

## Timely Warning Policy

### **Timely Warnings**

Timely Warnings are designed to provide notification regarding certain crimes which present a serious and continuing threat to the campus community. The occurrence of Clery reportable crimes on-campus or on non-campus property immediately adjacent to or accessible from campus may trigger a Timely Warning. Such crimes include:

- Criminal Homicide (Murder, Non-Negligent Manslaughter, or Manslaughter by Negligence)
- Sexual Assault (including Rape, Fondling, Incest, and Statutory Rape)
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- Burglary
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Arson
- Hate Crimes (as defined by the FBI UCR handbook)

In order to trigger a Timely Warning, the crime in question must present a serious and continuing threat to the campus community. University Police will examine the facts surrounding each eligible crime to determine, on a case-by-case basis, if such a threat exists. Factors to be examined include, but are not limited to:

- The nature of the crime;
- The continuing danger to the community; and
- The risk of compromising law enforcement efforts.

If deemed appropriate, a Timely Warning will be issued to allow community members to take steps to protect themselves. Timely Warnings also seek information that may lead to the arrest and conviction of the offender.

On the Highland Heights campus, the Chief of Police, or designee, is responsible for preparing Timely Warnings. Information for Timely Warnings may come from other law enforcement agencies or other offices. While every attempt will be made to distribute the alert as soon as possible after an incident or series of incidents is reported, the release is subject to the availability of accurate information concerning the incident(s). A determination will then be made regarding the existence of an on-going threat to the community.

University Police makes every effort to properly classify a criminal incident when issuing a Timely Warning. However, upon further investigation and analysis, it may be determined that an incident for which a Timely Warning was issued did not ultimately fall within the definitions of Clery reportable crimes. Therefore, some incidents for which Timely Warnings were issued may not be included in the crime statistics provided by NKU's Annual Security Report.

Timely Warnings must be communicated in a way likely to reach the entire community. University Police will work in conjunction with the Vice President for Student Affairs to disseminate Timely Warnings. Timely Warnings will be disseminated primarily using the NKU Flash and NKU Student Flash

email list servs. Timely Warnings will also be posted at:  
<http://police.nku.edu/JeanneCleryAct/crimealerts.html>

Timely Warnings will include (subject to availability):

- A summary of the incident.
- Possible connection to previous incidents, if applicable.
- Physical description of the suspect, if available.
- Actions taken by police officials in response to the crime(s).
- Crime prevention, personal safety or other community safety resources, tips, or action items.

University Police may withhold Timely Warnings, or information in Timely Warnings, if providing that information could compromise law enforcement efforts. Additionally, Timely Warnings may be updated if new or more accurate information becomes available.

### **Crime Awareness Bulletin**

University Police recognizes that some instances or crimes not triggering a Timely Warning can be addressed through similar means. When circumstances warrant, University Police may release a Crime Awareness Bulletin to inform the community to a particular string of incidents, such as a string of thefts or car break-ins. The intention is to bring about awareness and inform the community of particular incidents, with the ultimate goal of preventing further occurrences. The crimes reported in such bulletins are not subject to Timely Warning mandates. Dissemination of such bulletins will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### **Grant County Campus**

The offices of Grant County Center are responsible for preparing and distributing Timely Warnings for that campus via email blast to their faculty, staff, and students.