

Security and Fire Safety Report 2023



ALABAMA COLLEGE OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

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A Message from the ACOM Security Supervisor

Security Services welcomes you to Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine (ACOM). Our highest priority is to provide a safe learning and living environment for everyone on campus. To ensure this, we all need to work together, stay informed, and maintain awareness. This information will provide everyone in the ACOM community and beyond a better understanding of our office. It also identifies additional resources available on and off-campus, as well as statistics regarding crime and fires that have occurred on or around our campus.

As you will see, we are proud to have an exceptionally safe campus. This is due to the great cooperation from ACOM students, faculty and staff, in conjunction with support provided by local law enforcement and others in the community. Everyone works well together toward our goal of a safer campus.

Despite our best efforts, crimes may still happen. Safety and security are a shared responsibility, and we expect everyone to continue doing their part in keeping ACOM a safe and enjoyable learning environment.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding this publication, please contact Security Services at 334-944-4044.

Sincerely,

James Andrews, Security Supervisor
ACOM Security Services Department

Introduction

Welcome

The Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine (ACOM) is committed to providing a campus that is safe and conducive to the goals of education and research. Our security officers are continuously working to help you maintain your personal safety and to protect your property by providing physical and electronic security measures, offering crime prevention education, and engaging in emergency preparedness planning and training. By sharing the safety and security related information included in this report, we hope to reduce your chances of becoming a crime or accident victim. We believe that an informed community is a safer community.

Each year, ACOM publishes on the College's website the Campus Security and Fire Safety Report. The Report includes the campus's crime and fire statistics and outlines ACOM security and fire safety policies and procedures. It is distributed on an annual basis to enrolled students and current employees via email and made available to prospective students and employees via the ACOM website. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with this report so you can become an informed member of our community and contribute to the College's efforts to create and maintain a safe environment in which we all can live, study, work, and play.

Guide to the ACOM Annual Security and Fire Safety Report

This report is intended to provide valuable information regarding procedures the College has developed in partnership with members of the community to maintain a safer campus environment. Text boxes contain contact information for various safety and law enforcement officials, crime and fire prevention tips, and other important information. To find out more about any policies or procedures referenced in this document, please contact the Director of Campus Safety at (334) 305-1030, or the Security Services Department at (334) 944-4044.

Printed Copies

If you would like to request a printed copy of this report, please contact the Security Services Department.

Security Services Department
James Andrews, Security Supervisor
(334) 944-4044
security@acom.edu

The Security Services Department

About Us

The ACOM Security Services Department is committed to the safety and well-being of the campus community. The Department is staffed and operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Through our office on the first floor of the ACOM building, we coordinate campus patrols, monitor security cameras, arrange escort services to and from parking or housing areas, and address calls for assistance. We work with the Dothan Police Department, the Houston County Sheriff's Department, Cottonwood Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Homeland Security, Alabama Fusion Center, Dothan Emergency Management and other neighborhood partners to safeguard the campus. ACOM collaborates with these agencies on various training programs, statewide and local criminal trends, and other information that may affect the campus.

Campus Safety Operations

The Department is staffed by full-time and part-time security representatives and one security supervisor who are hired and provided with professional training by the Southeast Health's Security Services Department and the Cottonwood Police Department. These representatives are not certified and do not have arrest authority.

Their primary responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- providing general security services
- maintaining crime and fire logs
- conducting crime awareness and prevention programs
- reporting and investigating alleged criminal incidents
- monitoring security cameras
- controlling access to the ACOM buildings
- providing escort services to and from parking or housing areas
- assisting with special events
- responding to emergencies or requests for assistance
- serving as a liaison to local law enforcement officials and other first responders
- assisting students, employees, and visitors as needed

Interagency Cooperation

ACOM's Security Services Department coordinates campus safety planning, training, and operations with state and local law enforcement and fire agencies. This network of cooperation ensures that the campus is prepared to prevent and respond to potential threats to the safety of the campus community. In the event of an emergency or other situation requiring the assistance of law enforcement officials, the department will contact the Dothan Police Department and/or the Houston County Sheriff's Department. There is no written memorandum of understanding between the Department and any outside law enforcement agency.

Jurisdiction

The Security Services Department's area of authority is limited to the property owned and operated by the Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine. ACOM neither owns nor operates any off-campus student housing or off-campus student organization facilities. ACOM student organizations neither own nor operate any off-campus student organization facilities. ACOM's security personnel have no responsibility for the security policies, procedures, or safety of off-campus locations.

Summerfield Square, the on-campus student housing community, is owned by SFP ACOM I, LLC and operated by Corvias Group, LLC, and does not fall under the jurisdiction of ACOM's security personnel. Corvias Group, LLC is responsible for the operation, physical security, access control, and maintenance of the facility. However, under a cooperation agreement between ACOM and Corvias, the Security Services Department conducts certain basic security activities at Summerfield Square.

These activities are limited to:

- conducting random drive-through patrols of the parking areas adjacent to the apartment buildings
- providing, upon request, security escort service between ACOM and the apartment buildings
- monitoring outdoor security call boxes (Blue Light Phones)

ACOM Security does not have building access nor control the physical security of the Summerfield Square Apartments.

Therefore, in case of a criminal, fire, or medical emergency at Summerfield Square, a person should request immediate assistance by dialing 911.

Physical Security and Access to Facilities

ACOM takes pride in maintaining a safe but open campus. To balance the benefits of an open campus with the safety needs of an institution, a variety of security measures have been implemented.

Security representatives occupy campus posts 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Designated buildings require a valid ACOM ID for entry. Card readers, alarm monitoring systems, emergency call boxes (Blue Light Phones), and 24-hour recorded video cameras support our efforts by providing direct feed to security officials.

The campus is closed to the public. However, visitors are welcome and, as with all students and employees, are expected to obey all laws and institutional policies and procedures related to the use of ACOM facilities. All campus guests are required to sign in and obtain a visitor's badge at the ACOM security desk and must be escorted while on campus.

ACOM is committed to providing a safe and secure campus through the maintenance of facilities in mitigating unsafe physical conditions. These departments also work to ensure that safety and security are accounted for during project planning and implementation. Security and Facilities Department personnel regularly patrol the campus and report malfunctioning lights, locks, call boxes, or other unsafe physical conditions to the appropriate parties for remediation. All members of the ACOM community are encouraged to report any malfunction or unsafe facilities condition to the Security or Facilities Departments.

Safety concerns can also be reported through the Security Reporting form at <https://www.acom.edu/report/>

ACOM's Director of Campus Safety reviews all submissions and addresses concerns that have been submitted.

ACOM has instituted safety and security procedures and services, but the personal safety of everyone who enters the campus is his or her responsibility. Failure to take precautions or maintain an awareness of the environment and surroundings may result in increased risk. ACOM will continue to develop and implement security measures, but these measures can succeed only with the support of faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

Three Simple Rules for Personal Safety

- Stay alert and aware of your surroundings. "Be aware and be prepared."
- Stand tall and walk confidently: do not show fear.
- Trust your instincts.

If you do not feel comfortable in a place or situation, leave.

If you see suspicious activity or a person behaving suspiciously, notify police by calling 911. If on campus, also notify the Security Department at (334) 944-4044.

The Clery Act

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, more commonly known as the Clery Act, requires colleges and universities to:

- publish an annual report every year by October 1 that contains three years of campus crime and fire safety statistics and certain campus security policy statements
- encourage members of the campus community to report the occurrence of criminal incidents
- disclose in a public crime log “any crime that occurred on campus . . . or within the patrol jurisdiction of the campus security department and is reported to the campus security department”
- disclose in a public fire log a record of any fire that occurred in an on-campus student housing facility
- provide “timely warning” notices of crimes that have occurred and pose an ongoing “threat to the safety of students and employees”
- issue an “emergency notification” upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on campus
- disclose crime statistics for the campus, public areas immediately adjacent to or running through the campus, and certain non-campus facilities and remote classrooms. The statistics must be gathered from campus security, local law enforcement, and other College officials who have “significant responsibility for student and campus activities”

Note: This report makes every attempt to address the changes to the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistic Act (Clery Act) and the requirements of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA) (Public Law 113-4).

Reporting Criminal Incidents or Concerning Behavior

Reporting Criminal Incidents

To maximize safety on campus, ACOM strongly encourages anyone with knowledge about any crime (whether as a witness or as a victim) to make an accurate and prompt report to the appropriate law enforcement agency in person or by telephone. The Director of Campus Safety and the Security Department are available to assist with reporting, if needed, when the victim elects to make such a report or is unable to make a report on their own. The act of making a report does not obligate a person to pursue legal action. However, your prompt reporting will assist security and law enforcement officials in preventing future incidents and help to keep the campus community informed about potential criminal activity.

Reports should include the following:

- Name
- Exact location of the incident
- Description of the scene
- Description of any suspects
- Description and license plate numbers of any involved vehicles

To report a non-emergency security or public safety related matter, call the ACOM Security Services Department at (334) 944-4044, or make a report in person at the Security Desk in the main ACOM Building. In case of an emergency, dial 911.

The College has positioned emergency two-way call boxes (Blue Light Phones) around campus buildings and parking areas for use during emergencies. By pressing the red button on a station, the user is immediately connected with a Security Services representative.

Confidential Reporting

ACOM encourages prompt and accurate reporting of all crimes. Victims or witnesses may also report incidents of crime to the Director of Campus Safety, and any ACOM representative identified as a Campus Security Authority (CSA). CSAs may obtain a copy of the Crime Incident Report from the Security Desk or by calling (334) 944-4044.

Campus Security Authorities include:

- MaryAnn May, PhD, Director of Campus Safety
- James Andrews, Security Supervisor

- Phillip Reynolds, PhD, Associate Dean of Student Services
- Eugenia S. Thomas, JD, Corporate Compliance Officer
- Any Security Officer

To request assistance or report a crime that has occurred at an off-campus location, a person should dial 911 and/or contact the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction for that area.

Victims or witnesses wishing to make voluntary reports of criminal activity in confidence may do so by requesting that the agency or person to whom a report is made maintain confidentiality about the identity of the individual making the report. All report details will be provided to the Director of Campus Safety who will honor confidentiality to the extent permitted by state law, criminal investigatory requirements, and college judicial processes. These confidential reports, if involving a Clery-reportable offense, are counted, and disclosed in the crime statistics for the College, but, as with all other crimes included in the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, no personally identifiable information is included.

Confidential Reporting to Pastoral and/or Professional Counselors

Under the Clery Act, campus pastoral or professional counselors, when acting as such, are not considered to be campus security authorities and are exempt from the Act's criminal reporting requirements. The exemption is intended to ensure that these individuals can provide appropriate counseling services without an obligation to report crimes. However, there may be situations in which counselors are in fact under a legal obligation to report a crime.

Currently, ACOM does not employ pastoral or professional counselors; however, ACOM does assist students in finding third-party counselors when needed.

Reporting Concerning Behavior

ACOM has established a mechanism by which violence, threats of violence, and behaviors that are disruptive to institutional activities may be reported, evaluated, and addressed.

Report emergency situations involving behavior that appears to pose a clear and immediate threat of violence or self-harm immediately by dialing 911. For situations where there does not appear to be an immediate risk, refer to the following as applicable:

Reports of concerning student behavior should be made to the Associate Dean of Student Services by calling (334) 699-2266 or to the Director of Campus Safety by calling (334) 405-5755.

Reports may be submitted anonymously utilizing the Security Reporting form at <https://www.acom.edu/report/>

ACOM's Director of Campus Safety reviews all security report submissions and addresses concerns that have been submitted.

Reports of concerning faculty member behavior should be made to the appropriate Academic Dean or to the Director of Campus Safety.

All reports are then forwarded to the Director of Campus Safety for further determination of action.

Reporting Off Campus Crimes and Other Emergencies

Victims or witnesses to criminal activity or emergency situations occurring off campus should contact the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction.

- All emergencies: 911
- Dothan Police Department: (334) 615-3000
- Houston County Sheriff: (334) 677-4882
- Alabama State Troopers: (334) 983-4587

The Security Services Department is available to help with notifying these or other law enforcement agencies.

If you are uncomfortable making a formal criminal report but would like to help ensure the safety of the campus community, we encourage you to report the incident anonymously by calling Crime Stoppers at (334) 793-7000.

Responding to Reports or Emergencies

Investigations

The Security Services Department investigates all reports of crimes, including confidential (where the reporting parties' names are known but not released) reports. Upon investigation, if there is reason to believe that a criminal act may have occurred, Security Services will refer the matter to local law enforcement officials. Information from crime reports is analyzed to identify emerging crime trends and allocate resources more efficiently.

Daily Crime Log

The Security Services Department maintains a daily crime log at their office located within the ACOM Building. The log contains the time, date, and location of each criminal incident and alleged criminal incident that is reported to Security Services. A new entry or addition to an existing entry will be entered into the crime log within two business days from the date that the report is received unless that disclosure is prohibited by law or would jeopardize the confidentiality of the victim. The log is available for public inspection during business hours.

Timely Warning of Crimes

The Director of Campus Safety and/or the Security Services Department will issue a “timely warning” for any serious incident that constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat to the ACOM community when there are enough details known about the crime to provide useful information to the community. Timely Warnings are designed to promote a heightened sense of awareness among members of the campus community to prevent criminal or emergency situations from occurring. Depending on the circumstances, one or more of the following methods may be used to distribute a notice:

- hard-copy notices
- campus-wide emails
- mobile alerts via AlertMedia system
- postings to the ACOM website
- social media
- messages on electronic signage
- voice messages over various public address systems

Timely Warnings are issued, at a minimum, for any and all Clery crimes that occur within ACOM’s Clery geography including the following Clery crime classifications when they are determined to pose a serious or ongoing threat to the campus community:

- Murder/non-negligent manslaughter
- Manslaughter by negligence
- Sexual assault (considered on a case-by-case basis depending on the facts of the case, when the incident occurred, when it was reported, and the amount of information known);
- Robbery, involving force or violence
- Aggravated assault (cases involving assaults, such as two students fighting, which result in aggravated injury, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if there is an ongoing threat to the campus community);

- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Burglary
- Major incidents of arson;
- Other crimes as determined necessary by the Director of Campus Safety

ACOM is not required to issue a Timely Warning with respect to crimes reported to a pastoral or professional counselor.

Emergency Notifications

An emergency notification is an urgent communication regarding a significant emergency or dangerous situation that may compromise the health and safety of members of the campus community. Typically, an emergency notification is provided without delay upon confirmation of an imminent or impending threat and empowers the recipient to take appropriate action to minimize injury or loss of life.

Some examples of hazards that would trigger an Emergency Notification include:

All Hazards:

- Terrorist attack
- Active shooter
- Natural disaster
- Environmental
- Weather
- Other

Procedures for Issuing an Emergency Notification

The Security Services Department and the Director of Campus Safety will respond to all reports of emergencies or dangerous situations on campus. Upon confirmation by Security representatives, by camera, witness(es), or other means, of an emergency or dangerous situation involving an imminent threat to the health or safety of students or employees, Security Services officials will request and coordinate the response of additional resources, where necessary, and notify the Office of the Dean. The Director of Campus Safety will, without delay, and considering the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system, unless issuing a notification will, in the professional judgment of Security Services or law enforcement officials, compromise efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency. Should an emergency or dangerous situation threaten the community

outside of the ACOM campus, the Director of Campus Safety will work with the Marketing Director who will provide information for dissemination to the Media.

