than not that the accused committed a violation of policy.

Officials responsible for the resolution process receive annual training on issues related to dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking; how to conduct an investigation; and how to conduct a hearing that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability.

Timeframes and Notice

Efforts will be made to complete the investigation and resolution within 120 business days (days on which the campus is open). Temporary delays and limited extensions may be granted for good cause throughout the investigation and resolution process. The parties will be simultaneously informed in writing of any extension or delay and the applicable reason. The institution shall keep the parties informed of the status of the investigation. The Title IX Coordinator will provide parties with timely notice of meetings, at which the complainant, respondent or both may be present.

The institution provides simultaneous notification, in writing, to both the Complainant and Respondent of: The result of any institutional disciplinary proceeding that arises from an allegation of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking; The institution's procedures for the Complainant and Respondent to appeal the result of the institutional disciplinary proceeding; Any change to the result; and When such results become final. Notice should be provided via institution email to the party's institution email.

Amnesty

Information reported by a student during the Sexual Misconduct process concerning the consumption of drugs or alcohol will not be used against the particular student in a disciplinary proceeding or voluntarily reported to law enforcement; however, students may be provided with resources on drug and alcohol counseling and/or education, as appropriate.

Advisor of Choice

Both the Complainant and the Respondent, as parties to the matter, shall have the opportunity to use an advisor (who may or may not be an attorney) of the party's choosing at the party's own expense.

In Title IX Sexual Misconduct cases the advisor may accompany the party to all meetings and may provide advice and counsel to their respective party throughout the Sexual Misconduct process, including providing questions, suggestions and guidance to the party, but may not actively

participate in the process except to conduct cross-examination at the hearing. If a party chooses not to use an advisor during the investigation, the institution will provide an advisor for the purpose of conducting cross-examination on behalf of the relevant party.

In Non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct cases the advisor may accompany the party to all meetings and may provide advice and counsel to their respective party throughout the Sexual Misconduct process but may not actively participate in the process.

All communication during the Sexual Misconduct process will be between the institution and the party and not the advisor. The institution will copy the party's advisor prior to the finalization of the investigation report when the institution provides the parties the right to inspect and review directly related information gathered during the investigation. With the party's permission, the advisor may be copied on all communications.

Interim Measures

Interim measures may be implemented at any point after the institution becomes aware of an allegation of Sexual Misconduct and should be designed to protect any student or other individual in the USG community.

Interim measures may include, but are not limited to: Change of housing assignment; issuance of a "no contact" directive; Restrictions or bars to entering certain institution property; Changes to academic or employment arrangements, schedules, or supervision; Interim suspension; and Other measures designed to promote the safety and well-being of the parties and the institution's community.

Informal Resolution

The Respondent and the Complainant, as parties to the matter, may have the option of selecting informal resolution as a possible resolution in certain cases where the parties agree, and it is deemed appropriate by the institution. Where a matter is not resolved through informal resolution a hearing shall be set. All Sexual Misconduct cases shall be heard by a panel of faculty and/or staff. Student allegations of Title IX Sexual Misconduct against an employee may not be resolved informally.

The Complainant, the Respondent, and the institution must agree to engage in the informal resolution process and to the terms of the informal resolution. The Complainant(s) and the Respondent(s) have the option to end informal resolution discussions and request a formal process at any time before the terms of an informal resolution are reached. However, matters resolved informally shall not be appealable.

Student allegations of Title IX Sexual Misconduct against an employee may not be resolved informally.

Unbiased Proceedings

In all proceedings a conflict of interest or bias by the Title IX Coordinator, Conduct Officer, investigator(s), and or decision makers(s) is grounds for an appeal. In proceedings involving a student Respondent any party may challenge the participation of any institution official, panel member in the process on the grounds of personal bias by submitting a written statement to the institution's designee setting forth the basis for the challenge.

Investigation

The parties shall be provided with a written notice containing the allegations, possible charges and sanctions as well as available support and interim measures. Upon receipt of the notice parties have at least 3 business days to respond in writing. The Respondent may admit or deny allegations and set forth a defense. The Complainant may respond and supplement their written notice. Throughout both parties may present witnesses and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence.

An investigator shall conduct a thorough investigation and should retain written notes and/or obtain written or recorded statements from each interview.

The initial investigation report shall be provided to the Complainant, the Respondent, and a party's advisor (if applicable). This report should fairly summarize the relevant evidence gathered during the investigation and clearly indicate any resulting charges or alternatively, a determination of no charges. For purposes of this Policy, a charge is not a finding of responsibility.

The Complainant and the Respondent shall have at least 10 open campus days to review and respond in writing to the initial investigation report and directly related information gathered during the investigation. The investigator will review the Complainant's and the Respondent's written responses, if any, to determine whether further investigation or changes to the investigation report are necessary.

