

EL PASO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ANNUAL SECURITY AND FIRE SAFETY REPORT



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ANNUAL SECURITY & FIRE SAFETY

REPORT

2023

INTRODUCTION

The El Paso Community College and the El Paso Community College Police Department place a high priority on campus safety for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. The department is composed of dedicated and committed staff who, in partnership with the EPCC community, work to maintain safe environments. Safety is a shared responsibility that involves members of the community and departments working cooperatively to solve problems and proactively address issues to enhance the quality of life and the safety and security of the EPCC community.

This report provides information about safety and security programs and services at The El Paso Community College. Accompanying this information are crime statistics on incidents that have occurred within the area as defined by The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act). This also includes crime statistics documented by municipal police for the public areas immediately adjacent to The El Paso Community Colleges' five campuses. In addition to data collected, we include crime statistics for properties owned and controlled by EPCC but not immediately adjacent to the main campus.

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act



The “Jeanne Clery Act” is named in memory of 19-year-old Lehigh University freshman Jeanne Ann Clery who was raped and murdered while asleep in her residence hall room on April 5, 1986. Pursuant to United States Code Section 1092(f), the “Jeanne Clery Disclosure Act,” and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), each institution of higher education in the United States that participates in federal student aid programs must produce and distribute an annual report containing crime statistics and statements of security policy. On April 20, 2017, the U.S. Department of Education increased fines for violations of the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to **\$54,789**.

The Campus Security Act requires colleges and universities to:

- Publish an annual report every year by October 1st that contains three (3) years’ worth of crime statistics and certain campus security policy statements, including sexual assault policies.
- Disclosure crime statistics for the campus, unobstructed public areas immediately adjacent to or running through the campus, and certain non-campus facilities, including Greek housing and remote classrooms. The statistics are gathered from university police, local law enforcement, and other University/College officials who are Campus Security Authorities. Such authorities are persons who have “significant responsibility for students and campus activities.”

- Provide “Timely Warning” notices of those crimes that have occurred and pose an “ongoing threat to the students and employees.”
- Disclosure, in a public crime log, any crime that took place on campus or within the patrol jurisdiction of the campus police or the campus security department and is reported to the campus police or security department.
- If a report is determined to be “unfounded” (false or baseless- meaning that the offense neither occurred nor was attempted), it is the disposition. A decision to “unfound” a report can only be made by the investigating agency. An “unfounded” report may be removed from the crime statistics. The number of unfounded cases will be documented in the Annual Security Report.

PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT

El Paso Police Department (EPPD) and the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office (EPSO) crime reports are researched through RMS Crime Reporting System to obtain crime statistics for the adjacent public property. Adjacent public property is described as the sidewalks and streets, as well as any public property directly across from the campus boundaries. El Paso Community College Police Department and EPPD, EPSO share the same crime reporting system and can research crime reports for both departments.

All of these crime statistics are gathered, compiled, and reported to the EPCC community via this report.

CRIME AND INCIDENT LOG

The Crime and Incident Log is updated by the EPCC Police Department within two business days and includes all crimes reported to the EPCC Police Department.

REPORTING CRIME STATISTICS

A. Policies for preparing the annual disclosure of campus crime statistics.

The El Paso Community College coordinates the collection and reporting of crime statistics as specified by federal law. The information is compiled into a report. Each year, enrolled students are notified via e-mail of the website where this report can be accessed and reviewed. Faculty and staff receive similar notifications either by e-mail or through campus mail.

All prospective employees may obtain a copy of this report from the website. Copies of this report will be provided to others upon request.

Also, The El Paso Community College Police Department investigates and reviews all reports of criminal activity occurring in its jurisdiction, regardless of the source. The El Paso Community College Police Department, through a cooperative arrangement with the El Paso Police Department and the El Paso Sheriff's Office, obtains relevant crime statistics from the EPPD, EPSO database, which provides appropriate crime codes, dates, times, nature, and the locations of crimes committed within the City and County of El Paso.

B. Statistics on the following crimes and offenses are to be reported in the Annual Security Report (ASR).

I. Criminal Homicide: These offenses are separated into two categories: Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter and Manslaughter by Negligence.

- Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter is defined as the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.
- Manslaughter by Negligence is defined as the killing of another person through gross negligence.

II. Sexual Assault (Sex Offenses): Any sexual act directed against another person without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

- **Rape:** is the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vaginal 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.
- **Fondling:** is 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 mental incapacity.
- **Incest:** is sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- **Statutory Rape:** is sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

III. Robbery: Robbery is 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.

IV. Aggravated Assault: Aggravated assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

V. Burglary: Burglary is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft.

VI. Motor Vehicle Theft: Motor vehicle theft is the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

VII. Arson: Willful or malicious burning, or an attempt to burn, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, or personal property.

VIII. Hate Crimes: A Hate Crime is a criminal offense that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim. *Although there are many possible categories of bias, under the Clery Act, only the following eight categories are reported.*

- **Race:** A preformed negative attitude toward a group of persons who possess common physical characteristics, e.g., color of skin, eyes, and/or hair; facial features, etc., genetically transmitted by descent and heredity, which distinguish them as a distinct division of humankind, e.g., Asians, blacks, or African Americans, whites.
- **Religion:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons who share the same religious beliefs regarding the origin and purpose of the universe and the existence or nonexistence of a supreme being, e.g., Catholics, Jew, Protestants, atheists.
- **Sexual Orientation:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation. Sexual Orientation is the term for a person's physical, romantic, and/or emotional attraction to members of the same and/or opposite sex, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and heterosexual (straight) individuals.

- **Gender:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual perceived gender, e.g., male or female.
- **Gender Identity:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender identity, e.g., bias against transgender or gender non-conforming individuals. Gender non-conforming describes a person who does not conform to the gender-based expectations of society, e.g., a woman dressed in traditionally male clothing or a man wearing makeup. A gender-non-conforming person may or may not be a lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender person but may be perceived as such.
- **Ethnicity:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of people whose members identify with each other through a common heritage, often consisting of a common language, common culture (often including a shared religion) and/or ideology that stresses common ancestry. The concept of ethnicity differs from the closely related term “race” in that “race” refers to a grouping based mostly on biological criteria, while “ethnicity” also encompasses additional cultural factors.
- **National Origin:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of people based on their actual or perceived country of birth. This bias may be against people that have a name or accent associated with a national origin group, participate in certain customs associated with a national origin group, or because they are married to, or associated with people of a certain national origin.
- **Disability:** A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their physical or mental impairments, whether such a disability is temporary or permanent, congenital or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age, or illness.

IX. Annual Security Report – Terms and Definitions

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013 (VAWA)

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) amendments to the Clery Act expand the rights afforded to campus survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

VAWA Definitions

Domestic Violence Is defined as a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed:

- By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
- By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
- By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
- By 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;
- By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

Dating Violence: Is defined as violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the party's statement

and with consideration of the length of the relationship and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

For the purpose of this definition:

- Dating Violence includes but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.
- Dating Violence does not include acts covered under the definition of domestic violence.

Stalking: Is defined as engaging in the course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

- Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or
- Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Arrest and Disciplinary Referrals for Violation of Weapons, Drug Abuse and Liquor Law Violation of Weapons:

Weapons: Carrying, Possessing, Etc., is defined as 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 regulated in nature.

Drug Abuse Violations:

The violation of laws prohibiting the production, distribution, and /or use of certain controlled substances or the equipment or devices utilized in the preparation and/or use. The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance. Arrest violations of state and local laws, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs.

Liquor Law Violations:

The violation of state or local laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of alcohol beverages, not including driving under the influence and drunkenness.

Arrest: for Clery Act purposes is defined as persons processed by arrest, citation, or summons. Classified as arrest:

- Those persons arrested and released without a formal charge being placed against them. (An arrest has occurred when a law enforcement officer detains an adult with the intention of seeking charges against the individual for a specific offense(s), and a record is made of the **detention**.)
- Any situation where a young person, in lieu of actual arrest, is summoned, cited, or notified to appear before the juvenile or youth court or similar official for violation of the law.
- Only violations by a young person where some police or official action is taken beyond a mere interview, warning, or admonishment.

XI. Referred for disciplinary action: is defined as the referral of any person to any official who initiates a disciplinary action of which a record is established and which may result in the imposition of a sanction.

XII. Unfounded Crimes: A crime is considered unfounded for Clery Act purposes only if sworn or commissioned law enforcement personnel make a formal determination that the report is false or baseless.

Ongoing Prevention and Awareness Campaigns

Refers to campaigns that are sustained over time and focused on increasing awareness or understanding of topics relevant to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking prevention.

Risk Reduction

Refers to approaches that seek to mitigate risk factors that may increase the likelihood of perpetration, victimization, or bystander inaction. Risk reduction focuses on helping individuals and communities address the institutional structures or cultural conditions that facilitate sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking to increase safety. Examples include, but are not limited to, general crime prevention education, campus escort program, programs that educate on how to create individual and community safety plans and strategies, and bystander intervention programs that educate the campus on how to recognize and interrupt situations of harm, and the Tejano Alert System that notifies the campus community of immediate threats to security.

Bystander Intervention

Is recognizing a potentially harmful situation or interaction and choosing to respond in a way that could positively influence the outcome.

Awareness Programs

Programs, campaigns, or initiatives that increase knowledge of the issues of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking and share information and resources to prevent interpersonal violence and promote safety. Examples include Awareness Month campaigns, educational programming, and/or poster campaigns.

Primary Prevention Programs

Programming, initiatives, and strategies intended to stop domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking, promote positive and healthy behaviors and beliefs, change behavior and social norms, and promote healthy relationships and healthy sexuality.

Clery Crime Statistics

The following pages contain the reportable offenses as reported to the El Paso Community College Police Department, El Paso Police Department, and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, and others who have significant responsibilities for student and campus activities. The statistics are published in accordance with the standards and guidelines used by the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Handbook and relevant federal laws. **It should be noted that the Clery Crime Statistics will not always match UCR statistics due to the different definitions used.**

Statistics are listed for each El Paso Community College District campus and include those offenses occurring on adjacent public property and any non-campus property.

Adjacent public property can be described as all public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities that are within the campus or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus that is owned by a public entity such as a city, county, or state government.

