



Valdosta State University is an equal opportunity educational institution. It is not the intent of the institution to discriminate against any applicant for admission or any student or employee of the institution based on the sex, race, religion, color, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation of the individual. It is the intent of the institution to comply with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and subsequent Executive Orders as well as Title IX, Equal Pay Act of 1963, Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

We encourage all members of the University community to report all crimes and other emergencies to the Valdosta State University Police in a timely manner. The University Police have a dispatch center that is available by phone at 229-259-5555 or in person twenty-four hours a day at the Oak Street Parking Deck, 2nd floor, 1410 North Oak Street, Valdosta, GA. Though there are many resources available, University Police should be notified of any crime, whether or not an investigation continues, to ensure the University can assess any and all security concerns and inform the community if there is a significant threat to the Valdosta State University community.

The University has emergency phones at strategic locations on the University campus. Emergency phones provide direct communications to the University Police Dispatch Center. The caller can maintain contact with the dispatcher until the police arrive at their location. VSU Police personnel make routine checks to ensure the phones are operating properly.

The University Police's Silent Witness reporting program can be found and accessed through the Department's website: <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/forms/vsu-police-department-silent-watch-form.php>.

While Valdosta State University prefers that community members promptly report all crimes and other emergencies directly to the University Police at 229-259-5555 or to local police agencies through 911, we also recognize that some may prefer to report to other individuals or University offices. The Clery Act recognizes certain University officials and offices as "Campus Security Authorities (CSA)." The Act defines these individuals as being an "official of an institution who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline and campus judicial proceedings. An official is defined as any person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution."

While the University has identified several hundred CSAs, we officially designate the following offices as places

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Director of Human Resources

The University Police prepares this report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Crime Statistics Act using information maintained by University Police, information provided by other University offices such as Student Affairs, Residence Life, other Campus Security Authorities, and information provided by local law enforcement agencies surrounding the main campus. Each of these offices provide updated policy information and crime data for inclusion in this report.

This report provides statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus, in certain off-campus buildings or property owned, leased, or controlled by Valdosta State University.

The University Police Department protects and serves the Valdosta State community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Department is responsible for a number of campus safety and security programs including Emergency Management, community Safety and Security education, physical security, behavioral/physical threat assessment, special event management and security technology.

The mission of the Valdosta State University Police Department is to preserve a safe and secure campus environment where diverse social, cultural, and academic values are allowed to develop and prosper through a combination of reactive, proactive, and educational law enforcement services.

The Department is comprised comp

The University Police maintains a cooperative relationship with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, the Valdosta Police Department, the Lowndes County Sheriff's Department and surrounding police agencies. This includes inter-operative radio capability, training programs, special events coordination and investigation of serious incidents.

The Valdosta State University Police department participates in an Inter-municipal Mutual Aid Agreement that authorizes police officers and

In an effort to provide timely notice to the campus community in the event of a Clery Act crime that may pose a serious or ongoing threat to members of the community, the University Police issues "Crime Alerts." The University Police will generally issue Crime Alerts for the following crimes:

The University Police Department is responsible for the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). This plan is designed to be an all-hazards disaster response and emergency management plan that complies with FEMA guidelines for Higher Education that includes planning, mitigation, response, and recovery actions.

Our priorities are:

- Life safety, infrastructure integrity, and environmental protection during an emergency
- Coordination with the university departments to write, maintain, test, and exercise the EOP
- Cooperation, Integration, and Mutual Aid with local, state, and federal planning, response and public safety agencies and their EOP.

A summary of the University's current emergency response procedures is located at: <http://www.valdosta.edu/student/emergency/emergency-quick-reference-guide.php>. Included at this web page is detailed information regarding the University's emergency notification policy, including how to enroll in the emergency notification system to ensure you receive emergency notices on University and cellular phones.

messages within minutes of the occurrence of an incident. These messages may go out as text messages, emails, University computer workstation screen messages, RSS feeds (banner) across the home page on the University's network or via recorded messages.

Valdosta State University performs a University-wide annual test of the system. The following procedures outline the process the University uses when issuing emergency notifications.

In the event of a situation that poses an immediate threat to members of the campus community, the University has various systems in place for communicating information quickly. Some or all of these methods of communication may be activated in the event of emergency notification to all or a segment of the campus community. These methods of communication include the mass notification system, RAVE, the University's e-mail system, and verbal announcement within a building and public address system on police cars. The University will establish a telephone call-in center to communicate with the University community during an emergency situation.

The Department of Public Safety and/or other campus first responders may become aware of a critical incident or other emergency situation that potentially affects the health and/or safety of the campus community. Generally, campus first responders become aware of these situations when they are reported to the Police Dispatch Center or upon discovery during patrol or other assignments.