Determining the Appropriate Segment of the Community

The Director of Campus Safety or the Security Supervisor, will determine the appropriate segment or segments of the campus and larger community to receive the notification, such as the entire college community (all four classes of students, faculty/staff), the campus community (first/second year students, faculty/staff) or the affected campus building or buildings. There will be a continuing assessment of the situation, and additional segments of the campus community may be notified if a situation warrants such action. The entire campus community will be notified when there is at least the potential that a large segment of the community will be affected by a situation, or when a situation threatens the operation of the campus.

Determining the Content of the Message

Notification is provided without delay upon confirmation of an imminent or impending threat with the Director of Campus Safety or the Security Supervisor determining the appropriate content of the emergency notification. To expedite the notification process, Security Services has approved prescript messages for campus emergencies. Should an emergency occur, an appropriate message will be immediately drafted and disseminated. There will be a continuing assessment of the situation, and additional information may be disseminated if a situation warrants such action.

Initiating the Notification System

The Director of Campus Safety or the Security Supervisor, will initiate the notification system by contacting first responders and simultaneously issuing the emergency notification using one or more of the methods for distribution listed above (see Timely Warnings).

If the emergency affects the surrounding community, continued or updated crisis communications will take place on ACOM's website, www.acom.edu, social media, and through the local media (radio, television, etc.). This will also enable the larger community to receive emergency information as appropriate. The Director of Campus Safety will work with the Marketing Director who will provide information for dissemination to the Media. Once the incident has concluded, ACOM will disseminate an "All Clear" notification with information regarding the resolution of the emergency.

For emergencies that only affect students, faculty, and staff, updates will be provided by campus-wide emails, electronic message boards, internal public address system and text.

Emergency Preparedness

Building Emergency Response Team

The Director of Campus Safety coordinates ACOM's Building Emergency Response Team (BERT). This group is comprised of representatives from various divisions within the College who possess knowledge, skills, and/or experience that enhances ACOM's ability to prepare for emergencies. The Team meets regularly for training and to practice the implementation of emergency plans through scheduled drills.

Evacuation Drills

The purpose of evacuation drills is to prepare building occupants for an organized evacuation in case of a fire or other emergency. At ACOM, evacuation drills are used 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 the exits and the sound of the alarm. In addition to educating the occupants of each building about emergency evacuation procedures, the process also provides the college an opportunity to test the operation of the fire alarm system components.

Testing

The Clery Act defines tests as regularly scheduled drills, exercises, and appropriate follow-through activities, designed for assessment and evaluation of emergency plans and capabilities. A drill is defined as an activity that tests a single procedural operation. An exercise is a test involving coordination of efforts. A follow-through activity is an activity designed to review the test.

Not less than once per year, ACOM will conduct a test of the College's emergency response and evacuation procedures. Tests will be scheduled and may be announced or unannounced. They will involve a coordination of efforts by personnel from the College and various outside agencies. At the conclusion of each test, the Director of Campus Safety will document and evaluate the effectiveness of the College's plans and actions. Documentation for each test will include the following: a written description, the date, the start and the end time, and whether the test was announced or unannounced.

Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedures

ACOM's emergency response and evacuation procedures are posted throughout campus. In addition, these procedures will be publicized in conjunction with at least one test per year; publication will occur via email, text, or another appropriate means of dissemination.

Crime Prevention Education

Tips for Preventing Crime

With the exercise of due caution, students and employees can reduce their chances of becoming a victim of crime. The College's crime prevention efforts are premised upon the dual concepts of eliminating or minimizing criminal opportunities, whenever possible, and encouraging individuals to be responsible for their own security and the security of others.

The cooperation and involvement of students and employees in a campus safety program is necessary. Students and employees must assume responsibility for their own personal safety and the security of their personal belongings by taking simple, common-sense precautions. For example, although campus facilities and grounds are lighted, it is always prudent for students to be accompanied by a friend to their residence or vehicle on campus late at night. Apartment entrance doors should always be locked. Bedroom doors in shared apartments should be locked at night and

National Crime Prevention Council

www.ncpc.org

Federal Bureau of Investigation

www.fbi.gov

when the room is unoccupied. Valuable items such as stereos, cameras, and televisions should be marked or engraved with the serial number or a personal code. This number should then be kept in a safe place so that it is available should the item be stolen. Bicycles should be secured with a sturdy lock. Students with cars should park them in the authorized parking areas and should always keep them locked. Valuable items like backpacks, books, and sporting equipment should be locked in the trunk.

Programs to Enhance Safety and Prevent Crime

Crime Prevention Seminars/Presentations

These interactive presentations on personal safety and the safeguarding of property are presented to campus organizations and College groups throughout the year. They are given during student and employee orientation periods and to any group upon request. They provide vital information on how to reduce the likelihood of being a crime victim. Examples include:

Safety on Campus

Learn basic crime prevention tips, how to find and utilize security/safety resources, and what steps to take if you have been the victim of a crime. Offered during orientation.

Awareness and Prevention of Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

Dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other forms of misconduct occur far too frequently on our country's college campuses. Join us to learn more about these alarming statistics and what you can do to increase awareness and help yourself and others to avoid becoming a victim. Offered in October.

Title IX Training for Faculty and Staff

Learn about Title IX requirements and why it is important to be aware of and take active steps to prevent prohibited offenses including sex discrimination, sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Provided for new and continuing faculty and staff on an annual basis.

Title IX Training for Students

Students receive training on Title IX and its requirements during Orientation.

Teaching ACOM Students: Boundary Considerations

Preceptor Training and Faculty Workshops are provided to new and continuing preceptors throughout the year.

Bystander Training

Learn that the biggest and most consistent impacts of bystander training are on attitudes, including confidence as a bystander, intent to act, and perceived benefits of action. Material covered in the training will result in decreases in belief in rape myths and increases in knowledge.

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention

Learn about the damaging effects of drug and alcohol abuse and ways to avoid or get help with addiction. Offered annually.

Active Shooter Response

Learn to recognize and manage aggressive behavior in individuals and intervention strategies with local law enforcement agencies. Offered during orientation.

Disaster Preparedness

Learn to prepare for weather emergencies and what to have in place should a natural disaster occur. Offered biennially.

Self-Preservation/Self-Defense

Learn to be "situationally aware" and physical defensive moves and tactics to stay safe. Discussions include what to do if you have been assaulted and how to report the assault. Resources are provided to the survivor of the assault for continued emotional healing. Several sessions are offered throughout the year.

Fire Safety

Information provided on home and business fire safety. Learn how to create a home fire safety plan. Offered in October.

Compress the Chest, AED, Stop the Bleed

Learn to “compress the chest”, AED usage, and “Stop the Bleed” for emergencies. Offered during orientation.

Suicide Prevention and Awareness

Learn signs of potential suicidal ideation and interventions. Offered in September.

Educational Components of the Osteopathic Curriculum

The Osteopathic curriculum at ACOM includes integrated programming intended to end dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Topics covered include but are not limited to the following: sexual issues and domestic violence, domestic abuse, pediatric sexual violence, and substance abuse.

Literature

Throughout the year, the Security Services Department offers information and tips on crime prevention and campus security procedures and practices. Safety and security information and training are continuously provided to students, staff, and faculty through emails, bulletins, crime alerts, and the distribution of the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report.

Operation Safe Escort

Upon request, Security will provide an escort to and from the student housing area located at Summerfield Square, vehicles parked in or adjacent to ACOM’s designated parking areas, and other on-campus locations.

Emergency Call Boxes

The College has emergency two-way call boxes (Blue Light Phones) around campus buildings and parking areas for use during emergencies. By pressing the red button on a station, a blue strobe light is activated, and the user is immediately connected by phone to a Security Services representative. Each station is monitored by security cameras, and video is relayed to the Security Services Desk.

These are just a few of the programs the Security Services Department offers to the ACOM community. Other programs can be developed per your request (i.e. drug recognition, workplace violence, safety at home, etc.). Please contact the Director of Campus Safety or the Security Supervisor to schedule a class or request more information about any of these programs.

Missing Students

Reporting a Missing Student

The term “missing student” is defined as any ACOM student residing in an on-campus student housing facility who has been missing from campus for 24 hours. Reports of missing students should be submitted to the Director of Campus Safety, the Security Supervisor or to the Associate Dean of Student Services. Any ACOM employee who receives a report of a missing student must immediately notify the Director of Campus Safety. Whenever an ACOM student is believed missing, the College will initiate steps to locate the student and notify local law enforcement.

Students may be declared missing prior to 24 hours if the Director of Campus Safety or the Security Supervisor feels there is reasonable suspicion that this may not be a simple voluntary missing person case.

This may occur if a person is considered “endangered” with health or mental health issues.

All students have the option of identifying a contact person or persons whom the College will notify within 24 hours of the determination that the student is missing if the student has been determined missing by the Security Services Department or a local law enforcement agency. The contact information will be confidential and accessible only to authorized campus officials. It may not be disclosed, except to law enforcement personnel in furtherance of a missing person investigation.

We will notify the student’s custodial parent or legal guardian, and any other designated contact person, if the missing student is under the age of 19 and is not an emancipated individual.

- Because the age of adulthood in Alabama is 19, we choose to notify the parent or legal guardian of a missing student who is under the age of 19, which also meets the Clery Act requirement to notify the parent or legal guardian of a missing student under the age of 18.

The Security Services Department will notify the local law enforcement agency within 24 hours of the determination that a student is missing. If the police determine that the student should be classified as a missing person, they will initiate their own investigation. The College will support their investigation by providing whatever technical support is appropriate, including notices, photos, schedules, and any other information relevant to the search for the missing student.

Missing Student Contact Procedures

When a student who resides in an on-campus student housing facility is determined to have been missing for 24 hours, the Security Services Department will, within 24 hours:

- notify the contact person if the student has designated one;

- notify the student’s custodial parent or guardian and/or any other designated contact person if the student is under 19 years of age and is not emancipated, and;
- notify a local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction in the area that the student is missing

Report a Missing Student to:

-
- *MaryAnn May, PhD, Director of Campus Safety*
 - *James Andrews, Security Supervisor*
 - *Philip Reynolds, PhD, Associate Dean of Student Services*
-

Dothan Police Department: (334) 615-3000

Sexual Assault, Domestic & Dating Violence, and Stalking Prohibited Conduct

ACOM prohibits the crimes of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking as those terms are defined for purposes of the Clery Act.

Federal and state laws, regulations, and College policies each provide definitions for sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking (collectively “Prohibited Sexual Conduct”). Sometimes these definitions differ from one another. The definitions prescribed by the Clery Act, a federal law, are used by all institutions in the United States to classify and report crimes under the Clery Act and may be found in **Appendix C**. Definitions according to Alabama Statute are provided below for educational and awareness purposes.

The College will continue to evaluate Prohibited Sexual Conduct policies and associated definitions. The policy references and definitions herein are accurate at the time of release and subject to revision.

General Definitions According to Alabama Statute

Lack of Consent (AL Code § 13A-6-70 (2021)):

- Unless otherwise stated, an element of every offense defined in this article is that the sexual act was committed without the consent of the victim.
- Lack of consent results from either of the following:

1. Forcible compulsion.
 2. Being incapable of consent
- (c) A person is deemed incapable of consent if he or she is either:
1. Less than 16 years old
 2. Incapacitated
- (d) Consent to engage in sexual intercourse, sodomy, sexual acts, or sexual contact may be communicated by words or actions. The existence of a current or previous marital, dating, social, or sexual relationship with the defendant is not sufficient to constitute consent. Evidence that the victim suggested, requested, or otherwise communicated to the defendant that the defendant use a condom or other birth control device or sexually transmitted disease protection, without additional evidence of consent, is not sufficient to constitute consent.

Forcible Compulsion

AL Code § 13A-6-60: Use or threatened use, whether express or implied, of physical force, violence, confinement, restraint, physical injury, or death to the threatened person or to another person. Factors to be considered in determining an implied threat include, but are not limited to, the respective ages and sizes of the victim and the accused; the respective mental and physical conditions of the victim and the accused; the atmosphere and physical setting in which the incident was alleged to have taken place; the extent to which the accused may have been in a position of authority, domination, or custodial control over the victim; or whether the victim was under duress. Forcible compulsion does not require proof of resistance by the victim.

Incapacitated

AL Code § 13A-6-60: The term includes any of the following:

- (a) A person who suffers from a mental or developmental disease or disability which renders the person incapable of appraising the nature of his or her conduct.
- (b) A person is temporarily incapable of appraising or controlling his or her conduct due to the influence of a narcotic, anesthetic, or intoxicating substance and the condition was known or should have been reasonably known to the offender.
- (c) A person who is unable to give consent or who is unable to communicate an unwillingness to an act because the person is unconscious, asleep, or is otherwise physically limited or unable to communicate.

Sexual Intercourse

AL Code § 13A-6-60: Such term has its ordinary meaning and occurs upon any penetration, however slight; emission is not required.

Sexual Contact

AL Code § 13A-6-60: Any touching of the sexual or other intimate parts of a person done for the purpose of gratifying the sexual desire of either party. The term does not require skin to skin contact.

Sodomy

AL Code § 13A-6-60: Any sexual act involving the genitals of one person and the mouth or anus of another person.

Sexual Offenses According to Alabama Statute

Rape in the First Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-61):

(a) A person commits the crime of rape in the first degree if he or she does any of the following:

- (1) Engages in sexual intercourse with another person by forcible compulsion.
- (2) Engages in sexual intercourse with another person who is incapable of consent by reason of being incapacitated.
- (3) Being 16 years old or older, engages in sexual intercourse with another person who is less than 12 years old.

(b) Rape in the first degree is a Class A felony.

Rape in the Second Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-62):

(a) A person commits the crime of rape in the second degree if, being 16 years old or older, he or she engages in sexual intercourse with another person who is 12 years old or older, but less than 16 years old; provided, however, the actor is at least two years older than the other person.

(b) Rape in the second degree is a Class B felony.

Sodomy in the First Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-63):

(a) A person commits the crime of sodomy in the first degree if he or she does any of the following:

- (1) Engages in sodomy with another person by forcible compulsion.
- (2) Engages in sodomy with another person who is incapable of consent by reason of being incapacitated.

(3) Being 16 years old or older, engages in sodomy with a person who is less than 12 years old.

(b) Sodomy in the first degree is a Class A felony.

Sodomy in the Second Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-64):

(a) A person commits the crime of sodomy in the second degree if, being 16 years old or older, he or she engages in sodomy with another person 12 years old or older, but less than 16 years old; provided, however, the actor is at least two years older than the other person.

(b) Sodomy in the second degree is a Class B felony.

Sexual Misconduct (AL Code § 13A-6-65):

(a) A person commits the crime of sexual misconduct if he or she does any of the following:

(1) Engages in sexual intercourse with another person without his or her consent, under circumstances other than those covered by Sections 13A-6-61 and 13A-6-62; or with consent where consent was obtained by the use of any fraud or artifice.

(2) Engages in sodomy with another person, without his or her consent, under circumstances other than those covered by Sections 13A-6-63 and 13A-6-64; or with consent where consent was obtained by the use of fraud or artifice.

(3) Engages in sexual contact with another person without his or her consent under circumstances other than those under Sections 13A-6-66, 13A-6-67, and 13A-6-69.1; or with consent where consent was obtained by the use of fraud or artifice.

(b) Sexual misconduct is a Class A misdemeanor.

Sexual Torture (AL Code § 13A-6-65.1):

(a) A person commits the crime of sexual torture if he or she does any of the following:

(1) Penetrates the vagina, anus, or mouth of another person with an inanimate object, by forcible compulsion, with the intent to sexually torture, sexually abuse, or to gratify the sexual desire of either party.