Non-campus property is described as any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution or any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of, or in relation to, the institution's controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of, or in relation to, the institution's educational purposes, is frequently used by students and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic areas of the institution.

The El Paso Community College does not have on or off-campus student housing facilities, commonly referred to as dormitories.

If you have any questions about the crime statistics or safety issues on campus, please contact the El Paso Community College Police Department at **(915) 831-2200**.

The chart on this page indicates the combined district-wide Clery Crime Statistics for 2015 for the El Paso Community College District, compiled from all reportable crimes occurring on all campuses and adjacent public property as provided by local law enforcement agencies.

Statistics were gathered from the El Paso Police Department and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. They are also taken from records maintained by the El Paso Community College Police Department.

These statistics are included in the federal online reporting and in this annual security report.

The statistics reported are for the last full calendar year, plus the previous two full calendar years, a three-year time period. In essence, the report date will be the current year, and the statistics are for the three proceeding years. For example, the 2020 report contains statistics from 2019 to 2018 (inclusive).

El Paso Community College Campuses CLERY Statistics Campuses District-Wide

Criminal Offenses	Year	ASC	RG	TM	VV	MDP	NW
Aggravated Assault	2023	0	1*	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	4*	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Neglect Homicide	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Neglect Manslaughter	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Sex Offense	2023	0	1*	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	1*	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	1*	0	0	0	0
Non-Forcible Sex Offense	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	1*	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	2*	1	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2023	0	3*	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	3*	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hate/Bias Crime	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Referrals	2023	1	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Referrals	2023	0	4*	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	1	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liquor Law Referrals	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	1*	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Violence	2023	0	9*	0	0	0	1*
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	3*	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2021	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Indicates a crime was reported on adjacent public property, that was investigated by the El Paso Police Department or El Paso County Sheriff Office.*

There were no hate or bias crimes reported at any EPCC campus or adjacent public property for the years 2023, 2022, and 2021.

The categories created by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 are included in this annual security report for the required time frame. These statistics will also be reported in the online survey for 2023.

These categories are dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The district-wide statistics are shown in the below table for each of the VAWA-defined categories and are included in the tables for each of the separate campuses in the following pages of this report, beginning on page 12.

	VAWA REPORTING CATEGORIES				
	2023		2022		2021
Dating Violence	0		0		0
Domestic Violence *	9*		0		3*
Sexual Assault *	0		1*		2*
Stalking	0		0		0

* This category is also carried under Forcible Sex Offenses in the main Clery statistics but is included separately here as further clarification of a VAWA defined offense. It is a component of the definition of a forcible sex offense under UCR and NIBRS.

*Domestic Violence occurred off-campus; Rio Grande Campus and can be found on page 16, 2021.

* Forcible Sex Offense and a Non-Forcible Sex Offense occurred off-campus; Rio Grande Campus and were investigated by the El Paso Police Department in 2022 and 2021.

* Non-Forcible Sex Offense occurred off-campus, Valle Verde Campus, and was investigated by the El Paso Police Department in 2021.

CLERY statistics for each individual El Paso Community College Campus

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CENTER-ASC						
OFFENSE		2023		2022		2021
Aggravated Assault		0		0		0
Murder						
Non-Negligent Homicide		0		0		0
Negligent Manslaughter		0		0		0
Sex Offenses						
Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		0
Non-Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		0
Robbery		0		0		0
Burglary		0		0		0
Motor Vehicle Theft		0		0		0
Arson		0		0		0
Hate / Bias Crimes		0		0		0
Weapon Referrals		1		0		0
Drug Abuse Referrals		0		0		0
Liquor Law Referrals		0		0		0
Dating Violence		0		0		0
Domestic Violence		0		0		0
Sexual Assault		0		0		0
Stalking		0		0		0

2023 There were no offenses for this campus or adjacent public property that could be classified as hate or bias crimes.

2023 There were no offenses reported, which would be considered VAWA offenses.

2023 There were no reportable offenses occurring on any adjacent public property for this campus.

2023 - 1 – incident of weapon/prohibited places occurred on ASC campus.

	RIO GRANDE CAMPUS - RG						
<i>OFFENSE</i>		<i>2023</i>		<i>2022</i>		<i>2021</i>	
Aggravated Assault							
		1*		4**		0	
Murder							
Non-Negligent Homicide		0		0		0	
Negligent Manslaughter		0		0		0	
Sex Offenses							
Forcible Sex Offenses		1***		1***		1***	
Non-Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		1****	
Robbery		0		0		0	
Burglary		0		0		2*****	
Motor Vehicle Theft		3*****		3*****		0	
Arson		0		0		0	
Hate/Bias Crimes		0		0		0	
Weapon Referrals		0		0		0	
Drug Abuse Referrals		4		0		0	
Liquor Law Referrals		0		0		0	
Dating Violence		0		0		0	
Domestic Violence		9*****		0		3*****	
Sexual Assault		0		0		0	
Stalking		0		0		0	

202 There were no offenses for this campus or adjacent public property that could be classified as hate or bias crime.

2023 There were no offenses reported, which would be considered VAWA offenses.

* 1 incident – Aggravated Assault occurred off – Rio Grande Campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department in 2023

** 4 incidents - Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon occurred off- Rio Grande campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department in 2022.

***3 incident – Forcible Sexual Assault occurred off – the Rio Grande campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department, 2023, 2022, and 2021.

**** 2 incident - Non-Forcible Sex Offense occurred off-campus; Rio Grande Campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department, 2023 and 2021

***** 6 incidents - Motor Vehicle Theft occurred off – the Rio Grande campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department, 2023 and 2022.

***** 1 incident – Arson occurred off – Rio Grande campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department, 2023.

***** 2 incidents - Burglary of Habitation occurred off-campus; Rio Grande Campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department, 2021.

***** 9 incidents - Domestic Violence occurred off-campus; Rio Grande Campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department, 2023 and 2021.

***** 4 Drug Abuse referrals occurred off-campus, Rio Grande Campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department, 2023.

TRANSMOUNTAIN CAMPUS - TM						
OFFENSE		2023		2021		2021
Aggravated Assault		0		0		0
Murder						
Non-Negligent Homicide		0		0		0
Negligent Manslaughter		0		0		0
Sex Offenses						
Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		0
Non-Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		0
Robbery		0		0		0
Burglary		0		0		1*
Motor Vehicle Theft		0		0		0
Arson		0		0		0
Hate/Bias Crimes		0		0		0
Weapon Referrals		0		0		0
Drug Abuse Referrals		0		0		0
Liquor Law Referrals		0		0		0
Dating Violence		0		0		0
Domestic Violence		0		0		0
Sexual Assault		0		0		0
Stalking		0		0		0

2023 There were no offenses for this campus or adjacent public property that could be classified as hate or bias crime.

2023 There were no offenses reported, which would be considered VAWA offenses.

* 1 incident -Burglary occurred off-campus, and was investigated by the El Paso Police Department in 2021

VALLE VERDE CAMPUS - VV						
OFFENSE		2023		2022		2021
Aggravated Assault		0		1*		0
Murder						
Non-Negligent Homicide		0		0		0
Negligent Manslaughter		0		0		0
Sex Offenses						
Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		0
Non-Forcible Sex Offenses		0		1**		0
Robbery		0		0		0
Burglary		0		0		0
Motor Vehicle Theft		0		0		0
Arson		0		0		0
Hate/Bias Crimes		0		0		0
Weapon Referrals		0		0		0
Drug Abuse Referrals		0		1		0
Liquor Law Referrals		0		0		0
Dating Violence		0		0		0
Domestic Violence		0		0		0
Sexual Assault		0		0		0
Stalking		0		0		0

2023 There were no offenses for this campus or adjacent public property that could be classified as hate or bias crimes.

2023 There were no offenses reported, which would be considered VAWA offenses.

* 1 incident - Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon occurred off the Valle Verde campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department, in 2022

** 1 incident - Non-Forcible Sexual Assault occurred off the Valle Verde campus, investigated by the El Paso Police Department, 2022

MISSION DEL PASO - MDP						
OFFENSE		2023		2022		2021
Aggravated Assault		0		0		0
Murder						
Non-Negligent Homicide		0		0		0
Negligent Manslaughter		0		0		0
Sex Offenses						
Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		0
Non-Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		0
Robbery		0		0		0
Burglary		0		0		0
Motor Vehicle Theft		0		0		0
Arson		0		0		0
Hate/Bias Crimes		0		0		0
Weapon Referrals		0		0		0
Drug Abuse Referrals		0		0		0
Liquor Law Referrals		0		0		0
Dating Violence		0		0		0
Domestic Violence		0		0		0
Sexual Assault		0		0		0
Stalking		0		0		0

2023 There were no offenses for this campus or adjacent public property that could be classified as hate or bias crimes.

2023 There were no offenses reported, which would be considered VAWA offenses.

2023 There were no reportable offenses occurring on any adjacent public property for this campus.

NORTHWEST CAMPUS - NW						
<i>OFFENSE</i>		<i>2023</i>		<i>2022</i>		<i>2021</i>
Aggravated Assault		0		0		0
Murder						
Non-Negligent Homicide		0		0		0
Negligent Manslaughter		0		0		0
Sex Offenses						
Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		0
Non-Forcible Sex Offenses		0		0		0
Robbery		0		0		0
Burglary		0		0		0
Motor Vehicle Theft		0		0		0
Arson		0		0		0
Hate/Bias Crimes		0		0		0
Weapon Referrals		0		0		0
Drug Abuse Referrals		0		0		0
Liquor Law Referrals		0		0		0
Dating Violence		0		0		0
Domestic Violence		1		0		0
Sexual Assault		0		0		0
Stalking		0		0		0

2023 There were no offenses for this campus or adjacent public property that could be classified as hate or bias crime.

2023 There were no offenses reported, which would be considered VAWA offenses.

2023 There were no reportable offenses occurring on any adjacent public property for this campus.

*1 incident, Family Violence, occurred off Northwest Campus, investigated by the El Paso Department, 2023.