Once first responders confirm that there is, in fact, an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all members of the campus community, first responders will notify supervisors in the University Police Department or other authorized University office to issue an emergency notification.

The University's authorized representatives will immediately initiate all or some portions of the University's emergency notification system. If, in the professional judgment of first responders, issuing a notification potentially compromises efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency, the University may elect to delay issuing an emergency notification. As soon as the condition that may compromise efforts is no longer present, the University will issue the emergency notification to the campus community.

University and/or local first responders on the scene of a critical incident or dangerous situation will assist those preparing the emergency notification with determining what segment or segments of the University community should receive the notification. Generally, the entire campus community will receive the emergency notification. In addition to the emergency

At Valdosta State University, administrative buildings are open from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Fridays. Academic buildings are scheduled to be open through a campus system based on the needs of the individual school. Access to individual classrooms and laboratories is limited to those enrolled in the courses meeting there and by the authority of the faculty person teaching the individual classes. Access to closed buildings after hours is limited by the faculty approval process.

VSU police officers are responsible for checking university buildings and other properties daily. Campus buildings are controlled by access card reader restricted access. Plant Operations schedules the opening and closing of buildings (via electronic locking systems) based on the needs of the faculty and special events. Many campus facilities, buildings and parking areas are under 24-hour video surveillance. Key issuance is based on employment status and the rules and regulations of the University Key Shop.

The main campus is not a gated community and during business hours many areas are open to the public. Cultural and athletic events are held in the University facilities which are open to the public along with other facilities such as the bookstore and library.

At Valdosta State University, all residence halls operate under a computerized Access Control and Security Monitoring System. Identification cards are coded so that only students who are residents in a particular hall are authorized electronic access entry to that hall; the system denies entry to all unauthorized persons. When any exterior emergency exit door is left ajar, an audible alarm is activated. Residence hall staff is responsible for checking and securing doors, when needed. When a door is malfunctioning, personnel are summoned for immediate repair. Remember to lock your doors and windows. All residence hall and apartment exterior doors are equipped with locks and with crash bars to ensure a quick emergency exit.

Only residents and their invited guests are permitted in the living areas of the residence halls. It is the resident's responsibility to ensure that his/her guest is aware of the University and residence hall policies. Guests are not provided with room keys or door access cards. Guests of the opposite sex must be escorted by a resident of the building at all times. All exterior doors are locked 24 hours a day. It is the responsibility of residents and staff members to challenge or

In addition to the many programs offered by the University Police and other University offices, the University has established a number of policies and procedures related to ensuring a reasonably safe campus community. These policies include:

Valdosta State University is obligated to provide all students with the University regulations, policies, and procedures governing student conduct. Valdosta State University policies and procedures are included in the Student Code of Conduct for Students which is published on the Student Conduct Website at: <https://www.valdosta.edu/admin4> (t)r ubdmidee

was signed by Governor Deal and went into effect on July 1, 2017. It allows for anyone with a valid Georgia Weapons Carry License to carry a handgun in a concealed manner on property owned or leased by public colleges and universities, with some exceptions. Details pertaining to this bill and a video to explain the changes in the law can be located at the following website:

<http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance->

Sex Signals (Consent)	Outreach	Counseling	Annually
Rape Aggression Defense	Prevention	Police Department	Ongoing
Mental Health Awareness	Students	Counseling Center	Ongoing
By-Stander Intervention Training	Prevention	RSVP Task Force	Ongoing
CSA Training	Awareness	2.9 Police Department	r480 Ongoing

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Take Back

Valdosta State University is committed to providing a safe learning and working environment, and in compliance with federal law has adopted policies and procedures to prevent and respond to incidents of sexual violence including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. These guidelines apply to all students, faculty, staff, contractors and visitors.

Theft, disorderly conduct, and alcohol related offenses are very common on university campuses. However, they do not stand alone. Despite law enforcement's efforts, serious crimes do occur on campuses. It is always important to report any suspicious activity to campus police and to remain alert to your surroundings, use well-lit areas to travel and utilize the buddy system or campus escort service when alone.

On the campus, and off campus, one needs to know their surroundings, they need to be aware of where they are and who is near them, they need to be alert and call for help if needed. Reporting suspicious people or activity is y ied 2 (mt (e)4 (po (pe)4 (T)Tj1.1)-12 (s)TJ4.1w [fo)-3 (op(m)-2 (a)4 (i)cFi4p4

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intimidation or coercion, by ignoring or acting in spite of objections of another, or by taking advantage of the incapacitation of another, where the respondent knows or reasonably should have known of such incapacitation. Consent is also absent when the activity in question exceeds the scope of consent previously given. Past consent does not imply present or future consent. Silence or an absence of resistance does not imply consent. Minors under the age of 16 cannot legally consent under Georgia law. Either party can withdraw consent at any time by using clear