The final investigation report should be provided to the Complainant, the Respondent, and a party's advisor, if applicable, at least 10 open campus days prior to the Hearing. The final investigation report should also be provided to all Hearing Panel members for consideration during the adjudication process.

Hearing – Student Respondent

Where a matter is not resolved through informal resolution a hearing shall be set. All Sexual Misconduct cases shall be heard by a panel of faculty and/or staff. In no case shall a hearing to resolve a Sexual Misconduct allegation take place before the investigation report has been finalized. All directly related evidence shall be available at the hearing for the parties and their advisors to reference during the hearing. The institution will determine how the facts or evidence will be introduced.

Notice of the date, time, and location of the hearing as well as the selected hearing panel members shall be provided to the Complainant and the Respondent at least 10 open campus days prior to

the hearing. Hearings shall be conducted in-person or via video conferencing technology. Formal judicial rules of evidence do not apply to the resolution process and the standard of evidence shall be a preponderance of the evidence.

Each institution shall maintain documentation of the investigation and resolution process, which may include written findings of fact, transcripts, audio recordings, and/or video recordings. Any documentation shall be maintained for seven years.

In Title IX Hearings the parties shall have the right to confront any witness, including the other party, by having their advisor ask relevant questions directly to the witness. The Hearing Officer shall limit questions raised by the advisor when they are irrelevant to determining the veracity of the allegations against the Respondent(s). In any such event, the Hearing Officer shall err on the side of permitting all the raised questions and must document the reason for not permitting any particular questions to be raised.

In Non-Title IX Hearings the parties shall have the right to confront any witnesses, including the other party, by submitting written questions to the Hearing Officer for consideration. Advisors may actively assist in drafting questions. The Hearing Officer shall ask the questions as written and will limit questions only if they are irrelevant to determining the veracity of the allegations against the Respondent(s). In any such event, the Hearing Officer shall err on the side of asking all submitted questions and must document the reason for not asking any particular questions.

Following a hearing, the parties shall be simultaneously provided a written decision via institution email of the hearing outcome and any resulting sanctions or administrative actions. The decision must include the allegations, procedural steps taken through the investigation and resolution process, findings of facts supporting the determination(s), determination(s) regarding responsibility, and the evidence relied upon and rationale for any sanction or other administrative action. The institution shall also notify the parties of their right to appeal, as outlined below.

Hearing – Employee Respondent

Matters involving alleged Title IX Sexual Misconduct must be heard at a live-hearing. All Sexual Misconduct cases shall be heard by a panel of faculty and/or staff. Formal civil rules of evidence do not apply to the resolution process and the standard of evidence shall be a preponderance of the evidence. The institution will determine how the facts or evidence will be introduced.

Notice of the date, time, and location of the hearing as well as the designated Hearing Officer shall be provided via email at least 10 open campus days prior to the hearing. Hearings shall be conducted in-person or via video conferencing technology. Each institution shall maintain documentation of the investigation and resolution process, which may include written findings of fact, transcripts, audio recordings, and/or video recordings. Any documentation shall be maintained for seven years.

The parties shall have the right to confront any witness, including the other party, by having their advisor ask relevant questions directly to the witness. The Hearing Officer shall limit questions raised by the advisor when they are irrelevant to determining the veracity of the allegations against

the Respondent(s). In any such event, the Hearing Officer shall err on the side of permitting all the raised questions and must document the reason for not permitting any particular questions to be raised.

Following a hearing, the parties shall be simultaneously provided a written decision via email of the hearing outcome and any resulting disciplinary or administrative actions. The decision must include the allegations, procedural steps taken through the investigation and resolution process, findings of facts supporting the determination(s), determination(s) regarding responsibility, and the rationale for any disciplinary or other administrative action.

Hearing – Faculty Respondent

All Sexual Misconduct involving faculty Respondents where dismissal is a possible sanction shall, consistent with Board of Regents policy, be heard by a live-hearing panel of three to five faculty members appointed by the Faculty Senate. Notice of the panel members shall be provided to parties in writing at least 20 days prior to the hearing, and parties have at least two challenges for bias which must be made in writing at least five days in advance of the hearing. A faculty member may also waive a hearing in which case the panel shall evaluate the record.

Additional procedures for faculty Respondent matters:

An oath or affirmation shall be administered to all witnesses. The parties shall have the right to confront any witness, including the other party, by having their advisor ask relevant questions directly to the witness.

The Title IX Coordinator shall notify the President and parties simultaneously in writing of the decision and recommendation, if any, of the panel. If dismissal is recommended the President shall either approve the recommendation or if not shall advise the panel in writing of the basis prior to rendering their final decision. The panel may also recommend a lesser sanction. The President may or may not follow the recommendations of the panel.

The President shall notify the parties simultaneously in writing of their decision. Such notice shall include information about applying to the Board of Regents for discretionary review. Upon dismissal, pending possible discretionary review, the faculty member shall be suspended without pay. The Board may reinstate the faculty member with compensation from the date of suspension.