(2) Penetrates the vagina, anus, or mouth of a person who is incapable of consent by reason of being incapacitated, with an inanimate object, with the intent to sexually torture, sexually abuse, or to gratify the sexual desire of either party.

(3) Penetrates the vagina, anus, or mouth of a person who is less than 12 years old, with an inanimate object, by a person who is 16 years old or older with the intent to sexually torture, sexually abuse, or to gratify the sexual desire of either party.

(4) By inflicting physical injury, including, but not limited to, burning, crushing, wounding, mutilating, or assaulting the sex organs or intimate parts of another person, with the intent to sexually torture, sexually abuse, or to gratify the sexual desire of either party.

(b) The crime of sexual torture is a Class A felony.

Sexual Abuse in the First Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-66):

(a) A person commits the crime of sexual abuse in the first degree if he or she does either of the following:

(1) Subjects another person to sexual contact by forcible compulsion.

(2) Subjects another person to sexual contact who is incapable of consent by reason of being incapacitated.

(b) Sexual abuse in the first degree is a Class C felony.

Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-67):

(a) A person commits the crime of sexual abuse in the second degree if he or she does either of the following:

(1) Subjects another person to sexual contact who is incapable of consent by reason of some factor other than being less than 16 years old.

(2) Being 19 years old or older, subjects another person to sexual contact who is less than 16 years old, but more than 12 years old.

(b) Sexual abuse in the second degree is a Class A misdemeanor, except as provided in subsection (c), or if a person commits a second or subsequent offense of sexual abuse in the second degree within one year of another sexual offense, the offense is a Class C felony.

(d) If a person violates subdivision (a)(2), and he or she is at least 15 years older than the victim, the offense shall be a Class C felony.

Domestic Violence Offenses According to Alabama Statute

Domestic Violence in the First Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-130):

(a)(1) A person commits the crime of domestic violence in the first degree if the person commits the crime of assault in the first degree pursuant to Section 13A-6-20; aggravated stalking pursuant to

Section 13A-6-91; or burglary in the first degree pursuant to Section 13A-7-5 and the victim is a current or former spouse, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, any person with whom the defendant has a child in common, a present household member, or a person who has or had a dating relationship with the defendant.

(2) For the purposes of this section, a household member excludes non-romantic or non-intimate co-residents, and a dating relationship means a current or former relationship of a romantic or intimate nature characterized by the expectation of affectionate or sexual involvement by either party.

(b) Domestic violence in the first degree is a Class A felony, except that the defendant shall serve a minimum term of imprisonment of one year without consideration of probation, parole, good time credits, or any other reduction in time for any second or subsequent conviction under this subsection.

(c) The minimum term of imprisonment imposed under subsection (b) shall be double without consideration of probation, parole, good time credits, or any reduction in time if either of the following occurs:

(1) A defendant willfully violates a protection order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction and in the process of violating the order commits domestic violence in the first degree.

(2) The offense was committed in the presence of a child under the age of 14 years at the time of the offense, who is the victim's child or stepchild, the defendant's child or step-child, or who is a child residing in or visiting the household of the victim or defendant. For purposes of this subsection, "in the presence of a child" means that the child was in a position to see or hear the act.

(d) The court shall make a written finding of fact, to be made part of the record upon conviction or adjudication, of whether or not the act was committed in the presence of a child. If a defendant has a trial by jury and the jury finds the defendant guilty, the jury shall also render a special verdict as to whether or not the defendant committed the act in the presence of a child.

Domestic Violence in the Second Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-131):

(a)(1) A person commits the crime of domestic violence in the second degree if the person commits the crime of assault in the second degree pursuant to Section 13A-6-21; the crime of intimidating a witness pursuant to Section 13A-10-123; the crime of stalking pursuant to Section 13A-6-90; the crime of burglary in the second or third degree pursuant to Sections 13A-7-6 and 13A-7-7; or the crime of criminal mischief in the first degree pursuant to Section 13A-7-21 and the victim is a current or former spouse, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, any person with whom the defendant has a child in common, a present household member, or a person who has or had a dating relationship with the defendant.

(2) For the purposes of this section, a household member excludes non-romantic or non-intimate co-residents, and a dating relationship means a current or former relationship of a romantic or intimate nature characterized by the expectation of affectionate or sexual involvement by either party.

(b) Domestic violence in the second degree is a Class B felony, except the defendant shall serve a minimum term of imprisonment of six months without consideration of probation, parole, good time credits, or any reduction in time for any second or subsequent conviction under this subsection.

(c) The minimum term of imprisonment imposed under subsection (b) shall be double without consideration of probation, parole, good time credits, or any reduction in time if either of the following applies:

(1) A defendant willfully violates a protection order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction and in the process of violating the order commits domestic violence in the second degree.

(2) The offense was committed in the presence of a child under the age of 14 years at the time of the offense, who is the victim's child or stepchild, the defendant's child or stepchild, or who is a child residing in or visiting the household of the victim or defendant. For purposes of this subsection, "in the presence of a child" means that the child was in a position to see or hear the act.

(d) The court shall make a written finding of fact, to be made part of the record upon conviction or adjudication, of whether or not the act was committed in the presence of a child. If a defendant has a trial by jury and the jury finds the defendant guilty, the jury shall also render a special verdict as to whether or not the defendant committed the act in the presence of a child.

[Domestic Violence in the Third Degree](#) (AL Code § 13A-6-132):

(a)(1) A person commits domestic violence in the third degree if the person commits the crime of assault in the third degree pursuant to Section 13A-6-22; the crime of menacing pursuant to Section 13A-6-23; the crime of reckless endangerment pursuant to Section 13A-6-24; the crime of criminal coercion pursuant to Section 13A-6-25; the crime of harassment pursuant to subsection (a) of Section 13A-11-8; the crime of criminal surveillance pursuant to Section 13A-11-32; the crime of harassing communications pursuant to subsection (b) of Section 13A-11-8; the crime of criminal trespass in the third degree pursuant to Section 13A-7-4; the crime of criminal mischief in the second or third degree pursuant to Sections 13A-7-22 and 13A-7-23; or the crime of arson in the third degree pursuant to Section 13A-7-43; and the victim is a current or former spouse, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, any person with whom the defendant has a child in common, a present household member, or a person who has or had a dating relationship with the defendant.

(2) For the purpose of this section, a household member excludes non-romantic or non-intimate co-residents, and a dating relationship means a current or former relationship of a romantic or

intimate nature characterized by the expectation of affectionate or sexual involvement by either party.

(b) Domestic violence in the third degree is a Class A misdemeanor. The minimum term of imprisonment imposed under subsection (a) shall be 30 days without consideration of reduction in time if a defendant willfully violates a protection order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction and in the process of violating the order commits domestic violence in the third degree.

(c) A second conviction under subsection (a) is a Class A misdemeanor, except the defendant shall serve a minimum term of imprisonment of 10 days in a city or county jail or detention facility without consideration for any reduction in time.

(d) A third or subsequent conviction under subsection (a) is a Class C felony.

(e) If the defendant has a previous conviction for domestic violence in the first degree pursuant to Section 13A-6-130, domestic violence in the second degree pursuant to Section 13A-6-131, domestic violence by strangulation or suffocation pursuant to Section 13A-6-138, or a domestic violence conviction or other substantially similar conviction from another state or jurisdiction, a conviction under subsection (a) is a Class C felony.

(f) For purposes of determining second, third, or subsequent number of convictions, convictions in municipal court shall be included.

Domestic Violence by Strangulation or Suffocation (AL Code § 13A-6-138):

(a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) STRANGULATION. Intentionally causing asphyxia by closure or compression of the blood vessels or air passages of the neck as a result of external pressure on the neck.

(2) SUFFOCATION. Intentionally causing asphyxia by depriving a person of air or by preventing a person from breathing through the inhalation of toxic gases or by blocking or obstructing the airway of a person, by any means other than by strangulation.

(b) A person commits the crime of domestic violence by strangulation or suffocation if he or she commits an assault with intent to cause physical harm or commits the crime of menacing pursuant to Section 13A-6-23, by strangulation or suffocation or attempted strangulation or suffocation and the victim is a current or former spouse, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, any person with whom the defendant has a child in common, a present household member, or a person who has or had a dating relationship with the defendant. For the purpose of this section, a household member excludes non-romantic or non-intimate co-residents, and a dating relationship means a current or former relationship of a romantic or intimate nature characterized by the expectation of affectionate or sexual involvement by either party.

(c) Domestic violence by strangulation or suffocation is a Class B felony punishable as provided by law.

Dating Violence Offenses According to Alabama Statute

According to Alabama statute, dating violence is considered domestic violence and is covered under the domestic violence definitions above. Since the Clery Act definition of domestic violence includes acts of violence committed by any person protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction, and dating violence is covered under Alabama domestic violence definitions, all reports that meet the Clery definition of dating violence are counted as domestic violence in the crime statistics in this report.

Stalking Offenses According to Alabama Statute

Definitions (AL Code § 13A-6-92):

- (a) **Course of conduct:** A pattern of conduct composed of a series of acts over a period of time which evidences a continuity of purpose.
- (b) **Credible threat:** A threat, expressed or implied, made with the intent and the apparent ability to carry out the threat so as to cause the person who is the target of the threat to fear for his or her safety or the safety of a family member and to cause reasonable mental anxiety, anguish, or fear.
- (c) **Harasses:** Engages in an intentional course of conduct directed at a specified person which alarms or annoys that person, or interferes with the freedom of movement of that person, and which serves no legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, and must actually cause substantial emotional distress. Constitutionally protected conduct is not included within the definition of this term.

Stalking in the First Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-90):

- (a) A person who intentionally and repeatedly follows or harasses another person and who makes a threat, either expressed or implied, with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of death or serious bodily harm is guilty of the crime of stalking in the first degree.
- (b) The crime of stalking in the first degree is a Class C felony.

Stalking in the Second Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-90.1):

- (a) A person who, acting with an improper purpose, intentionally and repeatedly follows, harasses, telephones, or initiates communication, verbally, electronically, or otherwise, with another person, any member of the other person's immediate family, or any third party with whom the other person is acquainted, and causes material harm to the mental or emotional health of the other person, or causes such person to reasonably

fear that his or her employment, business, or career is threatened, and the perpetrator was previously informed to cease that conduct is guilty of the crime of stalking in the second degree.

(b) The crime of stalking in the second degree is a Class B misdemeanor.

Aggravated Stalking in the First Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-91):

(a) A person who violates the provisions of Section 13A-6-90(a) and whose conduct in doing so also violates any court order or injunction is guilty of the crime of aggravated stalking in the first degree.

(b) The crime of aggravated stalking in the first degree is a Class B felony.

Aggravated Stalking in the Second Degree (AL Code § 13A-6-91.1):

(a) A person who violates the provisions of Section 13A-6-90.1 and whose conduct in doing so also violates any court order or injunction is guilty of the crime of aggravated stalking in the second degree.

(b) The crime of aggravated stalking in the second degree is a Class C felony.

Educational Programs and Campaigns

Education Overview

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

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

Educational programming consists of primary prevention and awareness programs for all incoming students and new employees and ongoing awareness and prevention campaigns for students and employees that:

- Identify sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking as prohibited conduct;
- Define what behavior constitutes sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking using definitions provided both by the Department of Education as well as state law;
- Define what behavior and actions constitute a lack of consent to sexual activity in the state of Alabama;
- Provide 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 intervene when there is a risk of

sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, 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 action to intervene;

- Include information on 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;
- Provide an overview of information contained in the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report in compliance with the Clery Act.

How to be an Active Bystander

ACOM does not tolerate power-based personal violence, and everyone has a role in preventing it. Bystanders play a critical role in the prevention of sexual and relationship violence. They are individuals who observe violence or witness the events that could lead to violence. They are not directly involved but have the choice to intervene, speak up, or do something about it. We want to promote a culture of community accountability where bystanders are actively engaged in the prevention of violence without causing further harm. Bystanders may not always know what to do even when they want to help. Below is a list of some ways to be an active bystander. For further information regarding bystander intervention, contact Security Services at (334) 944-4044.

- If you or someone else is in immediate danger, dial 911. This may include when a person is being physically abusive towards another, or the conflict is escalating, 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 they could be in trouble or need help, ask if they are okay.
- 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 listed in this document for support in health, counseling, or with legal assistance.

Risk Reduction

Risk reduction means options designed to decrease perpetration and bystander inaction, and to increase empowerment for individuals to promote safety and help address conditions that facilitate violence. With no intent to blame victims 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, www.rainn.org)

- 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 purpose. Even if you don't know where you are going, act like you do.
- 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 have cab money.
- Don't allow yourself to be isolated with someone you don't trust or someone you don't know.
- Avoid using ear buds or 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.
- Trust your instincts. If you feel unsafe in any situation, go with your gut. If you see something suspicious, notify police at 911 (emergencies or crimes in progress), (334) 615-3000 (non-emergencies).
- 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. 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 by dialing 911. Be explicit with doctors so they can give you the correct tests. (You will need a urine test and possibly other tests as soon as possible after the suspected consumption of the drug to get the most accurate results.)
- If you need 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 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.
 - Have a code word with your friends or family so you can let them know you are in an uncomfortable situation without alerting the person who is making you uncomfortable. Your friends or family can then come to 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?
- If you and/or the other person have been drinking, you can say that you would rather wait until you both have your full judgment before doing anything you may regret later.
- Watch out for your friends and fellow students/employees. If you see someone who looks like they could be in trouble or need help, ask if they are okay.
- 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 listed in this document for support in health, counseling, or with legal assistance.

Procedures for Victims

ACOM has procedures in place for providing victims of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking with written notification about their right to file or choose not to file criminal charges; the availability of counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance referrals, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services on and/or off campus; and additional remedies to prevent contact between a complainant and a respondent, such as no-contact directives, or housing, academic, transportation, and working accommodations, if reasonably available.

ACOM will make such accommodations, if an individual requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the individual chooses to report the crime to local law enforcement. Students and employees should contact the Title IX Coordinator at (334) 944-4006 for assistance with accommodations requests.

Persons who have been the injured party of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking are strongly encouraged to take the following steps:

Seek Medical Treatment

After an incident of sexual assault, domestic violence and/or dating violence, the injured party should consider seeking medical attention as soon as possible. Most hospitals have specially trained personnel called Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE), who can collect evidence following a sexual assault or domestic violence incident. Injured parties have the right to a sexual

assault forensic exam, without having to provide their name or make a report to law enforcement if they choose not to do so. It is important that a victim of sexual assault not bathe, brush teeth, douche, smoke, change clothing, or clean the bed/linen/area where they were assaulted if the offense occurred within the past 72 hours, so that evidence may be preserved that may assist in proving that the alleged criminal offense occurred. This evidence may also be helpful in obtaining a protection order. If injured parties 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 diseases, as appropriate.

Dothan Area Hospitals

*Southeast Health Medical Center
1108 Ross Clark Circle
Dothan, AL 36301
(334) 793-8111*

*Flowers Hospital
4370 West Main Street
Dothan, AL 36305
(334) 793-5000*

Report the Incident

Victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are encouraged to also preserve evidence by saving text messages, instant messages, social networking posts, or other communications, and keeping pictures, logs, or other copies of documents, if they have any, that would be useful to the conduct process/investigation, to police, or to obtaining a protection from abuse order. Although the College strongly encourages all members of its community to report violations of this policy to law enforcement, it is each individual's choice whether or not to make such a report, and individuals have the right to decline involvement with the police. Security Services personnel on campus will assist any individual with notifying local police if they so desire. The Dothan Police Department may also be reached directly by calling 911 (emergencies or crimes in progress) or (334) 615-3000 (non-emergencies), or in person at 210 N. Saint Andrews St., Dothan, AL 36303.

Victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking are encouraged to report the incident promptly, if they so desire, to the Title IX Coordinator, Eugenia S. Thomas, JD, by

calling, writing or coming into the office to report in person. Reports to the College may also be made online at <https://www.acom.edu/report/>

The College will inform each complainant about on-campus and/or off-campus resources and remedial and protective measures and will discuss the complainant’s option to contact law enforcement, to pursue the college disciplinary process, or to pursue neither or both. The procedures set forth below are intended to afford a prompt response to charges of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking; to maintain confidentiality and fairness consistent with applicable legal requirements; and to impose appropriate sanctions on violators of this policy.

While there is no time limit for reporting an incident of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking to the college, certain statutes of limitations exist for the prosecution of crimes through the criminal justice system. As time passes, evidence may dissipate or become lost or unavailable, thereby making investigation, prosecution, disciplinary proceedings, or obtaining protection from abuse orders related to the incident more difficult. If an individual chooses not to make a complaint regarding an incident, he or she nevertheless should consider speaking with law enforcement officials to preserve evidence in the event that the complainant changes her/his mind at a later date.

Report an Incident

MaryAnn May, PhD, Director of Campus Safety
James Andrews, Security Supervisor
Phillip Reynolds, PhD, Associate Dean of Students
Eugenia S. Thomas, JD, Corporate Compliance Officer
Dothan Police Department

Utilize Available Resources

On-Campus Resources	Phone Number
Title IX Coordinator	(334) 944-4006
Director of Campus Safety	(334) 305-1030
ACOM Security Services	(334) 944-4044
Off-Campus Resources	
Dothan Police Department	(334) 615-3000
Southeast Health Medical Center	(334) 793-8111

Flowers Hospital	(334) 793-5000
Academic Live Care	(866) 349-5575
The House of Ruth	(334) 793-2232 (24 hr. crisis line) or (334) 793-5214
Alabama Crime Victims Compensation Commission	(800) 541-9388
Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence	(800) 650-6522
AlaVINE	(877) 846-3425
The National Domestic Violence Hotline	(800) 799-7233
The National Sexual Assault Hotline	(800) 656-4673

College Procedures for Responding to a Report

Incident Type Being Reported: Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking

All student incidents that do not fall under Title IX (on the basis of sex) that may require disciplinary action will be reviewed by the Professionalism and Ethics Committee. Incidents may be reported to any Campus Security Authority.

Initial ACOM Procedures:

- Assess the complainant's safety and well-being and offer the College's immediate support and assistance;
- Assess the nature and circumstances of the report;
- Inform the complainant of the right to seek medical treatment, and explain the importance of obtaining and preserving forensic and other evidence;
- Inform the complainant of the right to contact law enforcement, decline to contact law enforcement, seek a protective order, and to have college assistance in doing so;
- Inform the complainant about college and community resources, the right to seek appropriate and available remedial and protective measures, and how to request those resources and measures;
- Explain the College's prohibition against retaliation and that the College will take prompt action in response to any act of retaliation;
- Ascertain the ages of the complainant and the respondent, if known, and, if either of the parties is under 18, determine whether the conduct must be reported under state law; and
- Communicate with appropriate College officials to determine whether the report triggers

any Clery Act obligations, including entry of the report in the daily crime log and/or issuance of a timely warning, and take steps to meet those obligations.

Regardless of whether a complainant elects to pursue a criminal complaint or whether the offense is alleged to have occurred on or off campus, the College will assist complainants of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and will provide each complainant with a written explanation of their rights and options.

Protection Orders

Protection orders are civil court orders (issued by circuit courts) meant to provide protection and relief to victims of domestic violence. In Alabama, a protection from abuse order is a court order issued based upon a petition filed under the Protection From Abuse Act (PFA), which provides for limited protection for persons who have been threatened, harassed, or physically abused by a spouse or former spouse; common-law or former common-law spouse; parent; stepparent; child or stepchild who has lived with the abuser; person with whom they have a child in common; person with whom they have or have had a dating relationship; or a present or former household member with whom the individual was engaged in a romantic or sexual relationship. Individuals who need protection may go to the Houston County Courthouse and request a Petition for a Protection From Abuse Order from the circuit clerk. Individuals may file this petition without costs and without assistance from an attorney. However, protection orders may involve long-term legal consequences or safety issues, so individuals are strongly encouraged to contact a lawyer or the House of Ruth at (334) 793-2232 before filing for a protection order. Contact information for domestic violence advocates in areas outside of Dothan, Alabama may be found at the Alabama Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ACADV) web site, www.acadv.org or by calling the National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233.

Relief that may be requested includes:

- Order the petitioner's home or work address, the phone number, or other related information deleted from all records filed with the court concerning the protection order;
- Restrain the respondent from committing or threatening to commit acts of abuse, or from harassing, annoying, telephoning, contacting, or otherwise communicating directly or indirectly with the petitioner or other designated persons;
- Order the respondent to stay away from the petitioner's residence and place of work or other designated places or persons;
- Award the petitioner temporary custody of any minor children and restrain the

respondent from removing the children from the petitioner's custody;

- Remove the respondent from the residence, regardless of who owns the residence;
- Prohibit the respondent from selling, disposing, destroying, hiding, or mortgaging mutually owned or leased real estate or personal property;
- Order other relief as necessary to provide for the safety and protection of the petitioner;
- A petitioner may request an emergency temporary protection order if needed. Otherwise a final protection order, if granted, is valid for one year or until the court-determined expiration date.

Getting Your Protection Order

You will need to go to court to get a protection order. ACOM cannot apply for a legal protection order for the petitioner. You do not have to press charges to get a protection order. This is not a criminal matter.

Important things to say when testifying or making a statement in court:

- Be specific in your details when describing the stalking or abuse, including date(s), time(s) of day, and other details.
- Describe exactly what the respondent said and did to you and make it clear that you are afraid and for what reason(s).
- Describe any injuries to you or anyone else, and any property damage caused by the respondent (including injuries to any children or pets, destruction to valued objects).
- Show the judge or magistrate any pictures of injuries or property damage.
- Show the judge or magistrate any communications from the respondent that made you afraid for your safety.
- For your protection order hearing, have any witnesses testify to the abuse, stalking, injuries, or property damage.

General Information You Should Know About Protection Orders

It is particularly important to keep a copy of the protection order with you at all times. Keep copies of any of the respondent's criminal convictions. Show these to the police officer, magistrate, prosecutor, or judge if the respondent violates the order.

It isn't necessary for the respondent to be charged or arrested for any crime for a petitioner to request a protection order. If you have questions about protection orders and how to request one, contact the Director of Campus Safety, the Security Supervisor or the Title IX Coordinator.

Once the protection order has been issued:

- Remember that a protection order is a piece of paper that must be respected by the

respondent to be effective. It is also only enforceable after a sheriff's deputy or police officer has served it on the respondent. After it has been served, if you feel you are in danger, or if the respondent does not comply with it, call the police immediately (911). If they arrive in time to witness the respondent's violation of the order, they can make an immediate arrest. If not, you may need to get a criminal warrant from the magistrate.

- When you get your copy of the order, make sure it says exactly what you want. If there are errors, it is unclear, it has not been signed, or boxes don't appear to be checked, ask the clerk or your advocate for help.
- Always keep a copy with you. This is important if the respondent violates the order and you must call the police or seek help from other authorities.
- Give a copy to the Director of Campus Safety and the Title IX Coordinator (if you are a student or employee), and your supervisor at work (if you are employed).
- If children are included, make sure anyone responsible for them has a copy.
- If you are planning to or are considering leaving the state, make sure you get a certified copy of your order from the clerk's office. Federal law requires recognition of one state's protection order by others.

ACOM complies with Alabama law in recognizing orders of protection. Any student or employee who obtains a protection order from Alabama or any other state should provide a copy to the Director of Campus Safety, and the Title IX Coordinator. The Director of Campus Safety will meet with the student or employee to develop a safety action plan, which is a plan for safety personnel and the student or employee, to reduce risk of harm while on campus or coming and going from campus. This plan may include, where reasonable, but is not limited to security escorts, special parking arrangements, providing a temporary cell phone, changing classroom location, or allowing a student to complete assignments from home, etc.

Enforcing Protection Orders

Orders issued by Alabama courts are enforceable under Alabama law. A willful violation of a protection order is a Class A misdemeanor, and the officer may arrest without a warrant when there is probable cause that the defendant has violated a valid protection order. Individuals should immediately contact local law enforcement if their protection order is violated.

Out of State Orders

Under the federal Violence Against Women Act and Alabama law, valid protection orders should be given full faith and credit. This means that if a protection order is issued in another state and the victim is in Alabama, Alabama will enforce the valid protection order. Violations of valid protection orders from other states are enforced as if the order were issued by an Alabama court. Law

enforcement may arrest without a warrant for any violation of the valid protection order and the punishment upon conviction is a Class A misdemeanor.

Protection orders from other states are valid if:

- The order includes the names of the parties;
- The order contains the date the order was issued;
- The order is not expired;
- The order contains the name of the issuing court;
- The order is signed by a judicial officer;
- The order contains specific terms; and
- The defendant has had notice of the order and an opportunity to be heard.

Registration of Protection Orders

Individuals may register their out-of-state protection orders by taking a certified copy of the order to their local circuit clerk's office and requesting that the order be entered into the Alabama Protection Order Database. This is NOT a requirement for enforcement. However, individuals should always keep a copy of their protection order with them at ALL times to prove the existence of the order if the respondent violates it. Individuals may also choose to give copies of the protection order to their local city police and sheriff departments.

The Director of Campus Safety will assist victims with notifying law enforcement if the victim chooses. Victims are provided with written resources that describe the importance of preserving evidence, medical facilities, counseling and mental health, victim/survivor advocacy, financial aid, financial assistance, safety planning, legal services, shelters, and intervention programs.

College Protective Actions and Accommodations

The College may issue an institutional no contact order if deemed appropriate or upon an individual's request. Upon a complainant's request and to the extent of the complainant's cooperation and consent, College offices will work cooperatively to assist the complainant with their health, physical safety, work, and academic status, pending the outcome of a formal College investigation of the complaint. For example, if reasonably available, a complainant may be offered changes to academic, living, working, or transportation situations regardless of whether the complainant chooses to report the crime to local law enforcement.

Examples of options for a potential change to the academic situation may be to transfer the complainant or the respondent to a different section of a class; complete a medical withdrawal; or make special arrangements for completing coursework in a non-traditional manner. Potential changes to living situations may include requesting to have a student moved to a different

apartment. Possible changes to work situations may include changing working hours. Possible changes in transportation may include providing alternative parking arrangements for the complainant or assisting the complainant with a safety escort. To the extent possible, ACOM will also provide assistance with and written information about obtaining resources and services such as counseling, health services, visa and immigration assistance, and assistance in notifying appropriate local law enforcement.

Confidentiality

Additionally, personally identifying information about the complainant will be treated as confidential and only shared with persons with a specific need to know who are investigating/adjudicating the complaint or delivering resources or support services to the complainant. (For example, publicly available record-keeping, including Clery Act reporting and disclosures will be made without inclusion of identifying information about the complainant). Further, the College will maintain as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to the complainant 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 names of crime victims nor house identifying information regarding complainants in the Security Services Department's daily crime log or online. Complainants may request that directory information on file be removed from public sources by request to the Office of the Registrar.

Title IX Policy

Purpose

ACOM is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy educational and work environment free from discriminatory harassment based on age, race, color, sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion or creed, national or ethnic origin, or disability. Sexual or other discriminatory harassment of ACOM students is prohibited; likewise, students are prohibited from engaging in harassing behavior directed at ACOM's employees, visitors, vendors, and contractors. This policy is designed to ensure a safe and non-discriminatory educational and work environment and to meet legal requirements, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and its implementing regulations. All students and employees are expected to comply with this policy and take appropriate measures to create an atmosphere free of harassment and discrimination.

Scope

This policy applies to conduct or allegations of conduct that involve one or more ACOM students. To be covered by this policy, the conduct or alleged conduct must have occurred on campus or in an ACOM-controlled program or activity, whether the program or activity is on campus or off-campus. This policy also applies to conduct in any building owned or controlled by ACOM or by a student

organization that is officially recognized by ACOM. This policy applies to online or electronic conduct. However, this policy applies only to conduct occurring against a person who is in the United States. For allegations that fall outside of the scope of this policy, ACOM may address allegations of misconduct as potential violations of the ACOM Honor Code, the Professionalism Policy, or under the Human Resources policies.

Policy & Enforcement

I. Notice

ACOM will respond to notice of sexual harassment or allegations of sexual harassment that are received either by ACOM's Title IX Coordinator or by any ACOM official who has the authority to institute corrective measures on behalf of ACOM. These officials include the Dean, any Associate Dean or Assistant Dean, the Director of Campus Safety, or the Compliance Officer.

II. Sexual Harassment Defined

This policy applies to reports and allegations of sexual harassment involving one or more ACOM students. For purposes of this Title IX Policy, sexual harassment is defined broadly to include any of three types of misconduct on the basis of sex:

- 1) any instance of quid pro quo harassment by an employee, i.e., where the employee conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of ACOM on an individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct;
- 2) any unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it denies a person equal educational access; or
- 3) any instance of sexual assault (as defined in the Clery Act), dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking as defined in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

III. Accessible Reporting to the Title IX Coordinator

ACOM is committed to providing clear, accessible channels for reporting to the Title IX Coordinator. Any person may report sexual harassment and initiate ACOM's response, regardless whether the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim. There is no need to schedule an in-person appointment with the Title IX Coordinator or an ACOM official. Any person may report sexual harassment at any time, including during nonbusiness hours, by using the telephone number or e-mail address of either ACOM's Title IX Coordinator, through the Maxient form or the Compliance Hotline (or by mail to the office address):

Title IX Coordinator
445 Health Sciences Blvd.
Dothan, AL 36303
Tel: (334) 944-4006

Cell: (334) 596-5360
Email: titleIXcoordinator@acom.edu

Maxient Reporting:

<http://www.acom.edu/report>

Compliance Hotline:

Tel: (833) 490-0007

<http://www.lighthouse-services.com/acom>

IV. Supportive Measures

Upon receiving a report of sexual harassment, ACOM will offer supportive measures to the person alleged to be the victim (referred to as the “complainant”). The Title IX Coordinator will promptly contact the complainant confidentially to discuss the availability of supportive measures, consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures, inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint, and explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint. Supportive measures will include individualized services reasonably available that are nonpunitive, non-disciplinary, and not unreasonably burdensome to the other party while designed to ensure equal educational access, protect safety, or deter sexual harassment. Supportive measures may, among other things, include:

- Academic support services and accommodations, including the ability to reschedule exams and assignments, transfer course sections, or withdraw from courses without penalty;
- Assistance in connecting to community-based counseling services;
- Assistance in connecting to community-based medical services;
- Assistance with obtaining personal protective orders;
- Mutual restrictions on communication or contact between the parties; or
- A combination of any of these measures.

A complainant may, but is not required to, file a formal complaint to initiate ACOM’s complaint resolution process, including an investigation. The complainant’s wishes will be respected regarding whether ACOM investigates, unless the Title IX Coordinator determines that signing a formal complaint to initiate an investigation over the wishes of the complainant is not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

Unless the formal complaint resolution process results in a determination that a respondent was responsible, ACOM will not impose disciplinary actions or take any other actions under this policy that are not supportive measures. ACOM will not restrict the rights of any person, including the subject of a report filed with the Title IX Coordinator, where those rights are protected under the U.S. Constitution, including the First Amendment, Fifth Amendment, and Fourteenth Amendment.