While these definitions are clear

<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/student-handbook.php>

Please review the aforementioned web site to review procedures, policies and protocols for reporting and addressing allegations of student sexual misconduct. The University provides the following to all sexual assault victims:

Courteous, professional assistance in taking assault

On March 7, 2013, President Obama signed the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, which amended sections of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Clery Act. The following definitions are provided to clarify VAWA related incidents:

Domestic Violence:

Includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction. Georgia law defines domestic violence under the term "family violence." The term family violence means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts bet

clothing that has been removed which could contain evidence (blood, hair, semen) should be placed into a paper bag and given to authorities. Evidence of violence, such as bruising or other visible injuries, following an incident of domestic or dating violence should be documented including through preservation of photographic evidence. Evidence of stalking includes any communications, such as written notes, voice mail or other electronic communications that should be saved and not altered in any way.

Time is of the essence in collecting and preserving evidence. This would also refer to giving statements and obtaining statements from potential witnesses.

Valdosta State University, the City of Valdosta and Lowndes County all offer other important resources to the survivors of sexual violence including medical treatment, counseling and advocacy that they may wish to utilize. The VSU Counseling Center is available to assist any student or employee free of charge and will help them consider their options and navigate through any resources or recourse they may elect to pursue. A victim need not make a formal report to law enforcement or Valdosta State University to access these resources that include the following:

- Valdosta Police Department, 229-242-2606
- Remerton Police Department, 229-247-2320
- Lowndes County Sheriff, 229-671-2900
- Georgia State Patrol, 229-333-5215
- Greenleaf Counseling Center, 229-247-4357
- South Georgia Medical Center, 229-333-1000
- Haven Rape Crisis Center, 229-242-1544
- Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault, 866-354-3672
- Victim Witness Services, District Attorney's Office, 229-671-3250
- Georgia Office of Victim Assistance, 404-559-4949
- Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, 800-547-0060
- Rape, Abuse & Incest National Center (RAINN), 800-678-5847

N. : Includes, but is not limited to, such unwanted behavior as dating violence, domestic violence, nonconsensual sexual contact, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, and stalking.

O. : Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for his or her safety or the safety of others, or to suffer substantial emotional distress. Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a person, or interferes with a person's property. Reasonable person means a reasonable person under similar circumstances and with similar identities to the victim. Substantial emotional distress means significant mental suffering or anguish that may, but does not necessarily, require medical or other professional treatment or counseling.

P. : An individual who reposts an allegation of conduct that may violate this Policy but who is not a party to the complaint.

Q. : Any penetration of the vagina, anus, or mouth by a penis, object, tongue, finger, or other body part; or contact between the mouth of one person and the genitals or anus of another person. This provision also includes "Rape, Incest, and Statutory Rape" as defined by the Clery Act.

A complainant of sexual misconduct may, but need not, file a criminal complaint with law enforcement officials, file a misconduct report with a Responsible Employee or the Title IX Coordinator, or both. A report may be filed anonymously, although anonymous reports may make it difficult for the university to address the complaint. Any individual who believes that he or she is a victim of sexual misconduct is encouraged to report allegations of sexual misconduct promptly.

All reports of sexual misconduct alleged to have been committed by a student must be handled consistently with requirements set forth in Appendix B. Section III. Process for Investigating and Resolving Report of Student Misconduct.

All reports of sexual misconduct alleged to have been committed by a non-student member of the VSU community will be addressed and or resolved through the VSU and Board of Regents' applicable policies for discipline of non-students.

Complainants of sexual misconduct who wish to file a report with the University should notify a Responsible Employee or the Title IX Coordinator, Ms. Selenseia Holmes at (229) 333-5709 or email saholmes@valdosta.edu. Responsible Employees informed about sexual misconduct allegations involving any student should not attempt to resolve the situation, must notify and report all relevant information to the Title IX Coordinator as soon as practicable. Confidential employees are not bound by this requirement but may, consistent with their ethical and legal

obligations, be required to report limited information about incidents without revealing the identities of the individuals involved to the Title IX Coordinator. All members of the VSU community are encouraged to report incidents of sexual misconduct promptly.

VSU has Deputy Title IX Coordinators to whom reports may be made, as well. Complainants are encouraged to report their complaints in writing, though oral complaints will also be accepted, taken seriously, and investigated, to the extent possible. While complaints should be made as quickly as possible following an alleged incident of sexual misconduct, all reports will be accepted regardless of when reported.

The Title IX Coordinator shall refer to the System Director any allegation(s) of sexual misconduct that could, standing alone as reported, lead to the suspension or expulsion of the respondent(s). The System Director will work with the institution to determine whether any interim measure(s) are necessary and to assign an investigator who will work under the direction of the System Director or designee, if directed by System Director. If an allegation is not initially identified as one that would lead to the suspension or expulsion of the respondent(s), but facts arise during the course of the investigation that would require transfer to the System Director, the Title IX Coordinator shall transfer oversight to the System Director or designee. The System Director shall have the discretion to retain oversight or transfer oversight to the institution.