Campus arrest statistics for Clery reportable offenses for 2023, 2022, and 2021:

<i>ALL CAMPUSES</i>	<i>REPORTABLE CLERY ARRESTS</i>			
<i>OFFENSE</i>	2023		2022	2021
<i>Weapon Offenses</i>	1		0	0
<i>Drug Abuse Offenses*</i>	0		1	0
<i>Liquor Violations</i>	0		0	0
<p>2022 - Valle Verde Campus – 1 arrest for Possession of a Controlled Substance.</p> <p>2023-ASC Campus-1 arrest for Unlawful Carrying Weapon Prohibited Places</p>				

*** Drug Abuse Offenses involved possession of a controlled substance and marijuana (aggregate amount) of less than 2 ounces.**

Campus Safety Disclosure Responsibilities

Effective 2010, the Higher Education Opportunity Act specified new campus safety requirements in the following areas:

- **Hate crime reporting**
- **Emergency response and evacuation procedures**
- **Relationship between the College Police, and local and state law enforcement**
- **Missing student notification, and fire safety concerns (required of any institution that maintains on or off-campus student housing facilities)**

In keeping with the requirements of the Clery Act, this information is designed to aid in the endeavor of providing the public with specific information on campus asset protection, security, and crime statistics for the most recent three-year period; alcohol and drug use, crime prevention, police authority and operations, policies relating to reporting crime and campus disciplinary procedures.

Each year, all students and prospective students are notified, as part of the registration process, that the report is available online and that printed copies are available; upon request. These are primarily available through the El Paso Community College Police Department, Valle Verde Campus, during normal business hours, Monday through Friday. A request may also be made at any on-site campus police office.

**El Paso Community College Police Department, 919 Hunter
Drive, El Paso, TX 79915 Building C, Room C-101 (915) 831-2200**

Normal business hours are 8 am – 5 pm - Monday through

Friday Police Operations - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

- CAMPUS SAFETY -

- Facilities -

Many campus buildings and facilities are accessible to members of the campus community, guests, and visitors Monday through Friday during normal business hours. On weekends, holidays, and after hours, outside doors are locked to protect persons and property. After-hours users may be asked by college police regarding their presence on campus and ought to carry appropriate identification.

- Student Residences -

The El Paso Community College District does not maintain or operate student residences at any campus or any off-campus locations. These are commonly referred to as dormitories and would also include fraternity or sorority houses. Campus organizations do not operate student residences or halls, sororities, or fraternity houses, either on or off campus.

- Visitors -

Visitors are welcome and are expected to observe established campus rules, regulations, and policies. Visitors are encouraged to visit the corresponding El Paso Community College Campus Police Department office for information on college regulations. EPCC reserves the right to restrict or deny access to any person who does not abide by college policies and procedures.

- Students and Employees -

All EPCC employees and students should have their El Paso Community College Identification Card in their possession while on campus. Lost or stolen cards should be reported immediately to the EPCC Police Department.

- Maintenance -

Facilities, lighting, and landscaping are maintained to promote campus safety. The college provides emergency call boxes installed throughout each campus. Emergency call boxes are routinely monitored and inspected, and immediate necessary action is taken for those needing repair. Officers also report the need for replacement lighting and any other discovered physical hazards to the Physical Plant for maintenance or repair. Emergency phone problems should be reported to the El Paso Community Police Department for any repair or maintenance.

Any student, faculty member, staff, or visitor who observes a potentially unsafe condition or equipment needing repair is encouraged to report the problem by calling:

EPCC Police Department - (915) 831-2200 - or - Physical Plant at (915) 831-7880

- CRIME PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS –

The EPCC Police Department conducts crime prevention and information sessions at each scheduled New Student and Employee Orientation. Participants are encouraged to ask questions regarding safety and security. Participants are also informed of methods to receive or view the Annual Security Report. Upon request, the department provides crime prevention inspections or programs. Officers are also encouraged to make unscheduled crime prevention contacts during their daily patrols. Programs and services are designed to promote safety on campus through prevention, intervention, mitigation, and response. VAWA requisites are also addressed. The college provides several programs and services, including:

- **Counseling Centers** – assist in determining referral sources and provide free, confidential counseling services to students and are located at each of the following campuses:

Valle Verde – (915) 831-2642

Northwest – (915) 831-8807

Rio Grande – (915) 831-4636

Mission Del Paso – (915) 831-7094

Trans Mountain – (915) 831-5186

- **Safety Escorts** – officers provide students, staff, and faculty free escorts to their vehicles or buildings on campus whenever requested. Requests can be made by calling (915) 831-2200.
- **Walk-by** – officers conduct continuous safety checks of work or study areas. Walk-through may be requested during non-business hours by students, staff, and faculty members who are engaged in after-hour activities on campus. Requests can be made by calling (915) 831-2200.
- **Motorist Assist** – officers are available to assist motorists on campus who experience vehicle trouble, such as dead batteries, or have locked themselves out of their vehicle. Request assistance by calling (915) 831-2200.
- **New Student Orientation Programs** – officers present information pertaining to safety, security, and asset protection at New Student Orientation sessions.

- **New Staff and Faculty Orientation Programs** – officers present information pertaining to safety, security, and asset protection at New Staff and Faculty Orientation sessions.
- **Crime Prevention and Personal Safety** – officers present general information pertaining to personal safety, sexual assault education and prevention, automobile theft, identity theft, and campus safety whenever requested by calling (915) 831-2200.
- **Security Surveys** – officers conduct security inspections, considering security vulnerabilities and making recommendations for the protection of persons, assets, facilities, and buildings; surveys can be arranged by calling (915) 831-2200.

Although the college has instituted security services and procedures, **it should be noted that the personal safety of individuals who are on campus still remains largely an individual responsibility.** Failure to take precautions or be aware of one's environment may result in increased risk. College police continue to adapt and implement safety measures and asset protection, but the ultimate success of these endeavors is contingent upon active involvement by faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

Crime prevention is a means to encourage students, faculty, and staff to be aware of ways to reduce their chances of becoming victims of crime. Crime prevention presentations are presented whenever requested and at the beginning of each new semester. While it is impossible to prevent all crime, awareness is the means to preventing crime. The El Paso Community College Police Department offers the following free crime prevention programs and services:

- **Directed Patrol** – a directed patrol is a walk-through building where officers look for or are alerted to suspicious activities. A park and walk involves officers parking their vehicles and conducting foot patrols of selected areas of the campus. These activities are documented in their patrol log sheets and Dispatch.
- **Safety Escort Program** – officers provide escorts to all locations on campus to individuals who may have special personal security concerns. An escort may be requested by calling (915) 831-2200 or by using one of the emergency call boxes located on campus.
- **Operation ID** – a program that involves engraving personal property with an alternate identification marking, usually a partial license number or student identification number. Anyone wishing to take advantage of this program can call (915) 831-2200 for availability and locations.

- **Lost and Found** – lost and found property is turned into the Police Department office at each campus. Recovered property is logged and securely stored. Individuals may report the loss of property in the event it is turned in. In reporting lost property, try to have any identifying markings or serial numbers and a detailed description of the lost property.

Every reasonable attempt is made to return recovered property to its legal owner – if the owner and property can be identified.

- Security Alarm System -

An electronic security alarm system is located at the EPCC Police Dispatch Office and is monitored by the dispatcher. The alarm system provides a network of fire, intrusion detection, and duress alarms for various campus buildings throughout the district. The alarm systems are regularly checked for proper operation and repaired when necessary. Surveillance cameras are also monitored from the dispatch center, with feeds coming in from each campus.

- Authority and Jurisdiction of the El Paso Community College District Police -

El Paso Community College District police officers are licensed as Texas peace officers by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE). Officers are sworn law enforcement officers and are commissioned under provisions of the Texas Education Code and the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. Officers are vested with all the powers, privileges, and immunities of peace officers while within the jurisdiction of the El Paso Community College District or otherwise in the performance of their assigned duties.

The El Paso Community College Police Department is responsible for enforcing applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations of the community college district. Police officers carry firearms, arrest violators, and also make referrals to the Vice President of Student Services when necessary.

Criminal violations are processed through the El Paso County District Attorney's Office, El Paso County Attorney's Office, or the federal criminal justice system (U.S. Attorney's Office). Officers may issue Class C misdemeanor citations, make custody arrests, and issue traffic citations, which would be filed and tried in the El Paso County Justice of the Peace Courts. Normally, these citations are filed with the Justice of the Peace Precinct in which the campus lies and the offense occurred.

The El Paso Community College Police Department also employs parking enforcers who enforce parking regulations and support special campus events. Parking enforcers do not have arrest authority except as provided for any citizen, as outlined by the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

- Law Enforcement Jurisdiction –

The El Paso Community College District predominately lies within the city limits of El Paso, Texas, although some facilities lie outside of the city limits but within El Paso County. The EPCC Police Department works closely with the El Paso Police Department, El Paso County Sheriff's Office, Texas Department of Public Safety, District & County Attorney's Office, and federal law enforcement agencies. There are currently no Memorandums of Understanding in place for other agencies. Other law enforcement agencies also have arrest authority (jurisdiction) on campuses because the College District lies within the County and City of El Paso and the State of Texas.

Jurisdiction for the El Paso Community College District Police is set out in Texas Education Code statutes. The primary jurisdiction of peace officers commissioned by the District includes all counties in which property is owned, leased, rented, or otherwise under the control of the District. With such statutory authority, no memorandums of understanding are needed for officers to act in a law enforcement capacity off-campus when needed or requested by outside agencies or other proper authorities.

When an EPCC student is involved in an off-campus incident, officers may assist with the investigation in cooperation with local, state, or federal law enforcement. The El Paso Police Department routinely works and communicates with the EPCC Police Department on serious incidents occurring in the immediate area surrounding campuses inside the city limits. Outside the city limits, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office works with and communicates with the EPCC Police Department. The Texas Department of Public Safety also handles incidents that occur outside the city limits. These agencies have primary jurisdiction in areas off-campus, but EPCC Police may assist with major crimes and incidents near campus when viable.

To coordinate emergency response, EPCC Police have communication with the El Paso Police Department, El Paso County Sheriff's Office, Clint Fire Department, West Valley Fire Department, and Fire Medical Services, as well as county emergency medical services.

- REPORTING CRIMES –

- Procedures for Reporting Crimes and Other Emergencies -

Community members and guests of the college are encouraged to report any emergency and suspected criminal activity, such as, but not limited to, suspicious activity or behavior, health emergencies, fires, crime, and violations of college policies and procedures to the EPCC Police Department by calling (915) 831-2200.

