

SACS Interim Report

Assessing Effectiveness – Department of Public Safety

Evidence to support the effectiveness of the Department of Public Safety for the previous year is presented as follows:

1. An annual campus security report is published each fall and placed on the Department's website for anyone to review. The 2009 report included the following topics:
 - Details about the campus emergency alert system, which is tested monthly.
 - Helpful crime prevention tips for the campus community.
 - Guidelines for confidential reporting of criminal activity.
 - An explanation of campus police authority and jurisdiction.
 - The campus drug and alcohol abuse prevention policy, along with the relevant criminal offenses and punishments, as well as information about the available employee and student assistance programs.
 - Details about the types of crimes occurring on college campuses that are required to be reported to the US Department of Education each year.
 - A spread sheet listing the reportable crimes occurring at Clayton State University for the past three years, as well other administrative and judicial referrals for liquor law and drug abuse violations, and illegal weapons possessions.
 - It is noted that the most serious of the reportable offenses that have occurred on Clayton State University's campus during the past three years was motor vehicle theft, with three incidents in 2008 and two in 2007. The number of referrals for liquor law and drug abuse violations has increased during the past two years, primarily due to the opening of the first student housing on campus in the Fall of 2008.
2. Complaints against Departmental employees are promptly addressed and thoroughly investigated. During the past year, the following internal administrative actions were taken for violations of Departmental policies and/or procedures: two letters of counseling; three written reprimands; and one temporary suspension from duty without pay.
3. Monthly staff meetings are held to address any issues of concern as well as to review and discuss administrative and operational matters. During these meetings, mandatory and optional training sessions are often included, e.g. use of deadly force, use of non lethal weapons, legal case updates, and other critical task topics. Every police officer also must obtain 20 hours of state approved training annually, as well as maintain annual firearms qualifications.
4. Annual performance evaluations are conducted of all Departmental employees, as required by the University. In addition, Departmental policy requires that all managers conduct mid-year performance reviews of their staff to address issues of concern, as well as to identify significant progress in achieving personal goals, on a timely basis.

5. Additional evidence of the effectiveness of the Department of Public Safety during the past year includes the following:
- Public safety presentations to all new student orientation sessions.
 - “Active shooter” response training provided to numerous campus groups in 2009.
 - Training sessions for campus building coordinators on such matters as the operation of fire extinguishers, handling disabled persons during an emergency, and a review of campus emergency response procedures.
 - Monitoring of campus security cameras that are placed in strategic public areas for prompt response and investigative use. The monitoring and preserved recordings have been beneficial in several investigations this past year.