Because sexual misconduct may constitute criminal activity, a complainant also has the option, should he or she so choose, of filing a report with campus or local police, for his or her own protection and that of the surrounding community. The institution may assist the complainant in reporting the incident to law enforcement officials. Complainants considering filing a report of sexual misconduct with law enforcement should preserve any evidence of sexual misconduct, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Clothing worn during the incident including undergarments;
2. Sheets, bedding, and condoms, if used;
3. Lists of witnesses with contact information;
4. Text messages, call history, social media posts;
5. Pictures of injuries;
6. Videos.

Reports of sexual misconduct can be reported anonymously to University Police (229) 333-7816,

or the UPD website (c)nl (y.TJ()TjEMC /P A/CID 36 D-2 (i)-2 .26 0 Td(U)2 (ni)-P A/CID 31 TJ0 Tc 0 Tw 3

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Interim measures may be taken at any point after the institution becomes aware of an allegation of sexual misconduct and should be designed to protect the alleged victim and the community. Before an interim suspension is issued, the institution must make all reasonable efforts to give the respondent the opportunity to be heard consistent with the provisions in Appendix B. Section III.H. of the Student Code of Conduct.

Valdosta State University will take necessary and appropriate action to protect the safety and well-being of its community. Accordingly, sexual misconduct allegedly committed by a student will be addressed when such misconduct occurs on University property or at University-sponsored or affiliated events, or off-campus when the misconduct otherwise violates the VSU Student Code of Conduct.

Both the alleged victim and respondent, as parties to the matter, shall have the opportunity to use an advisor (who may or may not be an attorney) of the party's choosing at the party's own expense for the expressed purpose of providing advice and counsel, pursuant to the provisions of Appendix B. Section IV.A.3 of the Student Code of Conduct.

Allegations of sexual misconduct may be resolved informally, without a determination of misconduct, if any of the following are met:

- 1) When complainant(s) and respondent agree to an informal resolution.
- 2) When the initial allegation could not result in expulsion.
- 3) When the complainant(s) and respondent(s) agree to the terms of the informal resolution.
- 4) When the investigator concludes that informal resolution is in the best interest of the parties and

Efforts will be made to complete the investigation within a reasonable timeframe, which will be

The Clery Act requires institutions that maintain on campus housing facilities to establish a missing student notification policy and related procedures (20 USC 1092 (j) Section 488 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008).

When it is determined that a residential student is missing from the University, staff at Valdosta State University, in collaboration with local law enforcement, will be guided by this Missing Student Notification Policy and related procedures.

In accordance with general institutional emergency notification procedures, when a Valdosta State University student is thought to be missing from the campus, staff in the Valdosta State University administration should be immediately notified. Specifically, staff in the Office of Housing, Vice President for Student Affairs, and University Police, should be contacted so that they can coordinate efforts to locate the student. The Vice President of Student Affairs has the authority and the responsibility for coordinating the efforts made by Valdosta State University to assist the student and the student's family.

The appropriate Student Affairs representative, or other individual learning that a student is missing, will file a formal missing student report with the Valdosta State University Police or to the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction in the geographical areas around the specific campus location. It will be made clear to all students annually, that each residential student of the University has the option to designate an individual to be contacted by Valdosta State University administration no later than 24 hours after the time that Valdosta State University determines the student is missing. Valdosta State University provides each student with the means and opportunity to register their confidential Missing Student contact information. This information is only accessible to Valdosta State University employees who are authorized campus officials and this information will not be disclosed to others with the exception of law enforcement personnel in the furtherance of a missing student investigation.

In accordance with the Valdosta State University's Missing Student Policy, it should be noted that Valdosta State University notifies each student who is under 18 years of age (and not an emancipated individual), that Valdosta State University is required to contact the student's parents or guardian in addition to the person identified as the missing student contact person. This contact will be made no later than 24 hours after the time that the student is determined to be missing.

In accordance with Valdosta State University procedures, it should be noted that Valdosta State University will inform each residential student that Valdosta State University will notify the appropriate local law enforcement agency when a student has gone missing, unless the local law enforcement agency was the entity that made the determination that the student was missing. This notification will be made no later than 24 hours after the time that the student is determined missing.

If campus law enforcement personnel have been notified that a student has gone missing, and makes a determination that a student who is the subject of a missing person report has been missing for more than 24 hours, Valdosta State University staff will initiate emergency contact procedures as outlined in Valdosta State University's policy and protocol.