The college provides several methods to report an emergency, request assistance, or to report suspicious behavior, including but not limited to emergency call boxes. Call boxes are conspicuously placed around campuses. These phones are activated by opening the cover and picking up the receiver. The boxes have a blue light that activates to aid in locating the reporting party. Elevators are also equipped with an emergency button or phone and, when activated, place the caller in direct communication with the EPCC Police Dispatcher.

The EPCC Police Department encourages anyone who is the victim or witness to any crime to promptly report the incident to the police. The EPCC Police Department cannot hold reports of crime in confidence. Police reports are public records under state law. Confidential or anonymous reports for purposes of inclusion in the Annual Disclosure Report of crime statistics can also be made to other campus security authorities, such as the Vice-President of Student Services the Chief of Police, or his designee. A process for reporting criminal offenses in confidence is also provided.

Community members are encouraged to report all crimes, including off-campus incidents. The EPCC Police Department assists community members in the reporting of off-campus incidents to the appropriate law enforcement agency. Local law enforcement agencies non-emergency telephone numbers are:

- **El Paso Police Department – (915) 212-4000**
- **El Paso County Sheriff's Office – (915) 556-2280**

-Reporting Crimes to Other Campus Security Authorities -

The Clery Act mandates that institutions must disclose statistics both for crimes reported to local police agencies and crimes reported to campus security authorities. Campus security authorities include the following:

- A member of a campus police department or campus security department of an institution; a member of a private “event staffing” company working on campus under contract
- Any individual or individuals who have responsibility for campus security but who do not constitute a campus police department or a campus security department (e.g., an individual who is responsible for monitoring the entrance into institutional property)
- Any individual or organization specified in an institution’s statement of campus security policy as an individual or organization to which students and employees should report criminal offenses
- An official of an institution who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, such as:

Vice-President of Student Services – Dr. Carlos C. Amaya - 919 Hunter Drive, El Paso, Texas, 79915

Student Life Dean - Dr. Carlos C. Amaya – 919 Hunter Drive, El Paso, Texas, 79915

Athletics Director – Felix Hinojosa - 919 Hunter Drive, El Paso, Texas, 79915

Student Leadership & Campus Life –Nadia, Rivas - 919 Hunter Drive, El Paso, Texas, 79915

Center for Students with Disabilities Director - Maria A. Lopez – 919 Hunter Drive, El Paso, Texas, 79915

Title IX Coordinator (students) – Dr. Carlos C. Amaya - 919 Hunter, El Paso, TX 79915

Title IX Coordinator (employees)-Fields, Malena- 9050 Viscount, El Paso, TX 79925

The intent of including non-law enforcement personnel as campus security authorities is to acknowledge that many people, students in particular, are hesitant about reporting crimes to the police but may be more inclined to report incidents to other campus-affiliated individuals.

Examples of individuals who **do not** meet the criteria for being campus security authorities include a faculty member who does not have any responsibility for student and campus activity beyond the classroom. Clerical staff, custodians and maintenance personnel, and cafeteria staff are other examples of individuals who do not meet the criteria. A pastoral or professional counselor on campus does not have significant responsibility for student and campus activity and is exempt from reporting crimes to the campus police. A physician in a campus health center or a counselor in a counseling center whose only responsibility is to provide care to students is unlikely to have significant responsibility for campus and student activity.

All campus officials, counselors, faculty, and staff are encouraged to report all crimes, even if not required to do so. Such officials should also encourage the victim of a crime to report the circumstance to the EPCC Police Department. The police department understands the confidential nature of certain campus officials and will respect the confidentiality of information obtained for statistical reporting purposes. Only general information, such as general location, type of crime, and date of crime, are needed to report crime statistics. Complete reporting by all college members will assist in providing a secure campus environment.

- Responsibilities of Campus Security Authorities -

Due to complex reporting requirements, the most reasonable and effective way to manage the reporting is as follows:

If Campus Security Authorities observe any crime listed on the following list, or if any person reveals to a Campus Security Authority, **in good faith**, that they learned of, or were the victim of, a perpetrator of, or witness to any crime listed below, the Campus Security Authority must immediately notify the EPCC Police Department.

Clery Act crimes reported to local municipal, county, and state police will be included as long as the agencies notify the EPCC Police Department and the reported crime occurred in an area in which the institution is accountable. The EPCC Police Department contacts these agencies and makes a good-faith effort to obtain information on reportable Clery Act crimes. These will also include VAWA offenses.

- Reporting Crimes Outside of the Primary Jurisdiction of EPCC Police -

The EPCC Police Department makes a good-faith effort to stay cognizant of all criminal activity involving students at off-campus locations. Surrounding municipal, county, and state law enforcement agencies and federal agencies do not routinely inform campus police about incidents where their officers come in contact with EPCC students. If the conduct traces back to campus, agencies normally inform EPCC Police of that connection and possible additional suspect activity.

- Timely Warnings / Crime Alerts -

In order to keep the college community informed about serious crimes and security issues, “timely warnings” may be issued in the form of a Crime Alert. Crime Alerts are issued on a case-by-case basis in a manner that will provide notification to the campus community about certain reportable criminal incidents that occur on or very near the campuses. The institution must also believe the

criminal incident poses a continuing threat to the community, and the alert will aid in the prevention of similar crimes in the future. In the event that a situation arises, either on or off-campus, in the judgment of the Chief of Police of the El Paso Community College District, constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat, a district-wide “timely warning” will be issued to all campuses. The warning can be issued through electronic e-mail. The web page can also be used to inform students, faculty, and staff of the threat.

The timely warning will contain sufficient information about the nature of the threat so as to allow members of the campus community to take action to protect themselves, such as:

- ✓ A description of the incident, including date/time and location of occurrence
- ✓ Possible connection to previous incidents; if applicable
- ✓ Physical description of a suspect
- ✓ Composite drawing or photograph of a suspect, if available
- ✓ Date and time the warning was released
- ✓ Other relevant and important information

The crimes that typically result in a “timely warning” or Crime Alert are referred to herein as “Clery Act Crimes.” These crimes, as defined by 34 CFR668.46 (b) (c), are:

Criminal Homicide

Murder / Non-Negligent
Manslaughter Negligent
Manslaughter

Forcible Sex Offenses

Forcible Sexual Assault
Forcible Sodomy
Sexual Assault with an Object
Forcible Fondling

Non-Forcible Sex Offenses

Incest
Statutory Rape

Robbery

Aggravated Assault

Burglary

(Does not include burglary of a vehicle; considered theft/larceny)

Motor Vehicle Theft

Arson

These crimes must have occurred within those areas of the campus that are specifically defined in 34 CFR668.46 (a). These are broken down into four categories:

- On-campus property
- Residential facilities
- Non-Campus property
- Public property

EPCC will not necessarily issue “timely warnings” for every Clery Act criminal incident that is reported since the specific incident may not pose a continuing threat to the community. Certain Clery Act crimes, like motor vehicle theft, occur at random locations and infrequently on campuses. Suspect information is often never provided or able to be determined. This is true of the El Paso area, in general. Individuals should exercise due care and caution to avoid being a victim. Crime prevention tips are posted by the EPCC Police Department to help deter these crimes.

- Crime Alert – Off-Campus -

EPCC may post a Crime Alert (off-campus) for certain Clery Act crimes occurring outside the main patrol area of the EPCC police when timely notification is received by the EPCC police and the offense is considered to represent a serious or continuing threat to students and employees of EPCC, due to the nature of the crime and/or its proximity to campus.

EPCC believes strongly in supporting the spirit of the Clery Act by informing the community about certain crimes that are reported in the areas immediately surrounding our campuses, yet still outside the normal patrol areas of EPCC police.

- When are Timely Warnings Issued? -

The decision to issue a “timely warning” is made on a case-by-case basis in light of all facts surrounding the crime, including the nature of the crime, continuing danger to the community, and possible risk of compromising ongoing law enforcement efforts. “Timely” is not specifically defined by either the Clery Act or the Department of Education. The Department of Education has indicated that the warning should be issued as soon as the pertinent information is available. EPCC will issue the warning without delay once reported information has been substantiated and the determination made that an immediate threat to the community exists. Also, warnings may be issued for other offenses that do not fall under reporting protocols if it is determined that the warning will aid in preventing similar offenses from occurring.

- How are Timely Warnings issued? -

Depending on the particular circumstances of the crime, the EPCC Police Department may disseminate the information through e-mail to all students, faculty, and staff, electronic billboard signs, and the college website. Persons with information warranting a “timely warning” should report the situation to EPCC Police by phone at (915) 831-2200 or in person at the police department office at 919 Hunter Drive. It may also be reported at the local campus police office.

- Texas Penal Code Statutes Applicable to VAWA -

Sec. 42.072. STALKING. (a) A person commits an offense if the person, on more than one occasion and pursuant to the same scheme or course of conduct that is directed specifically at another person, knowingly engages in conduct that:

(1) constitutes an offense under Section 42.07, or that the actor knows or reasonably should know the other person will regard as threatening:

(A) bodily injury or death for the other person;

(B) bodily injury or death for a member of the other person's family or household or for an individual with whom the other person has a dating relationship or

- (C) that an offense will be committed against the other person's property;**
- (2) causes the other person, a member of the other person's family or household, or an individual with whom the other person has a dating relationship to be placed in fear of bodily injury or death or in fear that an offense will be committed against the other person's property, or to feel harassed, annoyed, alarmed, abused, tormented, embarrassed, or offended; and**
- (3) would cause a reasonable person to:**
 - (A) fear bodily injury or death for himself or herself;**
 - (B) fear bodily injury or death for a member of the person's family or household or for an individual with whom the person has a dating relationship;**
 - (C) fear that an offense will be committed against the person's property or**
 - (D) feel harassed, annoyed, alarmed, abused, tormented, embarrassed, or offended.**
- (b) An offense under this section is a felony of the third degree, except that the offense is a felony of the second degree if the actor has previously been convicted of an offense under this section or of an offense under any of the following laws that contain elements that are substantially similar to the elements of an offense under this section:**
 - (1) the laws of another state;**
 - (2) the laws of a federally recognized Indian tribe;**
 - (3) the laws of a territory of the United States; or**
 - (4) federal law.**
- (c) For purposes of this section, a trier of fact may find that different types of conduct described by Subsection (a), if engaged in on more than one occasion, constitute conduct that is engaged in pursuant to the same scheme or course of conduct.**

(d) In this section:

(1) "Dating relationship," "family," "household," and "member of a household" have the meanings assigned by Chapter 71, Family Code.