Possible Sanctions – Student Respondent

The broad range of sanctions includes: expulsion; suspension for an identified time frame or until satisfaction of certain conditions or both; temporary or permanent separation of the parties (e.g., change in classes, reassignment of residence, no contact orders, limiting geography of where parties can go on campus) with additional sanctions for violating no-contact orders; required participation in sensitivity training/awareness education programs; required participation in alcohol and other drug awareness and abuse prevention programs; counseling or mentoring;

volunteering/community service; loss of institutional privileges; delays in obtaining administrative services and benefits from the institution (e.g., holding transcripts, delaying registration, graduation, diplomas); additional academic requirements relating to scholarly work or research; financial restitution; or any other discretionary sanctions directly related to the violation or conduct.

Possible Sanctions – Employee Respondent

When an employee is found responsible by our proceedings they may face: verbal warning, coaching, documentation of warning, unpaid suspension, demotion, and/or termination.

Appeals

Appeals may be made in any cases where sanctions are issued, even when such sanctions are held “in abeyance,” such as probationary or expulsion. Where the sanction imposed includes a suspension or expulsion (even for one held in abeyance), the following appellate procedures must be provided.

The Respondent or the Complainant shall have the right to appeal the outcome on any of the following grounds: (1) to consider new information, sufficient to alter the decision, or other relevant facts not brought out in the original hearing (or appeal), because such information was not known or knowable to the person appealing during the time of the hearing (or appeal); (2) to allege a procedural error within the hearing process that may have substantially impacted the fairness of the hearing (or appeal), including but not limited to whether any hearing questions were improperly excluded or whether the decision was tainted by a conflict of interest or bias by the Title IX Coordinator or designee, Conduct Officer, investigator(s), decision makers(s); or (3) to allege that the finding was inconsistent with the weight of the information.

The appeal must be made in writing and must set forth one or more of the bases outlined above and must be submitted within five open campus days of the date of the final written decision. The appeal should be made to the EGSC President. If an appeal is submitted, the other Party shall receive notice of the appeal, including a copy of the submission. That Party may submit, in writing and within 5 business days from the date of notification, a response to the appeal submission.

The appeal shall be a review of the record only, and no new meeting with the Respondent or any Complainant is required. The President may affirm the original finding and sanction, affirm the original finding but issue a new sanction of greater or lesser severity, remand the case back to the decision-maker to correct a procedural or factual defect, or reverse or dismiss the case if there was a procedural or factual defect that cannot be remedied by remand.

The President’s decision shall be simultaneously issued in writing to the parties within a reasonable time period. The President’s decision shall be the final decision of the institution. The Complainant or Respondent may request review of the President’s decision as provided in the Board of Regents Policy Manual 6.26 Application for Discretionary Review.

Retaliation

Anyone who has made a report or complaint, provided information, assisted, participated, or refused to participate in any manner in the Sexual Misconduct process, shall not be subjected to retaliation. Anyone who believes that they have been subjected to retaliation should immediately contact the Coordinator or their designee. Any person found to have engaged in retaliation shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Additional Information

For additional information about disciplinary proceedings please contact the Title IX Coordinator. **Any party to a sexual misconduct proceeding and their Advisor of Choice should review all applicable USG and EGSC policies.** USG and EGSC policies are available at these links:

[East Georgia State College \(EGSC\) Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy](#)

<https://www.ega.edu/about/at-a-glance/policies-and-procedures-of-the-college/08-non-discrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy.html>

[6.7 Sexual Misconduct Policy](#)

<https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section6/C2655>

[4.6.5 Standards for Institutional Student Conduct Investigation and Disciplinary Proceedings](#)

https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section4/C332/#p4.6.5_standards_for_institutional_student_conduct_investigation

[Human Resources Administrative Practice Manual, Prohibit Discrimination & Harassment](#)

https://www.usg.edu/hr/assets/hr/hrap_manual/HRAP_Prohibit_Discrimination_Harassment_Employee_Relations.pdf

Federal VAWA Offense Definitions for Disciplinary Proceedings

Sexual Assault: 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.

Sexual Assault: 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.

Sexual Assault: Incest – Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Sexual Assault: Statutory Rape – Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

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 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.

(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.

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 cohabitated 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 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.

(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.

Stalking. (i) Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause 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 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.

(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.

Definition of Consent

Words or actions that show a knowing and voluntary willingness to engage in mutually agreed-upon sexual activity. Consent cannot be gained by force, intimidation or coercion; by ignoring or acting in spite of objections of another; or by taking advantage of the incapacitation of another where the respondent knows or reasonably should have known of such incapacitation. Minors under the age of 16 cannot legally consent under Georgia law.

Consent is also absent when the activity in question exceeds the scope of consent previously given. Past consent does not imply present or future consent. Silence or an absence of resistance does not imply consent.

Consent can be withdrawn at any time by a party by using clear words or actions.