Federal law requires Valdosta State

that exists outside of a specific residential unit. Examples include, but are not limited to group study/lounge spaces, laundry rooms, elevator lobbies, computer rooms etc. Common spaces also include the public spaces located on the outside grounds of a residence hall

- The sale, distribution, or

Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 US 1092(f)) requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses. The University Police maintains a close relationship with all police departments where Valdosta State University owns or controls property to ensure that crimes reported directly to these departments which involve the University are brought to the attention of the University Police.

The University Police collects the crime statistics disclosed in the charts through a number of methods. Police communications officers and police officers enter all reports of criminal incidents made directly to the department through an integrated computer aided dispatch system/records management system. After an incident report has been reviewed and approved by a supervisor the report is entered into the system where the appropriate classification is entered into the correct crime category. The Department periodically examines the data to ensure that all reported crimes are recorded in accordance with the crime definitions outlined in the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Handbook and the FBI National Incident-based Reporting System Handbook (sex offenses only). In addition to the crime data that the University Police maintains, the statistics below also include crimes that are reported to various campus security authorities, as defined in this report. The statistics reported here reflect the number of criminal incidents reported to the various authorities. The statistics reported for the sub categories on liquor laws, drug laws and weapons offenses represented the number of people arrested or referred to campus judicial authorities for respective violations, not the number of offenses documented.

— defined as the willful killing of one human being by another.

— is defined as the killing of another person through gross negligence.

— Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

- A. — the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina 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.*
- B. — 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 or permanent mental incapacity.*
- C. — Pqp hqtekdng"ugzwcil"kpvgteqwtug between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.*
- D. — Pqp hqtekdng sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.*

– is defined as taking or attempting to take anything of value from the car, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

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

– is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.

– is the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

– any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

This category pertains to cases which have been fully and completely investigated by sworn or commissioned law enforcement personnel who make a formal determination that the report is false or baseless

– includes all of the crimes listed above that manifest evidence that the victim was chosen based on one of the categories of prejudice listed below, plus the following crimes. Hate crimes are defined as criminal offenses that manifest evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim.

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– A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender.

– 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.

– A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation.

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.

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(ii) Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Course of conduct means two or more acts, including, but not limited to, acts in which the stalker directly, indirectly, or through third parties, by any action, method, device, or means, follows, monitors, observes, surveils, threatens, or communicates to or about a

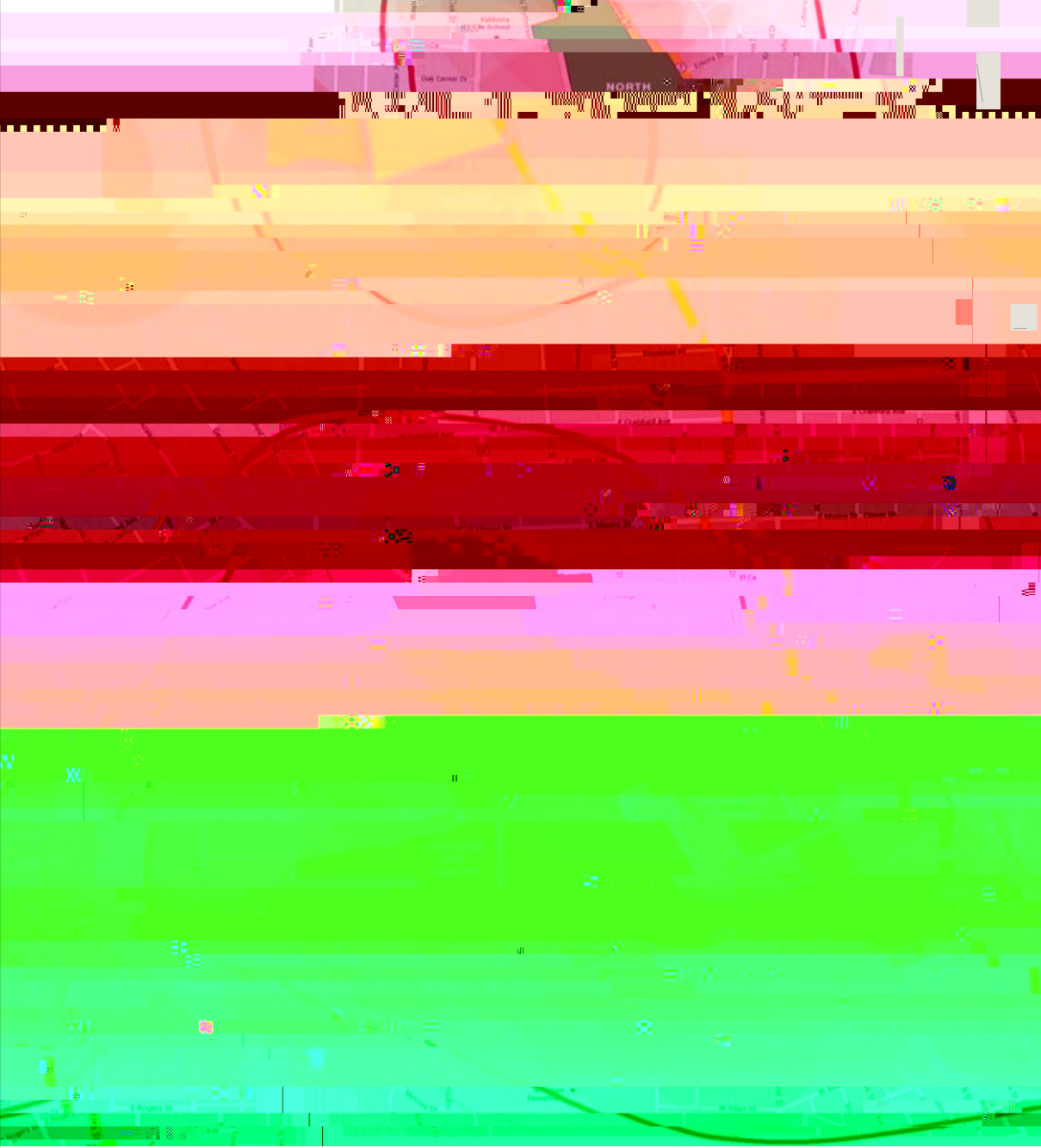
Murder/ Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2018	0	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter By	2018	0	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0	0
Negligence	2020	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	1	1	0	0	