(2) "Property" includes a pet, companion animal, or assistance animal, as defined by Section 121.002, Human Resources Code.

Sec. 22.01. ASSAULT. (a) A person commits an offense if the person:

(1) intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes bodily injury to another, including the person's spouse;

(2) intentionally or knowingly threatens another with imminent bodily injury, including the person's spouse; or

(3) intentionally or knowingly causes physical contact with another when the person knows or should reasonably believe that the other will regard the contact as offensive or provocative.

(b) An offense under Subsection (a) (1) is a Class A misdemeanor, except that the offense is a felony of the third degree if the offense is committed against:

(1) a person the actor knows is a public servant while the public servant is lawfully discharging an official duty, or in retaliation or on account of an exercise of official power or performance of an official duty as a public servant;

(2) a person whose relationship to or association with the defendant is described by Section

71.0021(b), 71.003, or 71.005, Family Code, if:

(A) it is shown on the trial of the offense that the defendant has been previously convicted of an offense under this chapter, Chapter 19, or Section 20.03, 20.04, 21.11, or 25.11 against a person whose relationship to or association with the defendant is described by Section 71.0021(b), 71.003, or 71.005, Family Code; or

(B) the offense is committed by intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly impeding the normal breathing or circulation of the blood of the person by applying pressure to the person's throat or neck or by blocking the person's nose or mouth;

(3) a person who contracts with the government to perform a service in a facility as defined by Section 1.07(a) (14), Penal Code, or Section 51.02(13) or (14), Family Code, or an employee of that person:

(A) while the person or employee is engaged in performing a service within the scope of the contract if the actor knows the person or employee is authorized by the government to provide the service; or

(B) in retaliation for or on account of the person's or employee's performance of a service within the scope of the contract;

(4) a person the actor knows is a security officer while the officer is performing a duty as a security officer; or

(5) a person the actor knows is emergency services personnel while the person is providing emergency services.

(b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b) (2), an offense under Subsection (a)(1) is a felony of the second degree if:

(1) the offense is committed against a person whose relationship to or association with the defendant is described by Section 71.0021(b), 71.003, or 71.005, Family Code;

(2) it is shown on the trial of the offense that the defendant has been previously convicted of an offense under this chapter, Chapter 19, or Section 20.03, 20.04, or 21.11 against a person whose relationship to or association with the defendant is described by Section 71.0021(b), 71.003, or 71.005, Family Code; and

(3) the offense is committed by intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly impeding the normal breathing or circulation of the blood of the person by applying pressure to the person's throat or neck or by blocking the person's nose or mouth.

(c) An offense under Subsection (a) (2) or (3) is a Class C misdemeanor, except that the offense is:

(1) a Class A misdemeanor if the offense is committed under Subsection (a)(3) against an elderly individual or disabled individual, as those terms are defined by Section 22.04; or

(2) a Class B misdemeanor if the offense is committed by a person who is not a sports participant against a person the actor knows is a sports participant either:

(A) while the participant is performing duties or responsibilities in the participant's capacity as a sports participant; or

(B) in retaliation for or on account of the participant's performance of a duty or responsibility within the participant's capacity as a sports participant.

(d) For purposes of Subsection (b), the actor is presumed to have known the person assaulted was a public servant, a security officer, or emergency services personnel if the person was wearing a distinctive uniform or badge indicating the person's employment as a public servant or status as security officer or emergency services personnel.

(e) In this section:

(1) "Emergency services personnel" includes firefighters, emergency medical services personnel as defined by Section 773.003, Health and Safety Code, emergency room personnel, and other individuals who, in the course and scope of employment or as a volunteer, provide services for the benefit of the general public during emergency situations.

(3) "Security officer" means a commissioned security officer as defined by Section 1702.002, Occupations Code, or a noncommissioned security officer registered under Section 1702.221, Occupations Code.

(4) "Sports participant" means a person who participates in any official capacity with respect to an interscholastic, intercollegiate, or other organized amateur or professional athletic competition and includes an athlete, referee, umpire, linesman, coach, instructor, administrator, or staff member.

(f) For the purposes of Subsections (b) (2) (A) and (b-1) (2):

(1) a defendant has been previously convicted of an offense listed in those subsections committed against a person whose relationship to or association with the defendant is described by Section 71.0021(b), 71.003, or 71.005, Family Code, if the defendant was adjudged guilty of the offense or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere in return for a grant of deferred adjudication, regardless of whether the sentence for the offense was ever imposed or whether the sentence was probated and the defendant was subsequently discharged from community supervision; and

(2) a conviction under the laws of another state for an offense containing elements that are substantially similar to the elements of an offense listed in those subsections is a conviction of the offense listed.

(g) If conduct constituting an offense under this section also constitutes an offense under another section of this code, the actor may be prosecuted under either section or both sections.

- Texas Family Code Applicability -

Sec. 71.0021. DATING VIOLENCE. (a) "Dating violence" means an act, other than a defensive measure to protect oneself, by an actor that:

(1) is committed against a victim or applicant for a protective order:

(A) with whom the actor has or has had a dating relationship or

(B) because of the victim's or applicant's marriage to or dating relationship with an individual with whom the actor is or has been in a dating relationship or marriage; and

(2) is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the victim or applicant in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault.

(b) For purposes of this title, "dating relationship" means a relationship between individuals who have or have had a continuing relationship of a romantic or intimate nature. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on consideration of:

(1) the length of the relationship;

- (2) the nature of the relationship; and**
 - (3) the frequency and type of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.**
- (c) A casual acquaintanceship or ordinary fraternization in a business or social context does not constitute a "dating relationship" under Subsection (b).**

Sec. 71.003. FAMILY. "Family" includes individuals related by consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Sections 573.022 and 573.024, Government Code, individuals who are former spouses of each other, individuals who are the parents of the same child, without regard to marriage, and a foster child and foster parent, without regard to whether those individuals reside together.

Sec. 71.004. FAMILY VIOLENCE. "Family violence" means:

- (1) an act by a member of a family or household against another member of the family or household that is intended to result in physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault or that is a threat that reasonably places the member in fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or sexual assault, but does not include defensive measures to protect oneself;**
- (2) abuse, as that term is defined by Sections 261.001(1)(C), (E), (G), (H), (I), (J), and (K), by a member of a family or household toward a child of the family or household; or**
- (3) dating violence, as that term is defined by Section 71.0021.**

Domestic violence and dating violence are clarified and categorized when recording sexual assault statistics for Clery reporting purposes, which further enhances the offense in forcible and non-forcible sex offenses under UCR and federal and state statutes.

- Monitoring and Recording Criminal Activity -

The EPCC Police Department tracks and records index crimes occurring on campus and in those areas immediately contiguous to the campuses where students frequently access. These are categorized as:

- Non-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by EPCC that are used in direct support of, or in relation to the college's educational purposes; are frequently used by students and are not in the same reasonable contiguous geographic area of the college.
- Public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities that are within the campuses or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. The jurisdiction of the EPCC Police Department does not extend to public property contiguous to the campuses; therefore, the department has a limited role in investigating criminal activity in these locations. The department's role is limited to information sharing, cooperation, and coordination with the law enforcement agency having primary jurisdiction.

- Public Crime Log -

A crime log is kept for all crime activity for all campuses and is maintained by the EPCC Police Department. The crime log contains the nature of the crime, the date and time the crime was reported, the general location where the crime occurred, and the disposition of the case. This log is electronic and is posted on the EPCC website, available at:

<https://www.epcc.edu/Services/Police/daily-crime-logs>. The Open Campus Police Log contains activity for the current month and preceding months (over 60 days). Any copy of the log that is older than sixty days may be requested and will be made available within two business days. The log is available for review at any EPCC police office.

- Criminal Incidents within the Contiguous Area for Calendar Year 2020-2022

The EPCC Police Department obtains crime statistics from the El Paso Police Department and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office regarding criminal incidents occurring within the contiguous area surrounding each campus. These are included in the Clery reporting for each campus of the college.

- Hate / Bias Crimes -

These are reported by category of prejudice: any crime reported that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the victim's race (actual or perceived), gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, gender identity, or disability.

There were no hate or bias crimes reported on or occurring on adjacent public property for any campus for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

- Sex Offender Registry and Access to Related Information -

The Federal Campus Sex Crime Prevention Act, enacted on October 28, 2000, requires institutions of higher education to issue a statement advising the campus community where law enforcement agency information provided by a State concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained.

It also requires 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 out a vocation, or is a student.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 was amended to make clear that nothing in the Act may be construed to prohibit an educational institution from disclosing information provided to the institution concerning registered sex offenders and requires the Secretary of Education to take appropriate actions to notify educational institutions that disclosure of this information is permissible.

State law requires persons convicted of or placed on deferred community supervision for certain offenses to register as sexual offenders. Offenders who have committed “sexually violent” offenses must register for the remainder of their lives, even after completing probation or parole. Others may quit registering ten years after completing their terms of supervision.

Registered sex offenders are required to inform the college when they become enrolled as students, become employed by the college; or volunteer services on campus. They must also notify upon leaving the college. To learn if information of this nature has been provided to the college, contact the EPCC Police Department at 919 Hunter Drive or by calling (915)831-2200.

Information on sex offender registration files is available through the Texas Department of Public Safety website:

<https://publicsite.dps.texas.gov/SexOffenderRegistry/>

- Alcohol -

The college is dedicated to providing a healthy, comfortable, and productive environment for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Members of the college community are expected to maintain self-control. Conduct should be consistent with ideals of academic excellence, health, and responsible public behavior, including recognition of others' rights. The college is also guided by the Drug-Free Schools & Communities Act.

We recognize that the college is a community of free and open inquiry in which adults are encouraged to make responsible decisions in their lives, including abstinence or careful use of alcohol. The college recognizes that freedom of conscience determines such issues but cautions that such freedom does not imply a license to violate college policy or the law. There are disciplinary actions that can be brought against any student who engages in conduct that is prohibited by state, federal, or local law or college rules and regulations.