V. Complaint Resolution Process

ACOM is committed to a consistent, transparent complaint resolution process for resolving formal complaints of sexual harassment. At all stages of the complaint resolution process – investigation, hearing, and appeal if applicable – ACOM and its representatives:

1. will require objective evaluation of all relevant evidence, inculpatory and exculpatory;
2. will avoid credibility determinations based on a person's status as a complainant, respondent, or witness;
3. will require Title IX personnel (Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decisionmakers) to be free from conflicts of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents;
4. will train all Title IX personnel on issues of relevance, including how to apply the rape shield protections provided only for complainants;
5. will utilize training materials that do not rely on sex stereotypes and which promote impartial investigations and adjudications of formal complaints of sexual harassment;
6. will not use, rely on, or seek disclosure of information protected under a legally recognized privilege, unless the person holding the privilege has waived the privilege;
7. will not access or use any party's medical, psychological, and similar treatment records unless ACOM first obtains the party's voluntary, written consent to do so;
8. will not restrict the ability of the parties to discuss the allegations or gather evidence (e.g., no "gag orders"); and
9. will keep confidential the identity of complainants, respondents, and witnesses, except as may be permitted by FERPA, as required by law, or as necessary to carry out a Title IX proceeding.

VI. Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person who files a complaint, participates in an investigation, or opposes a discriminatory employment or educational practice or policy is prohibited. This policy prohibits any form of retaliation, including intimidation, threats, harassment, and other adverse action taken or threatened against any person reporting or filing a complaint or any person cooperating in the investigation under this policy. Action is deemed adverse if it would deter a reasonable person in the same circumstances from opposing practices prohibited by this policy.

Charging an individual with ACOM Honor Code or Professionalism violation that does not involve sexual harassment, but arises out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment (for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX) constitutes retaliation.

Charging an individual with an ACOM Honor Code or Professionalism violation for making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a Title IX complaint resolution proceeding

does not constitute retaliation; however, a determination regarding responsibility, alone, is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a bad faith materially false statement.

The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment does not constitute retaliation.

A person who believes retaliation has occurred should notify the Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX Coordinator will take prompt corrective action if the complainant or the alleged victim (if not the complainant) experiences retaliation or is subjected to further violation of this policy.

Retaliation may result in disciplinary or other action independent of the sanctions or remedies imposed in response to the underlying allegations of sexual harassment.

VII. Questions

ACOM's Title IX Policy and Title IX Complaint Procedure state how ACOM will proceed once it is made aware of possible harassment or discrimination. Inquiries regarding ACOM's Title IX policy and procedures may be directed to:

Title IX Coordinator
445 Health Sciences Blvd.
Dothan, AL 36303
Tel: (334) 944-4006
Cell: (334) 596-5360 E
mail: titleIXcoordinator@acom.edu

VIII. Records Retention

ACOM shall retain for a period of seven years:

1. Records relating to any reports of sexual harassment. The records will include actions taken by ACOM, including any supportive measures taken in response to the report. If supportive measures were not provided, ACOM will document the reasons for this response.
2. Records relating to any formal complaints, including the investigation, informal resolution process (if applicable), hearing, written determination, and (if applicable) the appeal and result.
3. All materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, decision-makers, and any person who facilitates an informal resolution process.

Policy Management

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for the development of the Title IX policy. This policy is reviewed on an annual basis and will be housed in the electronic policy management system. For questions related to this policy, please contact the Title IX Coordinator or the Compliance Officer.

Definitions under this policy

The following definitions apply under this policy:

A “**complainant**” is an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

A “**respondent**” as an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

A “**report of sexual harassment**” is a complaint reported to the Title IX Coordinator, or to an ACOM official who then gives notice as required to the Title IX Coordinator. A report may be oral and informal. Upon receiving a report of sexual harassment, ACOM will offer supportive measures to the complainant as described in Part IV of this policy. The complainant may file a formal complaint at the same time as making a report or may later proceed to file a formal complaint.

A “**formal complaint**” is a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting that ACOM investigate the allegation of sexual harassment. The filing of a formal complaint triggers ACOM’s complaint resolution process described in Part V of this policy.

Title IX Complaint Procedure

Procedure & Process

I. Formal Complaints

A formal complaint filed and signed by a complainant initiates ACOM’s formal complaint resolution process. At the time of filing a formal complaint, a complainant must be participating in or attempting to participate in the education program or activity of ACOM. A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, or by electronic mail, by using the contact information listed below for the Title IX Coordinator.

A formal complaint must include the complainant's physical or digital signature or otherwise indicate that the complainant is the person filing the formal complaint. Where the Title IX Coordinator signs a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator is not a complainant or a party during a complaint resolution process, and the Title IX Coordinator must comply with requirements for Title IX personnel to be free from conflicts and bias.

Upon receipt of a formal complaint, the Title IX Coordinator will promptly provide written notifications to all known parties. This notification will include the following information:

1. Notice of the allegations constituting potential sexual harassment, including all relevant details known at the time. These details will include, at a minimum, the identities of the parties involved in the incident(s), if known, the alleged conduct that could constitute sexual harassment, and the date and location of the alleged incident(s), if known.
2. A statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct unless a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the complaint resolution process.
3. A description of ACOM's complaint resolution process, including the rights and responsibilities of the parties during the investigation, hearing, and appeal process, which may be satisfied by delivering a copy of this procedure.

It is a violation of ACOM's professionalism standards to knowingly make false statements or knowingly submit false information during the grievance process.

ACOM may, at its discretion, consolidate formal complaints where the allegations arise out of the same facts.

If the allegations in a formal complaint are not within the scope of this Policy because they do not meet the Title IX definition of sexual harassment, or because they did not occur in ACOM's education program or activity against a person in the United States, then ACOM must dismiss the allegations for purposes of Title IX. However, ACOM may address the allegations as potential violations of the ACOM Honor Code and/or Professionalism Policy. ACOM will promptly send written notice of a dismissal and reason(s) simultaneously to both parties.

II. Investigations

ACOM will investigate the allegations in any formal complaint that is within the scope of this Policy. ACOM's Compliance Officer may serve as Title IX Investigator to conduct the investigation or, at the Compliance Officer's discretion, may appoint an appropriate individual to serve as the Title IX Investigator.

The Title IX Investigator will begin an investigation as soon as practicable, and generally not later than 10 business days after the written notice of the formal complaint was delivered to all parties. However, the Investigator will ascertain that the respondent receives sufficient time to prepare a response prior to any initial interview.

Advisors: During the investigation process, each party will have the same opportunity to select an advisor of the party's choice who may be, but need not be, an attorney. The advisor may assist with all written submissions made by a complainant or a respondent, may assist with preparing questions or other information for the complainant or the respondent to be used at the hearing,

and may facilitate scheduling and other processes. During any meeting or proceeding, the advisor may be present to observe and provide support and counsel to the participant. The advisor may not present evidence on a party's behalf, present argument, examine witnesses, testify, disrupt, or otherwise obstruct meetings or proceedings.

Burden of Proof and Evidence: The Title IX Investigator will review the statements and evidence presented and may, depending on the circumstances, interview others with relevant knowledge, review documentary materials, and take any other appropriate action to gather information relevant to the complaint. The Investigator will provide equal opportunity for the parties to present fact and expert witnesses and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence. The burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rests with ACOM and the Title IX Investigator, and not on the parties. The Title IX Investigator cannot access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional, and which are made and maintained in connection with the provision of treatment to the party, unless the Title IX Investigator obtains that party's voluntary, written consent to do so for a grievance process.

If, in the course of an investigation, the Title IX Investigator decides to investigate allegations about the complainant or respondent that are not included in the initial complaint, the Title IX Investigator will provide written notice of the additional allegations to the parties whose identities are known. The Investigator will send written notice specifying the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of any and all investigative interviews, meetings, or hearings to the parties and their advisors, allowing each party adequate time to prepare in advance.

ACOM will complete the investigation as quickly as possible, generally within 60 days. The investigative process may be delayed or extended at the Investigator's discretion for good cause, such as the absence of parties or witnesses, concurrent law enforcement activity, or the accommodation of disabilities.

Honor Code and Professionalism: The complainant, respondent, witnesses, and others sharing information with the Investigator are expected to provide all relevant and truthful information and to do so at their earliest opportunity to facilitate a prompt resolution. ACOM students remain subject to both the Honor Code and the Professionalism Policy during investigations, and they may be subject to discipline for making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the investigation.

Coordination with Law Enforcement: If ACOM is made aware that there is a concurrent criminal investigation, the Title IX Investigator will inform any law enforcement agency that is conducting its own investigation that an ACOM investigation is also in progress; ascertain the status of the criminal investigation; and determine the extent to which any evidence collected by law enforcement may be available to ACOM in its investigation.

At the request of law enforcement, ACOM may agree to temporarily defer part or all of its own investigation/hearing until after the initial evidence-gathering phase of the law enforcement investigation is complete. The ACOM Title IX Investigator will communicate with the parties, consistent with the law enforcement request and ACOM's obligations, regarding procedural options, anticipated timing, and the implementation of any necessary interim measures.

Preliminary Report: When the investigation is complete, the Title IX Investigator will provide the parties with a preliminary report, which will include, as applicable, the complainant's statement, the respondent's statement, each witness statement, and either a copy or written summary of any other information the Investigator deems relevant. The preliminary report will be provided in an electronic format that restricts the parties from downloading or copying the evidence. Each party will have 10 business days to review the preliminary report and to provide written feedback. The parties' written feedback will be attached to the final investigative report.

Final Investigative Report: After consideration of the parties' final responses to the preliminary report, or after 10 business days have elapsed without comment, the Investigator will prepare and send to the parties, and to their advisors, a final investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence and that includes the parties' written feedback, if any. The report will be in electronic format or hard copy. The parties will have at least 10 business days for preparation, from the time of receipt of the final investigative report to the time of the scheduled live hearing.

III. Informal Resolution

At any time after a formal complaint has been filed, if the Title IX Coordinator believes that the complaint may be amenable to informal resolution, the Title IX Coordinator will give notice to the parties of their ability to choose an informal resolution option. However, an informal resolution process may not be used to resolve allegations that an employee sexually harassed a student. Further, an informal resolution process may not be offered unless a formal complaint is filed.

The notice of the informal resolution option will include a statement of the allegations, a description of the informal resolution process, and a statement that at any time prior to the finalization of an informal resolution decision, any party has the right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the formal resolution process with respect to the formal complaint.

Each party has five business days to indicate in writing to the Title IX Coordinator if the party wishes to pursue the informal resolution option. If both parties give written voluntary, informed consent to the information resolution option within five business days, ACOM will begin the informal resolution process.

Participation in the informal resolution process is completely voluntary. ACOM does not require any party to participate in the informal resolution process. Each party has an unconditional right to withdraw from the informal resolution process and resume the formal resolution process.

IV. Informal Resolution Process

The Title IX Coordinator will submit the final investigative report to the Informal Process Adjudicator. If an investigation was not completed prior to the parties choosing the informal resolution option, the Title IX Coordinator will give to the Informal Process Adjudicator any available investigation information.

The Informal Process Adjudicator is the Associate Dean of Student Services or the Associate Dean's designee. The Informal Process Adjudicator may, in the Adjudicator's discretion, meet with either or both of the parties individually prior to reaching a decision. The Adjudicator will issue an informal resolution decision simultaneously to all parties, which includes:

1. the information from the formal complaint;
2. any information gathered during a previous investigation;
3. any new information the Informal Process Adjudicator gathered from the parties;
4. a preliminary analysis and finding of whether or not there was a violation of the ACOM Honor Code, Professionalism Policy, and/or the ACOM Title IX Policy; and
5. if appropriate, sanction(s) with rationale(s) based on the severity of the case and any past related incidents.

The parties have five business days to respond to the informal resolution decision. If neither party disagrees with the decision within five business days, the decision is finalized and the matter is considered resolved and closed through this informal resolution process. The Title IX Coordinator will send the parties a letter to inform them the matter has been resolved and the case is closed with regards to the ACOM resolution process.

If either party disagrees with Adjudicator's decision, the party may inform the Title IX Coordinator and have the matter resolved through a formal hearing. The unsatisfied party should notify the Title IX Coordinator in writing within five business days of receiving the Informal Process Adjudicator's decision.

1. If any of the following occur:
2. If either party declines the initial offer of an informal resolution option;
3. If five business days pass from the initial notice of the informal resolution option with no response from a party;
4. If any party gives written notice of withdrawal from the informal resolution process; or
5. If any party gives written notice of disagreement within five business days of the Informal Process Adjudicator's decision;

Then, the Title IX Coordinator will notify the parties and their advisors of the need to convene a formal hearing. If an investigation was suspended previously when the parties chose the informal resolution process, the Title IX Investigator will complete the investigation and the parties will have

10 business days for preparation, from the time of receipt of the final investigative report to the time of the scheduled formal hearing. If the investigation was previously completed and the parties previously received the final investigative report, then from the time of the current formal hearing notice, the parties will have at least 10 business days for preparation prior to the time of the scheduled formal hearing.

V. Formal Hearing

When a complaint is not resolved informally, ACOM's Title IX Coordinator will notify the parties and help to make any needed accommodations for the formal hearing. At any time prior to a final determination at the end of the formal hearing, the complainant and respondent can choose to accept an informal resolution decision previously offered. Each party must give written, voluntary agreement to the previously offered informal resolution decision, after which the decision is finalized and the hearing is curtailed.

The Compliance Officer may preside over the hearing and serve as a decision-maker or, at the Compliance Officer's discretion, appoint a panel of faculty members, College administrators, or other appropriate individuals to conduct the hearing and serve as decision-makers. Decisionmaker(s) in the hearing must be free from bias or conflict of interest, and they may not include ACOM's Title IX Coordinator or any person who served as Title IX Investigator.

Live hearings may be conducted with all parties physically present in the same geographic location or, at ACOM's discretion, any or all parties, witnesses, and other participants may appear at the live hearing virtually. At the request of either party, ACOM will provide for the entire live hearing (including cross-examination) to occur with the parties located in separate rooms with technology enabling the parties to see and hear each other. In advance of the live hearing, the decisionmaker(s) will receive training on any technology to be used at the hearing.

Documents prepared in anticipation of the hearing (including the final investigative report, the parties' respective responses to the final investigative report (if any), documents, testimony, or other information introduced at the hearing, and any recording or transcripts of the hearing) may not be disclosed outside of the hearing procedures, except as may be required or authorized by law.

Advisors: Hearings are closed to the public. Parties may be accompanied at the hearing by one advisor who may be, but need not be, an attorney. If a party does not have an advisor to be present at the hearing, then ACOM will provide, without fee or charge to that party, an advisor of ACOM's choice (who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney) to conduct cross-examination on behalf of that party.

Cross-examination: At the hearing, ACOM will permit each party's advisor to ask the other party and any witnesses all relevant questions and follow-up questions, including those challenging

credibility. This cross-examination at the live hearing will be conducted directly, orally, and in real time by the party's advisor of choice and never by a party personally.

Only relevant cross-examination and other questions may be asked of a party or witness. Before a complainant, respondent, or witness answers a cross-examination or other question, the person presiding over the hearing and/or the decision-maker(s) will first determine whether the question is relevant and explain to the party's advisor asking cross-examination questions any decision to exclude a question as not relevant. The decision-maker(s) will exclude as irrelevant any evidence regarding the complainant's prior sexual behavior unless this evidence is offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the alleged misconduct or offered to prove consent.