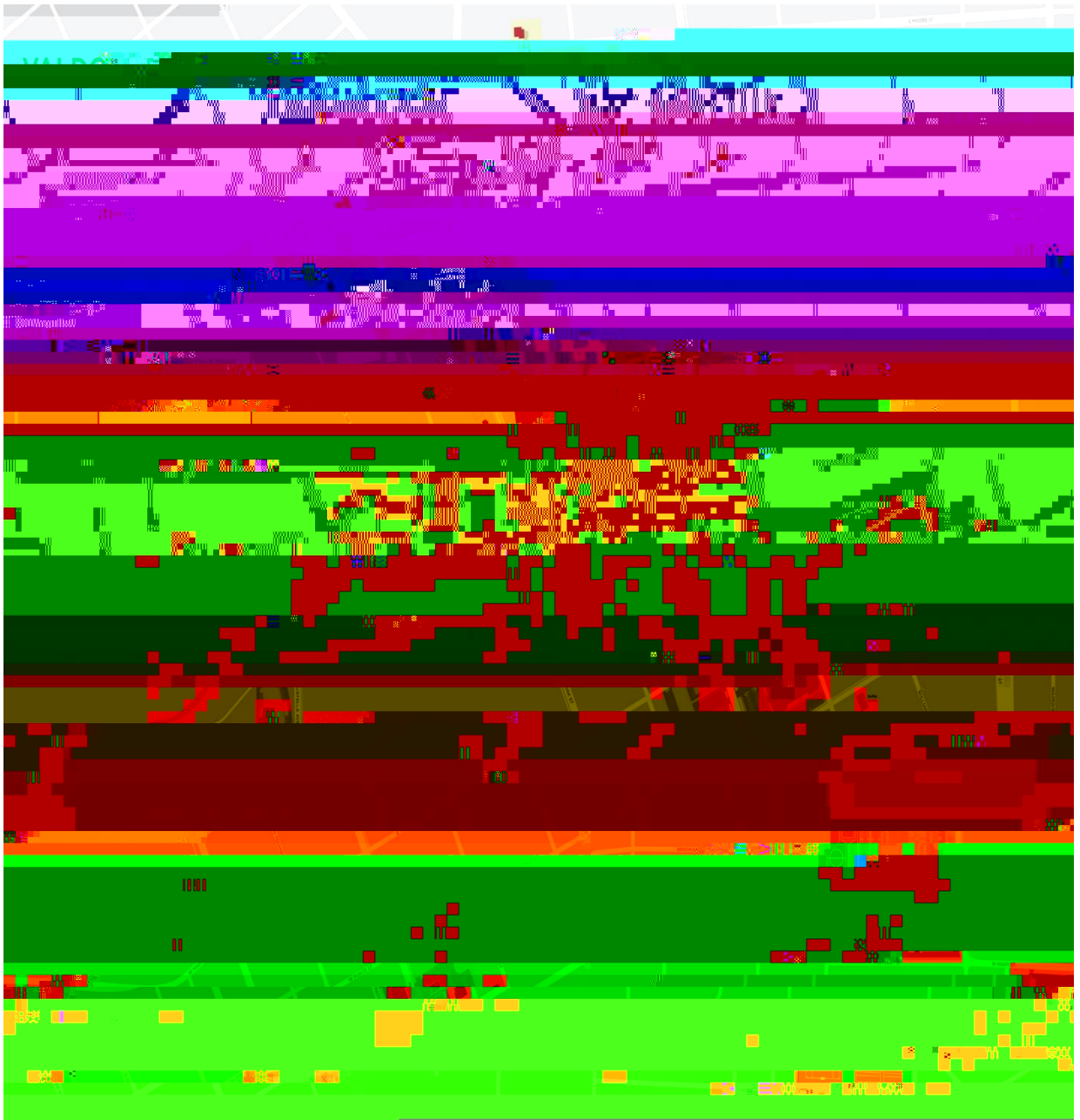
	2018	0	0	0	0
	2019	2	0	0	1
	2020	1	1	0	1
	2018	6	2	0	0
	2019	2	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0