The college may impose such penalties for conduct relating to the unlawful use, possession, or distribution of alcohol, which can include disciplinary probation, suspension of rights and privileges, suspension for a specified period of time, expulsion, or such other penalty as may be deemed appropriate under the given circumstances.

- Texas Law Regarding Alcohol Possession and Consumption –

All members of the college community should be cognizant of and comply with state and local liquor laws. It is unlawful in Texas for any person under the age of twenty-one (21) to possess, purchase, or drink alcoholic beverages (except when with a parent or adult spouse). Providing alcoholic beverages to minors, other than where and when the law provides, is prohibited. A violation of this statute subjects the offender to law enforcement action, which may include arrest or a court appearance citation and may involve internal disciplinary action. It can also result in fines and loss of driving privileges upon conviction.

The El Paso Community College District prohibits the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages on any property owned by the college. This also extends to activities held on district property.

- Drugs -

EPCC students shall be responsible for compliance with all local, state, and federal laws regarding controlled substances, including but not limited to; use, sale, distribution, possession, or manufacture. Violations of any local, state, or federal laws regarding controlled substances may subject the person to disciplinary proceedings without regard to any criminal proceedings in local, state, or federal courts.

When standards of conduct regarding illicit drugs are violated, sanctions may be imposed by the Vice President of Student Services. Possible sanctions include but are not limited to, suspension, suspension of privileges, suspension for a specific period of time, or expulsion.

Sanctions imposed as a result of a conviction in the criminal court system for possession, distribution, or manufacture of controlled substances range from fines, probation, or imprisonment. The amount of fines, terms of probation, or years of imprisonment are generally contingent on the circumstances and the amount of drugs in possession, sold, distributed, or

manufactured and the type of drugs.

EPCC enforces all state and federal laws that prohibit the possession or sale of illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia. Additionally, the Vice-President of Student Services can suspend students found guilty of possessing drugs on campus even when adjudicated through the courts.

- Education Programs -

The college counseling centers work to assist those students who are at risk or have violated drug and alcohol policies. The centers can also assist students, faculty, and staff and can refer persons to outside agencies for assistance. VAWA requirements are also addressed. Additionally, some self-help resources are also listed on the webpage.

More information can be found on counseling centers at:

<https://www.epcc.edu/Services/Counseling>

Telephone numbers:

Valle Verde – 831-2642

Rio Grande – 831-4636

Trans-Mountain – 831-5186

Northwest – 831-8807

Mission Del Paso – 831-7094

Additional archival information regarding Drug-Free Schools and Campus Act and Penalties for Drug Offenses can be found at:

<https://www2.ed.gov/fund/grants-college.html?src=ft>

- Sexual Assault Policy -

EPCC is a community of trust whose very existence depends on adherence to standards of conduct. Student conduct that violates these standards is investigated by the Vice-President of Student Services. This includes cases involving sexual misconduct and/or sexual assault or attempted sexual assault. Sexual assault reporting is also required under the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013. College policies, training, education, and prevention programs and procedures are being revised to incorporate VAWA requirements. Persons are strongly encouraged to report any sexual assault.

Students, faculty, and staff are also being encouraged to make use of the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault website. This site provides information and resources aimed at the prevention of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. There is also additional information and resources provided in the event you have become a victim of these types of offenses. The web address is <https://www.nsvrc.org/organizations/240>

- Sexual Assault – Texas Penal Code 22.011 -

A person commits an offense if the person:

1. intentionally or knowingly:
 - A. Causes the penetration of the anus or sexual organ of another person by any means, without that person's consent;
 - B. Causes the penetration of the mouth of another person by the sexual organ of the actor without that person's consent or
 - C. Causes the sexual organ of another person, without that person's consent, to contact or penetrate the mouth, anus, or sexual organ of another person, including the actor; or
2. Intentionally or knowingly:
 - A. Causes the penetration of the anus or sexual organ of a child by any means;
 - B. Causes the penetration of the mouth of a child by the sexual organ of the actor;
 - C. Causes the sexual organ of a child to contact or penetrate the mouth, anus, or sexual organ of another person, including the actor;
 - D. Causes the anus of a child to contact the mouth, anus, or sexual organ of another person, including the actor; or
 - E. Causes the mouth of a child to contact the anus or sexual organ of another person, including the actor.
 - F. A sexual assault under Subsection (a) (1) is without the consent of the other person if:
 1. the actor compels the other person to submit or participate by the use of physical force or violence;
 2. the actor compels the other person to submit or participate by threatening to use force or violence against the other person, and the other person believes that the actor has the present ability to execute the threat;
 3. the other person has not consented, and the actor knows the other person is unconscious or physically unable to resist;

4. the actor knows that as a result of mental disease or defect the other person is at the time of the sexual assault incapable either of appraising the nature of the act or of resisting it
5. the other person has not consented and the actor knows the other person is unaware that the sexual assault is occurring;
6. the actor has intentionally impaired the other person's power to appraise or control the other person's conduct by administering any substance without the other person's knowledge;
7. the actor compels the other person to submit or participate by threatening to use force or violence against any person and the other person believes that the actor has the ability to execute the threat;
8. the actor is a public servant who coerces the other person to submit or participate;
9. the actor is a mental health services provider or a health care services provider who causes the other person, who is a patient or the former patient of the actor, to submit or participate by exploiting the other person's emotional dependency on the actor.
10. the actor is a clergyman who causes the other person to submit or participate by exploiting the other person's emotional dependency on the clergyman in the clergyman's professional character as a spiritual adviser; or
11. the actor is an employee of a facility where the other person is a resident, unless the employee and resident are formally or informally married to each other under Chapter 2 Family Code.

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- If You Have Been Sexually Assaulted -

Any person who may have been the victim or is aware of a victim of sexual assault on campus should immediately report the incident to EPCC Police. Students, faculty, and staff are strongly encouraged to report sexual assaults to EPCC Police, whether the assault occurs on or off campus, no matter who the alleged assailant is. Students may report sexual assaults to the EPCC Police Department or any other Campus Security Authority. **Reporting a sexual assault to college officials or filing a police report does not, in and of itself, spontaneously initiate criminal charges.**

If the assault occurred off campus, EPCC Police will assist the victim with notifications to the appropriate law enforcement agency having primary jurisdiction where the offense occurred.

It is important for persons who have been sexually assaulted to seek medical attention. A medical examination specifically tailored for sexual assault victims is conducted by the hospital staff. This will aid in preserving evidence of the sexual assault if the person who has been sexually assaulted decides to prosecute. It is important for persons who have been sexually assaulted to contact police, who will arrange for immediate medical attention and will initiate an investigation if the victim desires to do so.

The EPCC Police Department investigates all sexual assault complaints with sensitivity, patience, compassion, and respect for the victim. Investigations are conducted in compliance with requirements established under state law and guidelines from the El Paso County District Attorney's Office.

Victims may use a pseudonym to protect their identity; authorized by the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 57. A pseudonym is a set of initials or a fictitious name chosen by the victim to be used in all public files and records concerning the sexual assault.

Victims of sexual assault are not required to file criminal charges; however, doing so is encouraged.

Students may report sexual assaults to the EPCC Police Department or to any other Campus Security Authority. It should be noted that reporting a sexual assault to anyone other than the police will delay any criminal probe and could conceivably hinder the criminal prosecution of the person responsible.

- If Sexually Assaulted -

- **Call (915) 831-2200 on any campus and if off-campus 911**
- **If you do not have a phone and are on any EPCC campus – use any emergency call box**
- **Do not shower, bathe or douche**
- **Have a trusted friend take you to Sierra Medical Center- it is the only hospital in El Paso County that performs sexual assault examinations. Take the clothing in which**

you were assaulted with you to the hospital in a paper bag (do not place into a plastic bag). If the assault was reported to the police, clothing and other items ought to be provided to you while at the hospital.

➤ **Remember – It is NOT your fault**

- How to File a Sexual Assault Complaint -

If a complainant (victim) does not wish to file criminal charges but still wishes to proceed with formal administrative charges, an investigation is conducted and the case is referred to the Vice-President of Student Services. Students may contact the Vice President of Student Services at (915) 831-2229.

Procedures for discipline and student standards of conduct are outlined in the EPCC Student Code of Conduct. These procedures are being reevaluated to comply with VAWA requirements. The Code of Conduct also can be found online at:

<https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/policies>

- Changes in Academic Situation -

The Vice-President of Student Services can assist the victim with their concerns, such as, but not limited to, class schedule changes, withdrawal procedures, or campus relocation. If the reporting student provides credible evidence that the accused student poses a continuing danger to person or property or poses an ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process, the Vice-President of Student Services may take interim action against the accused student as applicable.

- Procedures for Campus Disciplinary Action -

A student may also choose to report the assault to the Vice President of Student Services for disciplinary action regardless of whether or not the student has decided to pursue criminal charges. A student may also file a report of sexual assault against another student. Contact the Vice-President of Student Services at (915) 831-2229.

With the implementation of the requirements of VAWA, the college is currently revisiting policies and procedures with respect to the standards of evidence that will be used in any institutional conduct proceeding arising from such a report of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Other items being addressed include; the victim's options for and available assistance in changing academic, living, transportation, and working situations, if requested and reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim elects to report the offense or not to law enforcement.

Victims may also have an advocate present during the process and the rights of the accused and victim are respected. Also, being explored is what appropriate training is to be provided to personnel involved in administering these types of actions.

- Sanctions -

Disciplinary actions assessed in a particular case will depend upon the nature of the conduct involved, the circumstances and conditions which existed at the time the student engaged in such conduct, and the results which followed as a natural consequence of such conduct.