Standard of Evidence: The standard of evidence to determine responsibility in hearings under ACOM's Title IX Policy is the preponderance of the evidence standard. ACOM will apply this same standard of evidence to all formal complaints of sexual harassment, regardless whether a student or ACOM employee (including faculty) is the respondent. ACOM will apply the same standard of evidence for formal complaints against students as for formal complaints against employees, including faculty. If this standard is not met, the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct. Under the preponderance of the evidence standard, it is possible for an investigation, hearing and/or appeal to reach an inconclusive determination.

Record of Hearing: ACOM will create an audio or audiovisual recording, or transcript, of any live hearing, allowing access to either party for inspection and review, and will retain this record for seven years after the hearing. No camera, TV, or other equipment, including cellphones, will be permitted in the hearing room except as arranged by ACOM.

VI. Written Determinations

Following the hearing, the decision-maker(s) will consider all of the evidence and make a determination, based on the preponderance of the evidence, whether the respondent is responsible for the alleged conduct. The decision-maker(s) will issue a written determination to the parties simultaneously regarding responsibility. The written determination will include:

1. Identification of the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment;
2. 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;
3. Findings of fact supporting the determination;
4. Conclusions regarding the application of ACOM's Code of Conduct Honor Code and/or Title IX Policy to the facts;
5. A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions/remedies to be imposed, and whether

remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to ACOM's education program or activity will be provided by ACOM to the complainant; and

6. ACOM's procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal.

The decision-maker(s) will strive to issue the written determination regarding responsibility within 14 days after the hearing. Either party may appeal the determination by filing a written appeal, as described below, within 10 business days of the delivery of the determination regarding responsibility. If no appeal is filed, the determination regarding responsibility becomes final 10 business days from the date of delivery of the written determination regarding responsibility.

VII. Post-Determination Actions, Dismissals and Appeals

The Title IX Coordinator is responsible for effective implementation of any sanctions or remedies. The list of potential sanctions or remedies includes one or more of the following:

For Students:

- Warning
- No-contact orders
- Removal from specific courses or activities
- Disciplinary probation
- Suspension
- Expulsion
- Transcript notation

For Employees:

- Warning
- Performance improvement plan
- Required training or education
- Loss of annual pay increase
- Suspension with or without pay
- Termination

Dismissals

ACOM may dismiss the formal complaint or any allegations in the formal complaint, if at any time during the investigation or hearing:

1. The complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any specific allegations in the formal complaint;
2. The respondent is no longer enrolled or employed by ACOM; or

3. Specific circumstances prevent ACOM from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations in the formal complaint.

ACOM will promptly send written notice of a dismissal and reason(s) simultaneously to the parties.

Appeals

Either party may appeal from a determination regarding responsibility, or from ACOM's dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations, on the following bases:

1. Procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
2. Newly discovered evidence that could affect the outcome of the matter;
3. Title IX personnel had a conflict of interest or bias, that affected the outcome of the matter;
4. The decision was contrary to the substantial weight of evidence; and/or
5. The sanctions/remedies imposed are substantially disproportionate to the severity of the violation.

A notice of appeal must be in writing and must be filed with the Title IX Coordinator within 10 business days of the delivery of the decision to be appealed. The notice of appeal must include the name of the complainant, name of the respondent, the decision or action being appealed, and an explanation of the grounds for appeal.

Upon receiving a notice of appeal, ACOM will provide formal notice to the parties of the appeal. Each party will be given a minimum of 10 business days to provide a written statement supporting or challenging the appealed action.

ACOM's Compliance Officer may serve as decision-maker for the appeal (if the Compliance Officer was not the Investigator) or, at the Compliance Officer's discretion, may appoint a decision-maker for the appeal. The appeal decision-maker must be free from bias or conflict of interest, and they must not be the same person as the decisionmaker(s) that reached the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investigator(s), or the Title IX Coordinator.

As soon as is reasonably practicable, and generally within 10 business days after receipt of the parties' written statements, the appeal decision-maker will issue a written decision regarding the appeal simultaneously to both parties. The decision will describe the result of the appeal and the rationale for the decision. The decision of the appeal decisionmaker is final.

VIII. Contact Information

The Title IX Coordinator may be reached as follows:

Title IX Coordinator
445 Health Sciences Blvd.
Dothan, AL 36303
Tel: (334) 944-4006

Cell: (334) 596-5360

Email: titleIXcoordinator@acom.edu

Maxient Reporting: www.acom.edu/report

Compliance Hotline: (833) 490-0007; www.lighthouse-services.com/acom

Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act (section 1601 of Public Law 106-386) is a federal law enacted on October 28, 2000, which provides for the tracking of convicted, registered sex offenders enrolled as students at institutions of higher education or working or volunteering on campus.

The Act amends the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act to require 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, or is a student. It also mandates that state procedures ensure that this registration information is promptly made available to law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction where the institutions of higher education are located and that it is entered into appropriate state records or data systems.

A listing of all registered sex offenders in the State of Alabama is maintained by the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency. This information may be obtained from:

<https://app.alea.gov/Community/default.aspx>

Drug Free Campus and Workplace Policy

Overview of Policy Elements

All members of the ACOM community — including faculty, staff, and students — have the right to pursue their individual and collective goals in a healthy work and educational environment, one that is free of the effects of alcohol and substance abuse. Such abuse adversely affects ACOM's achievement of its mission and is not condoned. Responsibility for problems of substance abuse resides with each member of the ACOM community.

ACOM's principal approach to issues of alcohol and substance abuse entails a wide range of education, prevention, and assistance activities conducted within its academic curricula; educational programs to inform individuals of the effects and consequence of using alcohol or other substances; and comprehensive counseling programs for faculty, staff, and students. ACOM recognizes that alcohol and substance abuse are illnesses that are not resolved easily by personal effort but may require professional assistance and treatment. Faculty, staff, and students are

encouraged to take advantage of the preventive, diagnostic, referral, and counseling services available.

All members of the ACOM community have a personal responsibility to adhere to all applicable laws, policies, and regulations concerning the use of alcohol or other drugs. These include federal and state laws, city ordinances, the Student Honor Code, The Professionalism Policy, the faculty standards of conduct, and other ACOM policy statements. The Drug- Free Campus and Workplace Policy applies to all members of the ACOM community, including all full-time and part-time students; all full-time and part-time permanent and temporary employees, including faculty, administration, and all exempt and non- exempt staff; and all student employees and interns. It applies to behavior that occurs on the ACOM campus, on property owned or controlled by ACOM, or at ACOM- sponsored or supervised activities. ACOM is committed to cooperating with the local school systems and area colleges, as well as other local, state, regional, and federal agencies, in addressing problems of substance abuse in its community.

Standards of Conduct for Employees

Except as lawfully permitted under state and federal law, ACOM employees are prohibited from manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing or using controlled substances while they are at work. This prohibition applies both at ACOM and at any other site where the employee is carrying out assigned duties, The term "controlled substance" refers to any chemical substance whose distribution and/or use is controlled or prohibited by some law or statute, or whose distribution and/or use is permitted by a prescription issued by a licensed practitioner.

To ensure that all employees are working in a safe, productive environment, the possession, distribution, or consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted on the work site or on other ACOM property, unless such occurs in the course of an authorized business or special ACOM function which includes alcoholic beverages or where consumption was otherwise approved by ACOM. By extension, no employee may report to work while under the influence of alcohol. Consistent with the Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy, and as required by the Drug-Free Work Place Act of 1988, faculty and staff will, as a condition of employment, abide by the Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy and notify their supervisor within five days if they are convicted of violating any criminal drug statute as a result of any activity occurring at the ACOM workplace or while engaged in work activities of ACOM. The term conviction means a finding of guilt (including a plea of *nolo contendere*) or the imposition of a sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility of determining violations of federal or state criminal drug statutes. When the Department of Human Resources receives notice of such a conviction, it will coordinate efforts to comply with the reporting requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988. Violation of the Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy shall result in the prompt imposition of sanctions. These sanctions may range from a reprimand, to required satisfactory participation in counseling or rehabilitation programs, or other sanctions, up to and including termination of employment. Any necessary sanctions taken against faculty, administrators, or staff will be carried out in accordance

with policies and procedures published in appropriate ACOM personnel handbooks. For more information on employee requirements, please refer to Southeast Health System Policy *Prohibited Drug and Alcohol Use* (effective date June 15, 2023)

Standards of Conduct for Students

Except as permitted under state and federal law, ACOM students are prohibited from manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing, or using controlled substances while the student is on ACOM property or involved in ACOM activities. ACOM will take disciplinary action against a student, group of students, or student organization for any violation of this policy. A student or student organization may also be disciplined for and is deemed in violation of the Professionalism Policy or Honor Code for the unlawful possession or consumption on campus of alcoholic beverages, public drunkenness, or violation of state or local laws regarding alcohol use, possession or sale. Any disciplinary actions to be taken and the disciplinary procedures to be applied for the fair adjudication of the alleged violations will be in accordance with policies and procedures published in the Student Handbook.

Applicable Local, State, and Federal Laws Concerning the Unlawful Possession or Distribution of Illicit Drugs and Alcohol

The following is a brief overview of local, state, and federal laws governing the possession, use, and distribution of controlled substances and alcohol. It is not intended to be an exhaustive or definitive statement of various laws, but rather is designed to indicate the types of conduct that are against the law and the range of legal sanctions that can be imposed. Local, state, and federal laws regarding underage drinking and the possession, use, and sale of illegal drugs and alcohol and are strictly enforced by ACOM.

Federal Drug Offenses and Penalties Title 21, USC § 841 et. Seq.

- § 841(b)(1)(A) Distribution of 1 kilogram or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of heroin; 5 kilograms or more containing coca or cocaine; 100 grams or more of PCP; 10 grams or more of LSD; 1,000 kilograms of marijuana; or 50 grams or more of methamphetamine is a federal crime punishable by not less than 10 years or more than life in prison; and if death or serious bodily injury results, not less than 20 years or more than life, and not more than a \$10 million fine.
- § 841(b)(1)(B) In the case of distribution of 100 kilograms or more of marijuana; or 100 or more plants of marijuana; one is guilty of a felony and if convicted may be sentenced to not less than 5 years in prison and fined not more than \$5 million.
- § 841(b)(1)(D) If one is found with a quantity of marijuana less than 50 kilograms, 10 kilograms of hashish, or one kilogram of hashish oil; one is guilty of a felony and sentenced to not more than 5 years and fined not to exceed \$250,000.

- § 844 It is unlawful for any person to knowingly or intentionally possess a controlled substance unless such substance was obtained directly, or pursuant to a valid prescription. If convicted of possession, one may be sentenced to not more than 1 year and not less than a \$1,000.
- § 859 & 860 Distribution of controlled substances to persons under 21 years of age may be punishable by twice the above sentences, as may distribution within 1,000 feet of a school, college, or university.
- § 848(b) If one is the head of a “drug ring” of 5 or more persons engaged in a criminal enterprise involving the manufacture, acquisition, transportation, distribution, or sale of illegal substances, one may be sentenced to life in prison.
- § 853 All of the above include the possibility of forfeiture of property derived from or used in the distribution of illegal drugs or used in the manufacture of such drugs.

State of Alabama Offenses and Penalties- Code of Alabama 2021

- § 13A-12-202 Criminal solicitation to commit a controlled substance crime shall be punished the same as the controlled substance crime solicited.
- § 13A-12-203 An attempt to commit a controlled substance crime shall be punished the same as the controlled substance crime attempted.
- § 13A-12-204 A criminal conspiracy to commit a controlled substance crime shall be punished the same as the controlled substance crime that is the object of the conspiracy.
- § 13A-12-211 A person commits the crime of unlawful distribution of controlled substances if, except as otherwise authorized, he or she sells, furnishes, gives away, delivers, or distributes a controlled substance. Unlawful distribution of controlled substances is a Class B felony.
- § 13A-12-212 The unlawful possession of controlled substances is a Class D felony.
- § 13A-12-213 Unlawful possession of marijuana in the first-degree results where one possesses marijuana for other than personal use or has been previously convicted of marijuana possession in the second degree and is a Class D felony.
- § 13A-12-214 Unlawful possession of marijuana in the second-degree results where one possesses marijuana for personal use only and is punishable as a Class A misdemeanor.

- § 13A-12-215 The sale of controlled substances by one over 18 years of age to one under 18 years of age is a Class A felony with no eligibility of suspended sentence or probation.
- § 13A-12-231 One who knowingly sells, manufactures, delivers, or brings into this state cannabis (in any of its forms), cocaine, morphine, opium, methaqualone, hydromorphone, amphetamine, phencyclidine, lysergic acid diethylamide, methamphetamine, or Fentanyl shall be guilty of a felony, may be fined up to \$750,000, and sentenced for up to life in prison without parole.
- § 13A-12-233 One who engages in a criminal enterprise, in connection with 5 or more persons, to traffic in illegal drugs shall be sentenced to no less than 25 years and no more than life, without eligibility for parole, and fined up to \$500,000. For a second such conviction, a mandatory life imprisonment is required with a fine of not less than \$150,000 or more than \$1 million.
- § 13A-12-250 An additional penalty of 5 years imprisonment is added on for the above violation which occurs within a 3-mile radius of a school, college, or university campus (or public housing project; see § 13A-12-270).
- § 13A-12-260 Use, possession, delivery, or sale of drug paraphernalia is a crime punishable as a Class A misdemeanor for possession, a Class C felony for sale, and a Class B felony for sale to one under 18 years of age by one over 18 years of age.

Sentences of Imprisonment in the State of Alabama

- § 13A-5-6 Sentences for felonies shall be for a definite term of imprisonment, which includes hard labor, within the following limitations:
 - For a Class A felony, for life or not more than 99 years or less than 10 years.
 - For a Class B felony, not more than 20 years or less than 2 years.
 - For a Class C felony, not more than 10 years or less than 1 year and a day.
- § 13A-5-7 Sentences for misdemeanors shall be a definite term of imprisonment in the county jail or to hard labor for the county, within the following limitations:
 - For a Class A misdemeanor, not more than 1 year.
 - For a Class B misdemeanor, not more than 6 months.
 - For a Class C misdemeanor, not more than 3 months.

A Summary of State and Local Alcoholic Beverage Laws

Drinking Age

§ 28-1-5 The legal age in Alabama for consumption or purchase of alcoholic beverages is twenty-one (21) years.

Minors Purchasing

§ 28-3A-25(18) Minors purchasing or attempting to purchase alcoholic beverages are subject to a fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$500, and, at the discretion of the judge, up to three (3) months at hard labor or imprisonment.

Civil Liability

§ 6-5-71 An individual may be liable for damages under civil law for selling alcohol, giving alcohol, or otherwise causing someone to become intoxicated, who later is injured or causes another to be injured.

Driving Under the Influence (DUI)

§ 32-5A-191(a) A person shall not drive or be in actual physical control of any vehicle while: there is 0.08 percent or more by weight of alcohol in his or her blood, or under the influence of alcohol, or under the influence of any controlled substance or any other substance which impairs his ability to drive safely, or under the combined influence of alcohol and a controlled substance to a degree which renders him or her incapable of safely driving, or under the influence of any substance which impairs the mental or physical faculties of such person to a degree which renders him or her incapable of safely driving.

§ 32-5A-191(b) A person under 21 years of age shall not drive or be in actual control of a vehicle if there is 0.02 percentage or more by weight of alcohol in his or her blood. Many are under the impression that a person may be arrested only for having over 0.08 percent blood alcohol content, but the fact is that one may be arrested for substantially less content. Boating while under the influence is also illegal.

