

# BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

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## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

**AREA:** Student Affairs

**NUMBER:** Policy 4.12

**SUBJECT:** Crime Awareness, Campus Security, and Civil Actions

1. The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus “Security Policy and Campus Crimes Statistics Act

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus “Security Policy and Campus Crimes Statistics Act requires colleges and universities to publish and distribute policies and statistics about crimes committed on campus. Blue Mountain College complies with the law by publishing and distributing the policies and statistics as mandated by law. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to report criminal actions, potentially hazardous actions, and other emergencies promptly to Campus Security or the Dean of Students. [Cross reference with Policy 5.23: Campus Safety.]

The College maintains a record of the offenses which occur on College property and publishes an annual report containing the required statistics over a period of years. The report is distributed to all students and employees, and, upon request, is made available to all student applicants and applicants for employment.

2. Providing Campus Security

A Blue Mountain College employee who is a trained police officer serves as the lead security officer on campus. He leads a team of security guards who maintain campus security but do not have authority to arrest on the campus. However, the College maintains a close working relationship with local, county, and state law enforcement officials.

Blue Mountain College prohibits the possession or use of firearms, explosives (including fireworks), dangerous chemicals, substances, instruments, or other weapons which can be used to inflict bodily harm or discomfort to any individual, or damage upon a building or grounds of the College, or College-owned or controlled property, or at College-sponsored or supervised functions. This does not apply to law enforcement or campus security personnel required by their office to carry such weapons or devices. [Cross reference with Policy 4.13: Student Conduct and Judiciary and Policy 5.23: Campus Safety.]

All undergraduate students should refer to the *Blue Mountain College Student Handbook* and the *Blue Mountain College Undergraduate Catalog* for other regulations of student life at the College. Responsibility on the part of each undergraduate student for full compliance with all College policies is assumed.

All graduate students should refer to the *Blue Mountain College Handbook for Graduate Studies* and the *Blue Mountain College Graduate Catalog* for other regulations of student life. Responsibility on the part of each graduate student for full compliance with all College policies is assumed.

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- A. **Personal Responsibility for Safety**  
Safety is a concern everywhere in society, including college and university campuses. While the majority of campus criminal activity is theft related, crimes against the person do occasionally occur and students are expected to become proficient in basic self-protection and crime prevention techniques. An understanding of some basic safety principles, the exercise of caution, and a lot of common sense are probably the best personal protections available. From time to time, crime prevention and personal safety programs are offered by the College. All students and college personnel are encouraged to attend. While programs will be directed to specific topics, the College will address the subjects of sexual assault, rape, or other sexual offenses.
- B. **Reporting Violations of College Policy and Law**  
All known or suspected violations of any College policy or local, state, or federal law should be reported to Campus Security, the Dean of Students, or the Chief Operating Officer.
- C. **Penalties for Violations**  
The College, a private institution of higher education, reserves the right to apply administrative remedies and penalties to any party determined to be responsible for any violation of college policy or any of the offenses listed above. Depending on the offense reported, campus penalties may include suspension or expulsion from the College. Additional penalties may be imposed by the civil or criminal authorities in the Courts of Law of the State of Mississippi or in the Federal Courts. On-campus administrative procedures will be conducted in a manner by which the facts will be determined to the best of the ability of the College, being respectful of the accuser and the accused, and each shall be informed of the outcome of any investigation and action conducted by the College. The college will also recommend counseling services for any person involved in any incident where counseling might be desired.

Any student at the College shall be responsible for his/her own conduct and behavior, keeping in mind the best interest of the College and his/her fellow students. Any conduct by any student, either on or off campus, that violates the policies of the College will result in disciplinary action.

Students subjected to any sexual or other assault or other personal injury may defer to college disciplinary actions or may, in addition to college procedures, elect to report the events to either civil or criminal authorities. [Cross reference with Policy 3.11: Sexual Harassment, Fraternization, or Workplace Harassment.]

Counseling services are recommended for students subjected to assault or other personal injury of any kind or nature. The confidentiality of all persons and names will be respected, and no release of personally identifying information, as to any victim, will be given without the consent of the victim.

Blue Mountain College will, upon written request, disclose to the alleged victim of any crime of violence, or nonforcible sex offense, the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by the institution against a student who is the alleged perpetrator. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of the crime or offense, the next of kin of the victim shall be treated as the alleged victim for purposes of reporting the disciplinary action taken. [Cross reference with Policy 4.13: Student Conduct and Judiciary.]

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### 3. Civil Actions of Students

Because college students are members of the social community outside the campus as well as the college community, they are obligated to respect and abide by the laws of society as well as the regulations of the College. The College takes disciplinary action, when necessary, if standards or regulations of the College are violated. When civil laws are violated, the case may be referred to the civil authorities for appropriate action by law.

#### A. Fireworks

To possess or discharge fireworks on the Blue Mountain College campus is a violation of both the college regulations as well as an ordinance of the Town of Blue Mountain.

#### B. Stolen Property

In addition to the general rule on theft, items such as highway stop signs, speed limit signs, motel property, and other civil or private property which are obviously not the rightful possessions of the individual possessing them will not be permitted to remain in the residence hall. In special cases, letters verifying ownership may be requested.

#### C. Disturbances on Campus

In support of the general rules, disturbances on campus will not be tolerated and any student directly or indirectly involved in any disruptive situation may expect definite disciplinary action.

SOURCE: Board of Trustees: February 22, 2013; October 5, 2012; February 25, 2011; February 26, 2010; October 02, 2009; November 27, 2006; February 22, 2002

EDITORIAL CHANGES: August 04, 2020; May 31, 2013; November 14, 2003