Sanctions can include:

- **Disciplinary warning**
- **Disciplinary probation**
- **Withholding of grades, transcripts, or degree**
- **Bar against readmission**
- **Drop from current enrollment**
- **Suspension of rights and privileges**
- **Suspension**
- **Expulsion**
- **Other penalty as deemed appropriate under the circumstances**

- Campus Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights -

The United States Congress enacted the "Campus Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights" in 1992, as a portion of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972. This law requires that all universities provide sexual assault victims certain basic rights, such as:

- ❖ **Accuser and accused must have the same opportunity to have others present**
- ❖ **Both parties shall be informed of the outcome of any disciplinary proceeding**

- ❖ **Survivors shall be informed of their options to notify law enforcement**
- ❖ **Survivors shall be notified of counseling services**
- ❖ **Survivors shall be notified of options for changing academic living situation**

- Assisting a Student if a Sexual Assault Occurs on campus -

If the assault occurred off campus, the EPCC Police Department will assist a victim with notifying the appropriate law enforcement agency having primary jurisdiction where the crime occurred.

College counselors are available to also assist in the notification of proper authorities and to support a victim of sexual assault. Police and Counseling Centers can assist with referrals to mental health agencies and other service providers for the victims of sexual assault.

Counseling and support services outside of EPCC, in El Paso and surrounding areas:

Center Against Sexual and Family Violence – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;

Crisis Line (915) 593-7300

Toll-Free: 1-800-727-0511

Other service providers:

La Pinon Sexual Assault Recovery Services of Southern New Mexico

Toll-Free: 1-888-595-7273

Las Cruces 1-575-526-3437

Casa Amiga in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico

(01 656) 690-8300 or (01 656) 690-8301

New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence

1-505-246- 9240

- Weapons Policy -

As of the preparation of this report, it is currently a felony to intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly possess a firearm (without a concealed handgun permit), or prohibited weapon on the physical premises of a school or higher educational institution, including any buildings or passenger transportation vehicles under the direct control of the educational institution (Texas Penal Code, Chapter 46). This prohibition does not apply to peace officers and duly authorized federal agents; whether on or off duty (Texas Penal Code, 46.15).

However, recent changes to state law (S.B. No. 11 & H.B. No. 910) will now allow the holders of a concealed handgun permit to conceal carry firearms on their person in the near future. This change in statute was signed into law this year (2015) at the conclusion of the last legislative session. The firearm will no longer need to be concealed while carried, as was previously required. Most provisions of this new statute will become effective on January 1, 2016. **Note the caveat below:**

CAVEAT - The statute allows the carrying of firearms on junior public college campuses, i.e. El Paso Community College; however, this provision of the statute became effective on August 1, 2017. Open carry is not allowed on public college campuses, and any weapon carried after the effective date must be concealed. Except in the (clearly marked) designated gun-free zones. For other types of colleges, not public junior colleges, the statute allows private colleges to opt out of allowing the carrying of concealed weapons; provided they are in compliance with notice requirements.

The college has set current policies and procedures in order to adapt to this stipulation of state law and to safeguard the welfare of faculty, staff, visitors, and students. This also entails addressing carrying provisions applying to the forthcoming campus to be located on Ft. Bliss, which also will include applicable federal law, as Ft. Bliss is a military reservation.

-FIRE SAFETY -

The El Paso Community College District does not maintain nor provide any residential student housing facilities, either on or off campus, commonly referred to as dormitories. The college does not provide fraternity houses or sorority houses. Clery Act requirements regarding the maintenance of a Fire Log and other associated reporting requirements are applicable if the college has or provides student residences.

College buildings are equipped with fire alarms and fire suppression systems. These systems are checked for operation and fire drills are conducted at unscheduled intervals.

EPCC does not maintain a separate Fire Log but does report Arson crimes in accordance with UCR reporting requirements. EPCC police do respond to fires or alarms occurring on campus.

- GENERAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE -

The El Paso Community College is developing an Incident Manual that includes information about college operating status parameters, incident priorities, and performance expectations. The plan is based on the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Operational plans for shelter-in-place and evacuation guidelines are also being developed, using this model. Departments are responsible for developing and submitting contingency plans and operations plans for their departments for inclusion in this plan.

EPCC police officers have received training in Incident Command and Active Shooter. When a serious incident occurs that causes an immediate threat to the campus, first responders are usually EPCC Police, who can be supplemented by El Paso Police, El Paso County Sheriff's Office, and the El Paso Fire Department, Clint Fire Department, and West Valley Fire Department. Other EPCC departments and city, county, state, or federal agencies can also be involved in responding to an incident.

The college routinely tests its emergency notification system to ensure its operational status.

- Notification to the College Community Regarding an Immediate Threat -

The EPCC Chief of Police receives information from various offices and departments on campus. If it is determined that there is an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all members of the college community, the Chief of Police will collaborate to determine the content of the message and will use some or all of the systems to communicate the threat to the EPCC community or to the appropriate segment of the community. The Chief of Police and the college's I.T. Department will, without undue delay and taking into

account the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system, unless issuing a notification will, in the judgment of the first responders, compromise the efforts to contain, respond to, assist a victim or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

In the case of a serious incident that poses an immediate threat to members of the EPCC community, the college has systems in place for communicating information quickly. Some or all of these methods may be activated in the event of an immediate threat. The methods of communication include network emails, text messaging, and telephones.

EPCC utilizes a text message service called Tezano Alert. This is the primary source for notification to the campus community regarding immediate threats. E-mails are also sent to students, staff, and faculty.

To sign up for the Tezano Alert service, go to: <https://www.epcc.edu/Services/Police/tezano-alert>
The college will post updates during a critical incident on the EPCC website. Members of the larger EPCC community interested in receiving information about emergencies on campus should enroll in the emergency text message system (Tezano Alert).

- Emergency Evacuation -

In cases where there is an imminent and immediate threat to the college community, EPCC has designed a notification system that employs campus-wide text messages and e-mails. In addition, low-tech solutions can include portable radios, telephones, and runners delivering messages delivering information by word of mouth, all with the goal of notification, regardless of the disaster-related failures of communications. Primary notification is through Tezano Alert.

Should the need to evacuate the campus arise, fire alarms may be used. Faculty and staff will advise students to evacuate to the areas surrounding the buildings. Cars may not be allowed to leave or restricted to certain egress points, thereby permitting access to the campus and parking lots for emergency vehicles.

- Shelter in Place -

If an incident occurs and the buildings or areas around where you are have become unstable, the air outdoors becomes dangerous due to toxic or irritating substances in the air; it is usually safer to stay indoors because leaving the area may expose you to those dangers. **Thus, to “shelter in place” means to make a shelter of the building you are in, and with a few adjustments, this location can be made even safer and more comfortable until safe to go outside.**

- Basic Guidance -

If an incident occurs and the building you are in is not damaged, stay inside, seeking an interior room – until you are told it is safe to come out. If the building is damaged, take your personal belongings with you (do not return once outside) and follow the evacuation instructions. Once evacuated, seek shelter at the nearest college building quickly. Follow directions of fire or police personnel on the scene.

Although it is unlikely you will ever need shelter in place, it is helpful to know what to do; just in case. Normally, you should plan to stay inside for about 12 hours – often, much less. Staff and faculty can keep in their office additional items in the event of this happening:

- **Extra prescription medication**
- **Basic first aid supplies**
- **Non-perishable foods**
- **Bottled water**
- **Flashlight**
- **Battery-operated radio**
- **Batteries**
- **Telephone ***

*** Remember: services may not be available in a disaster**

- How Will You Know to Shelter in Place? -

A shelter-in-place notification can be issued by EPCC Police, college employees, or local, state, or federal government. Notification may also come over the radio or television, i.e., Emergency Broadcast System (EBS). The college can also announce the need to shelter in place using the Tejano Alert system.

- How to Shelter in Place -

No matter where you are, the basic steps to shelter in place will generally remain constant. Should the need ever arise; follow these steps unless instructed by emergency personnel to do otherwise.

- **If inside – stay where you are; if outside, go to the nearest building**
- **Collect supplies (food, water, etc.)**
- **Locate a room to shelter inside:**
 - ✓ **interior room**
 - ✓ **above ground level**
 - ✓ **least amount of windows**
 - ✓ **make a list of people with you**
 - ✓ **call or have someone call the list to EPCC police with the location**
 - ✓ **make yourself comfortable**

- Weather-Related Emergencies -

In the event of a weather-related emergency, such as a tornado or other severe thunderstorm; students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to heed the following precautions:

- ✓ **Tornado Warning – seek shelter inside an interior room within the building in which you are located at the time of the warning – avoid being by windows, doors, and outside walls**
- ✓ **Do not drive to the shelter, unless you are already in a vehicle when the warning is issued – drive to the nearest building or seek shelter in a ditch or ravine**
- ✓ **If the building has a designated shelter area, go there – if not, go to an interior room on the lowest level (bathroom, closet, hall, etc.)**
- ✓ **If a sturdy piece of furniture is available, use it for cover and stay away from windows**

- PROTECTING YOURSELF AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT -

Sometimes things may be out of your control, but women (and men) can take measures to help prevent sexual assault. **Importantly, one needs to be able to reason and think clearly - alcohol and drugs can impair your judgment; your ability to make clear decisions and lower your inhibitions.**

Keep the following general prevention tips in mind to help minimize risk:

- **If you're going on a first date or a blind date, go to a public place with a group of friends; such as a restaurant**
- **Make sure your cell phone is charged and you have money for a taxi**
- **Keep your drink with you at all times if you're at a bar or party and don't accept drinks from people you don't know or trust**
- **Listen to your gut feeling: if a situation seems suspicious or you sense you might be in danger, leave immediately and go to a safe place**
- **Know your sexual limits and remember you have a right to say "NO"; no matter the circumstances**
- **Communicate your limits firmly and directly**
- **Talk to your friends; agree to look out for each other while out – if you think someone intercede is at risk for sexual assault, consider it an emergency and get involved**
- **If leaving with someone; let them know with whom, where you are going, and when you will be back**

Additionally, individuals should also keep the following in mind:

- **Do not assume that your date is interested in or wants sex; no matter what happens when together**
- **Be sure you and your potential partner clearly communicate your intentions to each other**
- **Even if you have had sex with the person before -- “NO” means “NO”**
- **Listen to the other person; stop if you are receiving ambiguous messages or mixed signals**
- **Consent to one type of sexual activity is not consent to engage in other forms of sexual activity**
- **Date rape is illegal and has considerable consequences**

Bystanders and friends have a commitment to look out for each other’s well-being. If someone is at peril of sexual assault - get involved; don’t wait for another to step up. Some guidelines to keep in mind and follow, as to how to intercede, include:

- **Approach everybody as a friend**
- **Don’t be aggressive or violent**
- **Be honest and direct**
- **Keep yourself safe**
- **If needed, get assistance from other bystanders**
- **If the situation becomes dangerous – call the police**

Every person can help inform others about and assist in combating sexual assault, by:

- **Assisting friends with violent feelings or behaviors in getting help**
- **Speak up against false comments regarding sexual assault**
- **Speak up against jokes regarding sexual assault**
- **Educate people about sexual assault**

- CRIME PREVENTION TIPS -

Generally:

- ✓ **Avoid walking alone, especially after dark**
- ✓ **Contact EPCC Police for a safety escort on campus - (915) 831-2200**
- ✓ **Be alert of your surroundings**
- ✓ **Use the “Buddy System” when walking at night**
- ✓ **Avoid shortcuts – the shortest route is not always the safest**
- ✓ **Walk away from alleys and bushes**
- ✓ **Dress for mobility – especially after dark**
- ✓ **Avoid deserted areas, poorly lit streets and pathways**
- ✓ **Never jog alone after dark**
- ✓ **When walking or jogging – go against the flow of traffic**
- ✓ **If harassed from a vehicle – walk or run in the opposite direction of vehicle travel**
- ✓ **Do not jog wearing stereo headphones – be alert to what’s happening around you**
- ✓ **Don’t become distracted by messaging on phone**

Personal Safety:

Vehicles

- ✓ **Scan the area**
- ✓ **Have your keys out and ready**
- ☐ **Don’t overload yourself with packages**
- ☐ **Prior to entering your vehicle, quickly scan the back-seat area**
- ☐ **Once inside, lock all doors**
- ☐ **Do not open the door to strangers**
- ☐ **Keep valuables out of sight, lock them in the trunk**
- ☐ **Park in well-lighted areas**
- ☐ **If driving a small car, avoid parking next to a larger vehicle**
- ☐ **Don’t let your gas tank go below ¼ of a tank**

Buildings

- ☐ **Be aware of your surroundings**
- ☐ **Be alert**
- ☐ **Avoid entering an elevator occupied by only one person**
- ☐ **Avoid isolated corridors or hallways**
- ☐ **In an elevator, stand near the controls and locate the emergency button**

Personal Property

- ☐ **Never leave valuables unattended**
- ☐ **Register or document your valuables – identifying numbers, type, make**
- ☐ **Keep valuables from view in vehicles – secure in the trunk**
- ☐ **Remember:**
 - **Hide your Valuables**
 - **Lock your vehicle, Take your keys**
- ☐ **If you use a computer – install anti-virus programs regularly update and download system security patches**
- ☐ **You may want to install tracking software in the event your computer is lost or stolen**
- ☐ **Engrave a personal number on your property that only you would know (four or more numbers, such as; the last four or five numbers of your license or identification card number, for example)**

Personal Protection

- ☐ **Be aware of your surroundings**
- ☐ **Know your campus and the locations of emergency phones**
- ☐ **Use the “Buddy System” at night**
- ☐ **Call EPCC Police for safety escort on campus – (915) 831-2200**
- ☐ **Never accept a ride from a stranger**
- ☐ **Never offer a ride to a stranger**
- ☐ **Keep your vehicle locked at all times**
- ☐ **Do not park in unsafe or dimly lit areas**
- ☐ **Always have your keys out when walking to the vehicle**
- ☐ **Check the back seat before entering your vehicle**
- ☐ **Using an ATM – have someone with you**

Protecting Your Identity

Have a strong username and password for starting up your Computer

- ☐ **Do not give out personal information to any person or business you did not initiate the contact with; either by telephone or internet**
- ☐ **Check to make sure your connection is secure when conducting business (https)**
- ☐ **Make sure anti-virus and security patches are up-to-date and operating**
- ☐ **Use a strong password (at a minimum, 8 characters; mixing letters, numbers, and special characters, so as to appear random; avoid common words and names, birth dates, anniversary dates, pet's names, etc.)**
- ☐ **Encrypt your files and e-mails if possible when using other Wi-Fi networks**
- ☐ **Do not loan your computer out and do not allow someone else to connect portable devices to the computer (may contain malware or viruses)**
- ☐ **Do not open or respond to e-mails from persons or companies you do not know or have not asked for information from**
- ☐ **Do not open or respond to e-mails indicating you can make a lot of money, have inherited money, or have won a contest or lottery**
- ☐ **Do not post personally identifying information on social networks**
- ☐ **If posting photographs, disable the GPS information contained in the photograph prior to posting it**
- ☐ **If you conduct a lot of business transactions online, you may want to subscribe to an identity protection service in the event your personal information is compromised (as with any service; check them out closely)**

- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE -

Do You Feel Safe at Home?

Does a person you love.....

- **Threaten to hurt you, your children, or someone else in your family?**
- **Say it is your fault if he or she hits you, then say it will not happen again (but it does).**
- **Put you down in public or keep you from contacting family or friends?**
- **Throw you down, push, hit, choke, kick, or slap you?**
- **Force you to have sex when you don't want to?**

Just one “yes” answer may mean that you are in an abusive relationship.

You are not alone and you do have choices!

No one deserves to be hurt – you deserve to be safe at home!

What Can You Do?

- **Call 911 if you are in danger or need help**
- **It is hard to decide to leave – when you’re ready, you need to have a safety plan**
- **Call the National Hotline to get help and to formulate a safety plan 1-800-799-SAFE (1-800-799-7233)**
- **Call the Center Against Sexual & Family Violence hotline at 1-800-727-0511 or (915) 593-7300.**
- **Teach your children how to stay out of the fights**
- **Teach them to call 911 and where to go when they are scared**
- **Talk to someone about what is going on (they may be able to help)**
- **You and your children need to have bags packed and ready**
- **Leave the bags with someone you trust**
- **Have cash or credit cards in the bags**
- **Include medicines, important papers, extra clothing for yourself and your children, and some toys**
- **Include coins, pen, and paper in case you need to use a pay phone**
- **Hide extra car keys and house keys outside your house, in case you must leave in a hurry**

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

<i>EMERGENCY OFF CAMPUS - FIRE / POLICE / AMBULANCE</i>	911
<i>EMERGENCY ON CAMPUS</i>	(915) 831-2200
<i>EPCC POLICE (ALL CAMPUSES)</i>	(915) 831-2200
<i>VICE-PRESIDENT OF STUDENT SERVICES</i>	(915) 831-2229
<i>EPCC COUNSELING CENTER (VALLE VERDE)</i>	(915) 831-2642
<i>HOSPITALS OF PROVIDENCE SIERRA CAMPUS</i>	(915) 747-4000
<i>UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER OF EL PASO</i>	(915) 544-1200
<i>EL PASO POLICE DEPARTMENT (NON-EMERGENCY)</i>	(915) 832-4400
<i>EL PASO FIRE DEPARTMENT (NON-EMERGENCY)</i>	(915) 212-5600
<i>EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (NON-EMERGENCY)</i>	(915) 546-2280
<i>CENTER AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT AND FAMILY VIOLENCE</i>	(915) 593-7300
<i>MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE</i>	1-800-950-6264
<i>TEXAS ROAD CONDITIONS</i>	1-800-452-9292
<i>NEW MEXICO ROAD CONDITIONS</i>	1-800-432-4269
<i>TEXAS ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE</i>	1-800-525-5555
<i>NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE</i>	1-800-799-7233

THE JEANNE CLERY ACT
INFORMATION
&
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

❖ **Security on Campus**

<http://securityoncampus.org>

❖ **U.S. Department of Education**

<http://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov>

❖ **Jeanne Clery / Campus Save Act**

<https://www.clerycenter.org/the-clery-act>

❖ **Texas Association Against Sexual Assault** www.Taasa.org

❖ **Casa Amiga**

<http://www.casa-amiga.org.mx>

+52 656 690 8300

❖ **La Pinon Sexual Assault Recovery Services of Southern
New Mexico** <https://www.lapinon.org/>

1 (575) 526-3437 (Las Cruces)

- ❖ **Center Against Sexual Assault and Family Violence**
www.casfv.org
Crisis Line (915) 593-7300

- ❖ **Crime Victims' Rights Council of El Paso**
<https://www.givegab.com/nonprofits/crime-victims-rights-council-of-el-paso>

- ❖ **Not Alone**
<https://youth.gov/federal-links/notalonegov-together-against-sexual-assault>

- ❖ **Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Las Cruces, NM)**
1-800-799-7233

- ❖ **El Paso District County Attorney's Office (Protective Orders)**
(915) 546-2050

- ❖ **Child Protective Services**
1-800-252-5400

- ❖ **Adult Protective Services**
(915) 834-5743

- ❖ **El Paso Police Department Victim Services Assistance**
(915) 212-4011

- ❖ **El Paso County Sheriff's Office Crime Victims Services**
(915) 538-2217

- ❖ **Battering Intervention and Protection Program**
(915) 593-7300

- ❖ **National Domestic Violence Hotline**
1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

Disclaimer: Internet links and phone numbers were valid as of 09-26-2023

**EL PASO COMMUNITY
COLLEGE POLICE
DEPARTMENT OFFICES &
TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

POLICE DISPATCHER (915) 831-2200

(Available 24 hours; 7 days a week – Located at Valle Verde Campus)

VALLE VERDE CAMPUS

**919 Hunter Drive, Bldg. C, Room C-101 El Paso,
TX 79915
(915) 831-2897**

MISSION DEL PASO CAMPUS

**10700 Gateway East, Bldg. A, Room A-114 El
Paso, TX 79927
(915) 831-7155 / 7006**

TRANSMOUNTAIN CAMPUS

**9570 Gateway North, Room 1703 El
Paso, TX 79924
(915) 831-5048 / 5041**

RIO GRANDE CAMPUS

**823 N. Oregon
El Paso, TX 79902
(915) 831-4742 / 4743 / 4746**

NORTHWEST CAMPUS

**6701 South Desert Boulevard, Room
14 El Paso, TX 79932
(915) 831-8911 / 8935**

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CENTER

**9050 Viscount, Bldg. A, Room A-
108 El Paso, TX 79925
(915) 831-6633 / 6656 / 6657**