See § 32-5-192 An individual must submit to a blood alcohol test or his license will be suspended.

See § 32-5A-191 When convicted of DUI, a person may be jailed for not more than 1 year and fined not less than \$600 or more than \$2,100 for a first conviction. On a second conviction, a person may be fined up to \$5,100 and jailed for up to 1 year with a mandatory 5-day sentence or community service for not less than 30 days. On a third conviction, a person will serve at least a mandatory 60-day sentence, and will be fined at least \$2,100 with a 10,100 maximum fine.

Public Intoxication

§ 13A-11-10 A person commits the violation of public intoxication if he appears in a public place under the influence of alcohol, narcotics or other drug to the degree that he endangers himself or

another person or property, or by boisterous and offensive conduct annoys another person in his vicinity.

Health Risks Associated with Use of Controlled Substances and Abuse of Alcohol

Substance abuse and drug dependency are problems of staggering proportions in our society today. They are the leading causes of preventable illness, disability, and death in the U.S. and are estimated to afflict 20.3 million Americans. This number increases dramatically when one considers the harm done to the families of substance abusers as well as to those injured or killed by intoxicated drivers or in drug related work accidents. Alcoholism may develop in anyone. It tends to appear first between the ages of 20 and 40 and also to be more prevalent in persons with a family history of alcoholism.

Alcohol

Alcoholism is a disorder that has profound psychological, biological, and societal effects. Directly, it affects over 18 million people; indirectly, it affects another 56 million. It is usually characterized by one of three different patterns:

- Regular daily intoxication
- Drinking large amounts of alcohol at specific times
- Periods of sobriety interspersed with periods of heavy daily drinking

The disorder is usually progressive, and physical dependence can develop; if this happens, serious, sometimes life-threatening symptoms can develop when alcohol is withdrawn. Short term effects of alcohol use can include depression, gastritis, liver disease, automobile accidents, and domestic violence. Chronic alcohol abuse can produce irreversible health changes, including dementia, sexual impotence, cirrhosis of the liver, and heart disease. Death can occur either as a complication of one of these chronic problems, or acutely, secondary to alcohol intoxication by poisoning or to aspiration of vomitus, or as the result of any automobile accident while driving intoxicated.

Marijuana (Cannabis)

Marijuana is the most used illegal drug in the United States. Though physiological consequences do depend on frequency, duration, and quantity of use, marijuana use has been linked to impairment of short-term memory, concentration, judgment, perception, and fine motor skills. Thus, the use of this drug increases the risk of machinery or motor vehicle accident and injury, for four to six hours after ingestion. Impairment of memory may last for three to six months, even if use of the drug is discontinued completely. The active chemical in marijuana (THC) remains stored in body fat cells long after ingestion. Marijuana use is associated with chronic anxiety, depression, and paranoid feelings. It can exacerbate or increase significantly underlying emotional problems.

Frequent and/or ongoing use by children and adolescents may have long term developmental consequences resulting in lack of motivation, apathy, and difficulty managing current stresses and responsibilities, as well as making appropriate plans for the future. Pregnant women who use marijuana may be at a higher risk for giving birth to children with developmental or birth defects.

Hallucinogens

This category includes drugs such as lysergic, acid diethylamine (LSD, also known as “acid”), mescaline, and peyote. These drugs cause delusions, hallucinations, and impaired perception of time and space. Phencyclidine (PCP or “angel dust”) and amphetamine variants known as “ecstasy” are included in this category, though they rarely cause hallucinations in the true sense. They are, however, potent drugs that have mind-altering effects and impair perception and cognition. Hallucinogens can produce a “bad trip” with anxiety, agitation, hallucinations, and paranoia leading to impulsive behavior. After a “bad trip” the person can be subject to “flashbacks,” which are recurrences of the experiences of the “bad trip” without taking any more of the drug. Psychosis and impaired thinking may result after long-term use.

Cocaine

The use of cocaine, an illegal stimulant drug, has risen dramatically in the United States. Other names for this drug are code, C., lady, and snow. Cocaine is a white powder that is snorted, injected into veins, or smoked freebase or as “crack.” Crack is a crystalline form of cocaine that is also known as “rock,” from its small, white rock- like appearance. (“Speed balls” are cocaine mixed with heroin, which is a particularly dangerous combination.) Crack produces the most intense cocaine high; addiction can occur after using it only once or twice. Cocaine highs are characterized by feelings of extreme happiness and a sense of limitless power and energy. However, the physical effects include high blood pressure and heart palpitations. A cocaine “crash” follows the high and includes symptoms of depression, dullness, great irritability, and paranoia. Serious medical complications occur with cocaine use, such as heart attacks (even in young people), seizures, and strokes due to high blood pressure. The psychological effects of cocaine use include violence, paranoia, and personality changes as well as symptoms such as depression, anxiety, and confusion. Pregnant women using cocaine have increased risk of miscarriages and still-births. Newborns addicted to cocaine are irritable, unresponsive, prone to have malformed kidneys and genitals, and to have heart attacks and strokes. Addiction to cocaine controls aspects of the user’s life, impinges on the lives of those closest to the user, and occurs in people of all ages, classes, and educational levels.

Amphetamines and Other Stimulants

In addition to cocaine, several other drugs stimulate the nervous system and are very addictive. Most of them belong to the amphetamine family of drugs. Dexedrine (present in “diet” pills) may

at times be prescribed by a physician, but its use as a legitimate medication is now infrequent. Street drugs of the amphetamine group include “ecstasy” and “ice.” Ice is a smokable amphetamine compound that is very potent, and the effects are long-lasting and devastating. The health risks of these and other stimulants are similar to those of cocaine use.

Narcotics, Including Heroin

Various medications are taken to relieve pain. Most non-prescription pain relievers, (such as aspirin, Tylenol, Motrin, and Nuprin) are not considered addictive. However, there is a class of stronger pain relievers, available by prescription only, which are referred to as narcotics and most of which are opiates. Examples of these drugs include morphine, codeine, Tylenol No.3, Darvon, Darvocet, Percocet, Percodan, Demerol, and certain prescription cough medicines. These drugs differ from non-prescription pain relievers in their potential for abuse and dependence. With close medical supervision, these drugs may be safely used in specific medical circumstances for a limited time. However, addiction may occur, and the person may not want to stop the drug even when the pain has stopped. Tolerance to the drug is shown by an increase in the amount of drug necessary to relieve pain. This becomes progressive and leads to the craving or need for larger and larger doses, without which the person becomes extremely uncomfortable and physically ill. The time may come when the person “needs” such a large dose of the drug that is poisonous or lethal. Under these circumstances, coma, suffocation, and death may ensue. The malignant course of this problem is similar to that of addiction to heroin. Although heroin is not available by prescription, it is a narcotic which belongs to the same chemical family as the above drugs. The use of heroin is mainly by injection into a vein, which carries the additional medical dangers of contracting AIDS and hepatitis from unclean needles and syringes.

Sedatives and Tranquilizers

The barbiturates and the benzodiazepines are two of the most commonly used classes of sedatives. The barbiturates (such Phenobarbital, Seconal, and Amytal) are highly addictive and can be fatal if taken in excess. Although they still have medical uses, they have largely been replaced by the benzodiazepines, used for relief of anxiety and to promote sleep. The benzodiazepines include such drugs as Valium, Librium, Ativan, Xanax, Dalmane, Halcion, and Restoril. While safe and effective at moderate doses for short periods of time (weeks), all the benzodiazepines have a potential for physical and psychological dependence if used at higher doses for longer periods of time. Frequently the benzodiazepines are abused by adults who become dependent on them because of their anti-anxiety effects.

Other tranquilizers which may be abused include methaqualone (Quaaludes), Doriden, and Equanil. Intoxication may result from benzodiazepine use and resembles alcoholic drunkenness. Drowsiness, slurred speech, unsteady gait, and lack of coordination are common signs. The effects of the benzodiazepines (and the barbiturates and other sedatives) add to those of alcohol; taken

together, they can lead to coma and even death. Withdrawal from benzodiazepines resembles alcohol withdrawal and is most apparent if the drugs are stopped abruptly. Withdrawal takes place within hours to days of stopping the drug. Once a person is addicted to benzodiazepines, a physician should supervise the plan for gradually stopping them, to minimize the serious effects of withdrawal.

Drug or Alcohol Counseling, Treatment, and Rehabilitation Programs Available to Students and Employees

Employee and Student Assistance Programs

Employees utilize HR-based recommendations for Alcohol Counseling, Treatment, and Rehabilitation Programs. Employees have the option to choose employee-based health care insurance that also provides a wide array of counseling and treatment services available from in-network providers in our area.

All ACOM students, regardless of whether they utilize in-house health insurance, have access to two mental and physical health care services that provide either telemedicine or in-person services.

ACADEMIC LIVE CARE and ACADEMIC STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ASAP) described below:

Academic Live Care (<https://www.acom.edu/mental-health-resources/>)

Academic Student Assistance Program (ASAP) [<https://www.acom.edu/mental-health-resources/>] Counseling is confidential between the student and counselor, except for specific circumstances that indicate the student is a danger to himself or others or in the case of child or elder abuse. If counseling is mandated by ACOM the counselor may confirm (with the appropriate information release) the student’s attendance at counseling sessions.

Helplines and Other Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Resources

Free information and confidential support are available from many organizations. Some provide counseling, referrals to local treatment facilities, support groups, and community-based organizations, and free publications and other information in print on substance abuse and mental health issues.

SAMHSA National Helpline	(800) 662-HELP (4357)	https://www.samhsa.gov/
Suicide Prevention Lifeline	988	https://988lifeline.org
Alabama Dept. of Mental Health	(800) 367-0955	https://mh.alabama.gov/

Alcoholics Anonymous		https://www.aa.org/
Narcotics Anonymous		https://www.na.org/
College Drinking: Changing the Culture		https://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov/
Partnership for a Drug-Free Community	(256) 539-7339	http://www.partnershipforadrug-freecommunity.org/

Local Treatment Centers

Alabama Professionals Health Program
 Medical Association of the State of Alabama
 19 S Jackson Street
 Montgomery, AL 36104
 Phone: (334) 954-2596
 Toll Free: (800) 239-6272
 Fax: (334) 954-2593
staff@alabamaphp.org

Altacare of Dothan
 Addiction treatment center
 1450 Ross Clark Circle #400
 Dothan, AL 36301
 (334) 794-4582

Southeast Outpatient Addiction Recovery
 Addiction treatment center
 321 Westgate Parkway #4
 Dothan, AL 36303
 (334) 677-7627

Southeast Intervention Group
 Alcoholism treatment program
 1077 W Main Street
 Dothan, AL 36301
 (334) 316-6827

Substance Abuse Partnership
 Addiction treatment center
 812 S Appletree Street
 Dothan, AL 36301
 (334) 699-2813

Spectra Care Substance Abuse
 Addiction treatment center
 2694 South Park Avenue
 Dothan, AL 36301
 (334) 712-2720

Spectra Care
 Addiction treatment center
 1672 Columbia Highway
 Dothan, AL 36303
 (334) 339-9077

Breakthrough Wellness, LLC
 Addiction treatment center
 2543 Ross Clark Circle Suite I
 Dothan, AL 36301
 (334) 446-0211

Wiregrass Club
 Alcoholism treatment program
 112 North Herring Street
 Dothan, AL 36301
 (334) 648-4711

ACOM Disciplinary Sanctions for Controlled Substance Users and Alcohol Abusers

Various disciplinary procedures are applicable to faculty, staff, and students. Violations of the standard of conduct will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, with the imposition of discipline appropriate to the severity of the violation. For each group in the College community, there are certain common sanctions that can be applied in an appropriate case. These common sanctions include letters of reprimand, probation, and severance of ties with ACOM through expulsion or termination. Normally, opportunity for referral to an appropriate rehabilitation program occurs if the violation is a first offense. Referral for prosecution normally occurs only for the most serious violations.

Students who violate any provision of ACOM's Drug- Free Campus and Workplace Policy will be held accountable for their behavior and will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, consistent with local, state, and federal law, and the provisions of the Student Professionalism Policy, the Code of Conduct and Honor Code found in the Student Handbook. Such action may include mandatory counseling, a reprimand and warning, loss of privileges, disciplinary probation, community service, restitution, attendance at alcohol and substance abuse classes, suspension, expulsion, and/or referral to the proper law enforcement authorities for prosecution.

Employees who violate this policy will be held accountable for their behavior and will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, consistent with published ACOM policies and procedures and with local, state and federal law. Such action may include mandatory counseling, mandatory participation in an appropriate rehabilitation program, a warning, a reprimand, strict probation, unpaid suspension from employment, termination of employment, and/or referral to the proper law enforcement authorities for prosecution. All disciplinary procedures and appeals currently applicable to students and all categories of employees will continue to be available for violations of this policy.

Evaluation

ACOM will conduct a biennial review of the Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy to determine its effectiveness, identify and implement necessary changes, and ensure that sanctions developed are enforced consistently. During each review, the following factors, at a minimum, must be examined:

- a. the number of drug and alcohol-related violations
- b. the number of drug and alcohol-related fatalities
- c. the number of incidents of violence
- d. the number and type of sanctions imposed by the College
- e. the number of students involved in classes and counseling sessions
- f. the outcomes of treatment, assessed at pre-scribed follow-up intervals

Distribution

Annually, the Department of Human Resources and/or the Director of Campus Safety will distribute the Drug-Free Campus and Workplace policy and other drug and alcohol abuse prevention materials to all students and employees of ACOM.

Student Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy

Purpose

The Purpose of the Student Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy is to promote a safe, healthy, and productive learning and working environment free from the influences of drugs and alcohol and to ensure the safety and welfare of students, faculty, and patients cared for by ACOM representatives.

Scope

The Scope of the Student Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy is for all ACOM students

Policy & Enforcement

ACOM promotes a safe, healthy, and productive learning and working environment free from the influences of drugs and alcohol and to ensure the safety and welfare of students, faculty, and patients cared for by ACOM representatives. ACOM policy requires students to be free from illicit drug use and free from addiction.

This policy, while in place to ensure safety of students, faculty, and patients, does not preclude criminal action by means of other institutional policies and/or state and federal law.

The College recognizes that substance abuse is a career and life-threatening problem and encourages students to seek help in overcoming addiction. Students are encouraged to reach out to the Office of Student Services for help in seeking services for drug and alcohol counseling or contact any of the Behavioral Health resources listed in the Student Handbook.

Drug screening is performed on one or two occasions during enrollment as part of the credentialing process at ACOM and may also be done by order without notice from any member of ACOM administration.

Any student may be required to submit to drug and/or alcohol testing based upon what the faculty and administration consider to be reasonable suspicion, including, but not limited to:

- Direct observation of drug or alcohol use or possession;
- Physical symptoms related to the influence of drugs or alcohol;
- Abnormal or erratic behavior that is disruptive or a risk to others;
- Arrest or conviction of a drug or alcohol related offense on- or off-campus;
- Documented information from a credible source submitting a complaint;
- Evidence that a previous drug or alcohol test was tampered with; or
- Possession of drug paraphernalia.

Testing will be done by order of any member of ACOM administration and will be performed at a qualified designated laboratory site identified by the College.