The university requests the crime statistics from the law enforcement agencies that are responsible for property that coincides with the jurisdictional borders of the University. No reports were received in response to those requests.



SCALE 1:500







The Higher Education Opportunity Act enacted on August 14, 2008, requires institutions that maintain on campus student housing facilities to publish an annual fire safety report that contains information about campus fire safety practices and standards of the institution. This report details all information required by this act for Valdosta State University.

At Valdosta State University, fire safety is of paramount importance. The Environmental and Occupational Safety Department manages the campus fire safety program in coordination with other departments, such as University Police, Plant Operations, and Housing and Residence Life. Fire alarm systems report to Plant Operations and the University Police Communications Center and are monitored 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Any fire, smoke or suspicious odor condition should be immediately reported by calling 229 259 5555. Never hesitate to report these conditions, even if you are not sure there is a fire. If a fire condition existed but was extinguished, you must still notify University Police. If the emergency number 911 is called directly, make a follow up call to University Police so they can meet and facilitate the Valdosta Fire Department response.

A fire log for residence hall facilities is maintained in the University Police Department located at 1410 N. Oak Street in the Oak Street Parking Deck. This log can be viewed during normal business hours, from 8:00 am – 5:30 pm Monday through Thursday and 8:00 am – 3:00 pm on Friday. The log records information concerning fires occurring inside a campus residence hall.

The following terms are used within this report. Definitions were obtained from the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

A student housing facility that is owned or controlled by the institution, or is located on property that is owned or controlled by the institution, and is within a reasonable contiguous area that makes up the campus.

Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

Is a supervised practice of an evacuation of a building for a fire.

: Any instance in which a person is injured as a result of a fire, including an injury sustained from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting

escaping from the

When a fire alarm is activated, the alarm simultaneously sounds at the location of origin and at the University Police Dispatch office, which is staffed 24/7. Officers respond immediately on such an alarm to determine the cause and notify the fire department.

An evacuation of a building is used to move persons out of a building by a pre designated route (if usable), to avoid a potentially threatening situation. An evacuation renders the entire building unusable until further notice. Evacuate the building every time a fire alarm sounds. Generally University Police will announce building evacuation instructions.

Any Valdosta State University staff or faculty

9. You may walk briskly, but do not run.
10. Do not go to restrooms.
11. Use stairway or horizontal exit to evacuate.
12. **DO NOT USE ELEVATORS!**
13. If smoke is present, stay low. The best quality air is near the floor.
14. From inside a room, feel the door or knob with the back of your hand. If hot, do not open.
15. Exit the building and go to your designated assembly area.
16. Provide emergency responders with any information you may have about the fire alarm condition, injured persons, or those needing assistance. Report any missing person to University Police along with the location where last seen.
17. Do not return to the building from your assembly area until told do so by University Police.

1. Wedge wet towels or cloth materials along the bottom of the door to keep out smoke.
2. Try to close as many doors between you and the fire as possible.

If the fire is small and you have been trained in fire extinguisher use, you can attempt to extinguish a fire. Never allow the fire to come between you and the exit. Otherwise follow your Evacuation Plan and proceed to the nearest exit and then to the assembly area for the building.

where you are, to the ground over and over to smother flames.

Persons with disabilities who may have difficulty evacuating are individually responsible for informing their supervisors, Housing staff as applicable, and University Police (229 333 7816) of their name, location and the nature of their disability. This information will be given to emergency responders during an emergency situation. The rescue of disabled persons who are unable to evacuate themselves will be an initial priority for responding fire units.

Co workers may assist in evacuating disabled persons only if this places them in no personal danger but should always ask someone with a disability how they can help before attempting any rescue technique. They should also ask the individual if there are any special considerations or items that need to stay with the person for their health and safety. Mobility impaired persons in wheelchairs on non ground level floors should proceed to the nearest enclosed stairwell and wait for responders to arrive. Someone should stay with the disabled person if it does not place them in additional danger, and someone should meet responding firefighters to report the location of persons still in the building. Visually impaired persons should have a sighted individual guide them to safety. Hearing impaired persons should be informed of the nature of the emergency by co-workers, other students, faculty, or staff. It should not be assumed that they know what is happening by watching others.

