



24:003 Violence Prevention Committee and Behavior Assessment and Response Team

Responsible Executive: Vice President for Student Affairs
Responsible Office: The Counseling Center
Related Policy:
Approved-On Date: August 25, 2008 General Counsel
August, 25, 2008 Executive Cabinet
August 29, 2008 Board of Visitors
Effective Date: September 1, 2008
Revision Date:

Policy Statement

Norfolk State University is committed to preventing violence on campus. In compliance with § 23-9.2:10 of the Code of Virginia, Norfolk State University shall create and implement both a Violence Prevention Committee (VPC) and Behavior Assessment and Response Team (BART) to assist in meeting the goal of providing members of the University community with an environment that is safe, secure, and free from threats, intimidation, and violence.

Purpose

The Norfolk State University Violence Prevention Committee (VPC) and the Behavior Assessment and Response Team Policy (BART) is designed to ensure a safe and secure environment for all faculty, staff, students, and visitors on the University campus.

Procedures

To implement the policy Norfolk State University will do the following:

1. Create a Violence Prevention Committee that will consist of representatives from, Norfolk State University Police Department, the Counseling Center, Office for Residence Life and Housing, Facilities Management, Division for Student Affairs, Norfolk Community Service Board, Teaching Faculty, Office of Human Resources, International Scholar Services, Department for Disability Services, and other constituencies as needed. The Director of the Counseling Center or his designated representative and Chief of Police or his designated representative will serve as co-chairs for the VPC. The VPC will consult with University Counsel as needed.

2. The Norfolk State University VPC shall identify best practices in educating university community members about campus violence issues and implement these practices.
3. The Norfolk State University VPC shall provide guidance to faculty, staff, and students regarding recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the university community and how such behavior can be reported to University Officials.
4. The Norfolk State University VPC shall identify members of the University community to whom threatening behavior should be reported and encourage faculty and staff to report these behaviors.
5. The Norfolk State University VPC shall establish the Behavior Assessment and Response Team (“BART”) that will implement the assessment, intervention, and action policies established by the VPC.
6. The BART shall consist of the Chief of the Norfolk State University Police Department, Director of the Counseling Center, Director of Residence Life and Housing, Division for Student Affairs Senior Administrator, Human Resources Representative, Norfolk Community Service Board Representative, and other constituencies as needed.

The Chief of the Norfolk State University Police Department or his designated representative and Director of the Counseling Center or his designated representative will serve as co-chairs for the VPC. The BART will consult with University Counsel as needed.

7. The VPC in consultation with the BART shall develop policies and procedures for the assessment of individuals whose behavior may present a threat, implement appropriate means of intervention with such individuals, and recommend sufficient means of action including interim suspension or medical separation to resolve potential threats.
8. The BART shall employ a decision tree to resolve threatening situations to the University community in a standard and objective manner.
9. The BART shall establish and utilize existing collaborative relationships with local and state law enforcement and mental health agencies in order to expedite assessment and intervention with individuals whose behaviors may present a threat to safety.