Positive Drug Screen or Arrests for Illegal Drug Usage or Sales

Students who:

1. test positive on a drug screen,
2. refuse to test,
3. demonstrate illegal or disruptive actions related to drug or alcohol use,
4. demonstrate abnormal or erratic behavior that is disruptive or a risk to others and who test positive for drugs or alcohol
5. have an arrest for drug paraphernalia or other illegal possession/use of drugs,
6. have a demonstrated dependence to alcohol

will be considered in violation of the ACOM Honor Code. All testing results will be held in confidence except for designated administration, the Director of Campus Safety, the Professionalism and Ethics Committee, the Alabama Professionals Health Program, and the State Medical Board, if appropriate

Self-Identification for Drug or Alcohol Dependence

Self-identification as a substance abuser will result in the student being assisted in obtaining an approved treatment program. The cost of treatment is the responsibility of the student. Monitoring of successful completion will be the responsibility of the Associate Dean for Student Services and/or designee. The student treatment records will be held in confidence except where required by the State Board of Medicine or under subpoena.

Alabama Professionals Health Program

ACOM reserves the right to refer a student to the Alabama Professionals Health Program for evaluation and treatment before returning to the academic or clinical setting. Failure to meet all the requirements of this program may subject the student to Disciplinary Dismissal. All costs associated with this program are the responsibility of the student.

Alabama Professionals Health Program
Medical Association of the State of Alabama
19 S Jackson Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
Phone: 334 954-2596
Toll Free 800-239-6272
Fax 334 954-2593
staff@alabamaphp.org

Fire Safety Report

The Higher Education Opportunity Act enacted on August 14, 2008, requires institutions that maintain on-campus student housing facilities to publish an annual fire safety report that contains information about campus fire safety practices and standards of the institution. The following report details all the information required by this act for the Summerfield Square Apartments. The complete fire report can be found in **Appendix B**.

Daily Fire Log

The Security Services Department maintains a daily fire log at their office located within the ACOM Building. For each reported fire, the log includes the date the fire was reported as well as the nature, date and time, and general location of the fire. A new entry or addition to an existing entry will be entered into the fire log within two business days from the date that the report is received. The log is available for public inspection during business hours.

Description of Student Housing Fire Systems

Summerfield managed by CORVIAS

Summerfield Square consists of 185 units, broken down into 71 studio, 69 one- bedrooms, and 45 two-bedrooms. Each studio apartment is equipped with one smoke detector located in the living room. Each one-bedroom unit is equipped with two smoke detectors. One located in the hallway, outside the bathroom. The other is located inside the bedroom. Summerfield Square offers two different floor plans for the 2-bedroom unit type, Sanders and Ellis. The Sanders unit is equipped with 3 smoke detectors, one in the hallway and one in each bedroom. The Ellis unit is equipped with 4 smoke detectors: in the hallway, in the common area, and one in each bedroom. All smoke detectors are wired together, so if one detector is activated they will all go into alarm mode. The detector that was initially triggered will have a blinking red light.

Each unit is equipped with a heat sensitive sprinkler system. Should the sprinklers become activated, the fire control panel for that respective building would be alerted. The fire panel automatically alerts the local Fire Department and the security monitoring service.

Every floor of each building has a fire pull station and a fire extinguisher. The pulls are located at every stairwell. If a fire pull is activated, the fire control panel for that respective building would be alerted. The fire panel automatically alerts the local Fire Department and the security monitoring service. The extinguishers are located in a glass box in the center of each breezeway.

Each unit has its own HVAC system. All HVAC systems have fire dampening systems. In the event of a fire, the fire dampening system is activated, and it locks off each vent individually. Thus, stopping the fire from spreading through duct work and attic. Summerfield is managed by CORVIAS. ACOM does not employ any resident assistants.

Fire Safety Education

Fire safety training is held for all Summerfield Square residents at the beginning of each school year. This training is designed to familiarize each student and/or resident with the fire safety system in each individual unit, as well as each building. Everyone is given individual one-on-one training with the Community Manager or staff member on move-in day. All staff members have received training and are knowledgeable in fire safety matters. Each student also receives a safety brochure that gives specific instructions for an emergency procedure should a fire break out. A list of Fire Safety Definitions can be found in **Appendix A**.

An Emergency Instructions & Safety Tips handout is available at any time in the Community Manager's office, or via email request to SummerfieldSquare@corvias.com.

Policies on Portable Electronic Appliances, Smoking, and Open Flames in Student Housing Facilities

Electronic Appliances

Due to the hazards associated with their use, the following appliances may never be stored or used inside a student housing facility:

Grills (excluding George Foreman grills)

- Halogen lamps
- Immersion coils
- Oil, kerosene, and gas lamps
- Open-coiled appliances
- Steam vaporizers
- Any appliance attached to multiple extension cords

Smoking Policy

Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the Summerfield Square grounds or the ACOM campus.

Open Flames

The storage or use of items that operate with an open flame such as grills, lanterns, candles, or incense and flammable materials such as gasoline, kerosene, or propane is strictly prohibited.

Fire Safety Precautions

- Keep doorways, corridors, and stairwells clear and unobstructed. Keep fire doors closed.
- Make sure that all electrical appliances and cords are in good condition and UL approved.
- Do not overload electrical outlets. Use fuse-protected multi-outlet power strips.
- Never store flammable substances in your room or apartment.
- Be aware that transmitting a false alarm is a criminal offense that endangers the lives of both building occupants and emergency personnel. It is also an offense to prop open fire doors or to tamper in any way with alarm equipment, electromagnetic locks, or other life safety devices or to block or obstruct paths of egress.

Student Housing Evacuation Procedures

If you discover a fire in an apartment building:

- Close the door to the area of the fire.
- Activate the nearest fire alarm as you exit the building.
- When evacuating the building, keep calm and remember to feel doors before opening them to be sure that there is no fire danger on the other side. If you must enter a smoke-filled room or hallway, stay low, keeping one hand on the wall to avoid disorientation and crawl to the nearest exit, keeping your head near the floor.
- Move to an area that is at least 100 feet and upwind from the building.
- Once you are safely away from danger, dial 911.
- Standby to direct emergency teams to the location of the fire.

Fire Response Do's and Don'ts

- DO treat every alarm as an emergency. If an alarm sounds, exit the building immediately.
- DON'T assume that a fire alarm is a drill or test.
- DO remain in your room if you cannot get out of the building because of heat or smoke. Call 911 right away. Keep the door closed and await assistance from the Fire Department. If smoke is entering around the door, stuff the crack under the door with sheets, clothes, or blankets. If possible, open the window and wave a brightly colored garment or towel from your window— the Fire Department will be looking for this sign.
- DO close the door behind you if it is safe to leave your room.
- DON'T waste time collecting valuables. Take your keys and identification so that you can reenter your room if exit from the building is not possible.
- DON'T use an elevator during a fire emergency: always use the stairs.

Fire Incident Reporting

Students, employees, and guests should report fire-related emergencies by dialing 911. In addition, all on-campus fires, including those occurring in or around student housing areas, should be reported to the Security Services Department at (334) 405-6276 for investigation and inclusion into the Fire Safety Report.

Note: If a member of the campus community finds evidence of a fire that has been extinguished and the person is not sure whether ACOM officials have already been notified, that person should contact a Security Services representative who will investigate and document the incident.

Fire Drills Held During the Previous Calendar Year

A fire drill was held at ACOM on 10/3/22. It was supervised by the Dothan Fire Department.

Fire Safety Tips and Education

Fire safety tips and educational handouts are provided to all students, faculty and staff throughout the year by utilizing email and communication message boards.

Plans for Future Improvements

All on-campus student housing facilities meet or exceed applicable fire safety requirements. In addition, as buildings are added or renovated, newly issued fire safety requirements will be reviewed to ensure that additional fire suppression and detection devices are added if needed. There are no improvements planned at this time.

Campus Crime Statistics

Locations Covered by the Clery Act

The Clery Act requires U.S. colleges and universities receiving federal student financial aid to disclose timely and annual information about crime on and around their campuses. These are crimes committed on campus, in public areas such as sidewalks and streets immediately surrounding the campus, non-campus buildings, and other off-campus property used by the College in direct support of its educational mission. Information about the specific location of public property included in these statistics can be obtained from the Security Services Department.

Explanation of How Statistics Are Compiled

The Security Services Department coordinates the collection and reporting of crime statistics as specified by federal law. Agencies involved in the collection of data include the Security Services Department, the Office of the Associate Dean of Student Services, Campus Security Authorities, the Dothan Police Department, and the Houston County Sheriff's Department.

The Security Services Department, through a cooperative arrangement with the Dothan Police and Houston County Sheriff's Departments, obtains relevant crime statistics from the DPD and HCSD databases, which provides appropriate crime codes, and the nature, dates, times, and the locations of crimes committed. Security Services requests data from the agencies involved in collecting criminal statistics so that the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report may be updated and disseminated to the campus community, the general public, and the U.S. Secretary of Education.

The definition of each type of reportable crime can be found in **Appendix C** and may differ from the definition of comparable crimes under the Alabama Penal Code or ACOM discipline policies. The Clery Act also requires the reporting of hate crimes in the defined categories where the evidence suggests the victims were intentionally selected because of their actual or perceived race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender identity, national origin, or disability.

Under very limited circumstances ACOM may remove reports of crimes that have been "unfounded" by law enforcement officials. ACOM will include the number of "unfounded" crimes in the Annual Survey Report.

Approval of Annual Report

The Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is compiled by the Director of Campus Safety and the Security Supervisor. Once assembled, the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is submitted to the Associate Dean of Student Services for approval, publication, and distribution.

Appendix A: Fire Safety Definitions

Cause of fire: The factor or factors that give rise to a fire. The causal factor may be, but is not limited to, the result of an intentional or unintentional action, mechanical failure, or act of nature.

Fire: Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

Fire Drill: A supervised practice of a mandatory evacuation of a building for a fire.

Fire-related Injury: Any instance in which a person is injured as a result of a fire, including an injury sustained from a natural or accidental cause, while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of the fire. The term “person” may include students, employees, visitors, firefighters or any other individuals.

Fire-related Death: Any instance in which a person is killed as a result of a fire, including death resulting from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of a fire, or who dies within one year of injuries sustained as a result of the fire.

Fire Safety System: Any mechanism or system related to the detection of a fire, the warning resulting from a fire, or the control of a fire, including:

- sprinkler or other fire extinguishing systems
- fire detection devices
- stand-alone smoke alarms
- devices that alert one to the presence of a fire, such as horns, bells, or strobe lights
- smoke-control and reduction mechanisms
- fire doors and walls that reduce the spread of a fire

On-Campus Student Housing Facility: For purposes of the Clery Act regulations, “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 an on-campus student housing facility”. (On-campus student housing facility definition citation 34 CFR 668.46(a))

Value of Property Damage: The estimated value of the loss of the structure and contents, in terms of the cost of replacement in like kind and quantity, including:

- contents damaged by fire
- related damages caused by smoke, water, and overhaul
- but *not* including indirect loss, such as business interruption

Appendix B: ACOM Fire Statistics

Summerfield Square Apartments

120 Andrew Still Boulevard

Dothan AL 36303

Description of On-Campus Student Housing Fire Safety Systems – Summerfield Square								
Building	2020	2021	2022	Sprinkler Protection Full Coverage = All private and public spaces	Fire Alarm Systems SD (Smoke Detector) MP (Manual pull station)	Monitored Fire Alarm System	Fire Rated Corridors	# of Fire Drill
108	0	0	0	Full Coverage	SD/MP	Yes	Yes	2
114	0	0	0	Full Coverage	SD/MP	Yes	Yes	2
120	0	0	0	Full Coverage	SD/MP	Yes	Yes	2
121	0	0	0	Full Coverage	SD/MP	Yes	Yes	2
128	0	0	0	Full Coverage	SD/MP	Yes	Yes	2

Fire Statistics for On-Campus Student Housing								
Building	2020	2021	2022	LOCATION	CAUSE	DAMAGE AMOUNT	INJURIES	DEATHS
108	0	0	0	None		0	0	0
114	0	0	0	None		0	0	0
120	0	0	0	None		0	0	0
121	0	0	0	None		0	0	0
128	0	0	0	None		0	0	0

Appendix C: Definitions of Reportable Crimes

Category One: Criminal Offenses

1. **Criminal Homicide.** These offenses are separated into two categories: Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, and Manslaughter by Negligence.
 - a. **Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter** is defined as the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.
 - b. **Manslaughter by Negligence** is defined as the killing of another person through gross negligence.
2. **Sexual Assault (Sex Offenses):** Any sexual act directed against another person, without consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.
 - a. **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.
 - b. **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.
 - c. **Incest:** sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
 - d. **Statutory Rape:** sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.
3. **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.
4. **Aggravated Assault:** an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.
5. **Burglary.** Burglary is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.
6. **Motor Vehicle Theft:** the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.
7. **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.

Category Two: Hate Crimes

In addition to any of the crimes above, the following acts are now reportable as Hate Crimes under the Clery Act, when the evidence suggests the victim was intentionally selected because of the victim's actual or perceived race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity, or disability.

1. **Larceny-Theft:** The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property (Except "Arson"):** 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.

Category Three: VAWA Offenses

1. **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; and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: (1) the length of the relationship; (2) the type of relationship; and (3) the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
2. **Domestic violence:** a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed by (1) a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, (2) a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, (3) a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, (4) 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 (5) 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.
 - (1) **Stalking:** engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to (1) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or (2) suffer substantial emotional distress.
 - (2)

Category Four: Arrests and Referrals for Disciplinary Action for Violation of Weapons, Drug Abuse, and Liquor Laws

- 1. Weapon Law Violations:** 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.
- 2. 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. Arrests for violations of state and local laws, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing and making of narcotic drugs.
- 3. 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 or drunkenness.

Appendix D: ACOM Crime Statistics

Criminal Offenses Reporting Table					
OFFENSE	YEAR	ON-CAMPUS PROPERTY	ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING FACILITIES	PUBLIC PROPERTY	NONCAMPUS PROPERTY
MURDER / NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
MANSLAUGHTER BY NEGLIGENCE	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
RAPE	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
FONDLING	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
INCEST	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
STATUTORY RAPE	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
ROBBERY	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
BURGLARY	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
ARSON	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0

Hate Crime Bias Category Key:

D = disability

E = ethnicity

G = gender

GI = gender identity

NO = national origin

RA = race

RE = religion

S = sexual orientation

Hate Crimes Reporting Table

OFFENSE	YEAR	ON-CAMPUS PROPERTY	ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING FACILITIES	PUBLIC PROPERTY	NONCAMPUS PROPERTY
MURDER / NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
MANSLAUGHTER BY NEGLIGENCE	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
RAPE	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
FONDLING	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
INCEST	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
STATUTORY RAPE	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
ROBBERY	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
BURGLARY	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
ARSON	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
LARCENY-THEFT	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
Simple Assault	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
INTIMIDATION	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
DESTRUCTION / DAMAGE / VANDALISM	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0

VAWA Offenses Reporting Table

OFFENSE	YEAR	ON-CAMPUS PROPERTY	ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING FACILITIES	PUBLIC PROPERTY	NONCAMPUS PROPERTY
DATING VIOLENCE	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
STALKING	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0

Arrests and Disciplinary Referrals Reporting Table

OFFENSE	YEAR	ON-CAMPUS PROPERTY	ON-CAMPUS STUDENT HOUSING FACILITIES	PUBLIC PROPERTY	NONCAMPUS PROPERTY
ARRESTS: WEAPONS LAW VIOLATIONS	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: WEAPONS LAW VIOLATIONS	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS: DRUG LAW VIOLATIONS	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: DRUG LAW VIOLATIONS	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
DISCIPLINARY REFERRALS: LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	2022	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0

Unfounded Crimes Reporting Table

YEAR	NUMBER OF UNFOUNDED CRIMES
2022	0
2021	0
2020	0

Department of Security Services

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The Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine is a tobacco free campus.