Fire safety violations will result in fines, sanctions and possible revocation of the privilege of living in campus housing. Repeat or egregious offenses will result in heavier fines or sanctions and possible suspension or expulsion from the University.

- Covering or tampering with smoke detectors and/or sprinkler heads creates life safety hazards and is strictly prohibited.
- Residents may not have or use candles, incense, Stern, potpourri burners, hookahs or other items that function by burning. Candles may not be present in the room, even for decorative purposes. No flammable liquids such as lighter fluid, kerosene, gasoline, etc., may be stored in rooms.
- Flammable items such as sheets, cloth, fish net, etc., may not be hung or draped from the walls or ceiling. Light fixtures may not be covered with flammable items such as cloth, paper or cellophane.

- No live Christmas trees or live greenery may be used in any building. All decorating materials used on floors where students live must be fireproof.
- Residents and their guests and visitors shall not tamper with the fire alarm system, fire extinguishers, fire hoses, fire doors, residence hall room door closures, red phones, smoke detectors or other fire equipment.
- Residents and their guests and visitors must evacuate the building immediately when a fire alarm sounds. Residents should always take a fire alarm seriously, never assuming that an alarm merely signifies a drill.
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Candles/candle wax burners/open flames
NuWave ovens
Charcoal, gas, or open flame grills
Parachutes
Deep fryers (gas or electric)
Personal freezers
Electric frying pans
Electrical equipment with exposed wiring
Personal washer/dryer
George Foreman type grills/appliances
Plug in air fresheners
Halogen lamps
Portable space heaters
Hookahs
Potpourri burners
Incense
Rope lighting
Large Flags/Banners
Slow cookers
Lava lamps Toaster ovens

Coffee pot with automatic shut off

Large flags/banners
Lava lamps
Live (cut) trees (holiday decorations)

Violation of this policy will result in sanctions as well as possible criminal charges. The violator will then have 2 days to remove the unapproved appliance or item and provide Housing with verification of compliance.

Effective October 1, 2014, the use of all forms of tobacco products on property owned, leased, rented, in the possession of, or in any way used by the USG or its affiliates is expressly prohibited. "Tobacco Products" are defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipes, all forms of smokeless tobacco, clove cigarettes, and any other smoking devices that use tobacco such as hookahs or simulate the use of tobacco such as electronic cigarettes.

All residence life staff receive fire safety training and are responsible for providing fire safety guidance to students. Prior to the first fire drill of the year, Housing staff members conduct a mandatory hall meeting for students during which evacuation procedures and fire safety rules are reviewed with new and returning residents. Fire safety education/training including fire drills, fire extinguisher use, and general fire safety are available through Environmental & Occupational Safety (229 293 6171).

All fire alarms, fires, fire drills and related incidents are documented on Incident Reports. Copies are maintained in our fire safety log book for easy public access and inspection in the University Police Department office located at 1410 N. Oak Street inside the Oak Street Parking Deck.

Emergency lighting systems are placed throughout hallways and stairwells of all residence halls and are tested quarterly.

Exterior lighting checks are conducted nightly and exterior doors are checked nightly to ensure they are not propped open. There are emergency phones located around the residence halls.

Each residence hall has a contact point for all emergency responders to report to when alarms are activated. The senior staff member in the residence hall serves as the point person during all emergencies.

Fire extinguishers are located in each building and inside units that have a kitchen. All fire extinguishers are inspected annually. Occupants should become familiar with locations and how they work. Before use, occupants should check the fire extinguisher to assure it is properly

charged (arrow in the green area). To utilize the fire extinguisher for emergency reasons, use the following guidelines:

Pull the pin.

Aim the extinguisher nozzle at the base of the flames.

Squeeze the trigger while holding the extinguisher upright.

Sweep the extinguisher from side to side, covering the fire the

Main Campus Residential

Valdosta State Residential Facilities	Total Fires In each Building	Date	Time	Cau.15 Td 8CID ac	Tp 45.15 Td 8CID 1nBT0 dTw 3.67 0 Td(64.4-0.004 Tc 0.064.4-)Tj0 Tc 0b
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Valdosta State Residential Facilities	Total Fires In each Building	Date	Time	Cause Of Fire	No. of Injuries that required treatment at a medical facility	No. of Deaths Related to Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused by Fire	Fire Drills
Georgia Hall	0				0	0	0	2
Reade Hall	0				0	0	0	2
Langdale Hall	0				0	0	0	2
Hopper Hall	0				0	0	0	2
Converse Hall	0				0	0	0	2
Brown Hall	0				0	0	0	2
Patterson Hall	0				0	0	0	2