



Clery Alerts

Best Practices for Disseminating Urgent Safety Information

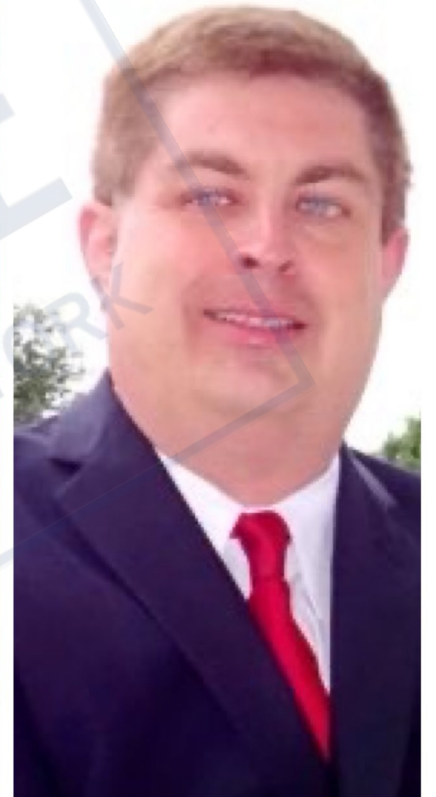
SAFE Campuses, LLC

For the SUNY Student Conduct Institute

February 5, 2025

Intro. To SAFE Campuses, LLC

- Safety Advisors for Educational Campuses, LLC (DBA SAFE Campuses, LLC) is a multidisciplinary social entrepreneurship founded in 2017 devoted to assisting colleges and universities in creating and growing safer campus communities.
- Your instructors today:
 - S. Daniel Carter, Pres.
 - Melissa O'Brien, Associate
 - Kaelynn Smith, VP & Counsel



Jeanne Clery

Campus Safety Act

- **Jeanne Clery**
 - Murdered 1986
 - Crime reporting law 1990
 - Name modernized 2024
- **Comprehensive campus safety framework**
 - Timely warnings 1990
 - Emergency notifications 2008



Learning Objectives



- Understand:
 - Timely Warnings
 - Emergency Notifications
 - How to determine when each is required
 - How to issue alerts



Alerts

- Clery Specific Creations
- Most Public Facing Disclosures
- Shapes Campus Community Consciousness
- Public Awareness
- Build Confidence
- Don't Overuse (Non-Emergency Communications)
- **Recipients Should Be Prepared to Act Immediately**



Checkpoint Question

- Who at your institution is responsible for disseminating alerts?
 - Media Relations
 - Emergency Management
 - Police Department
 - other

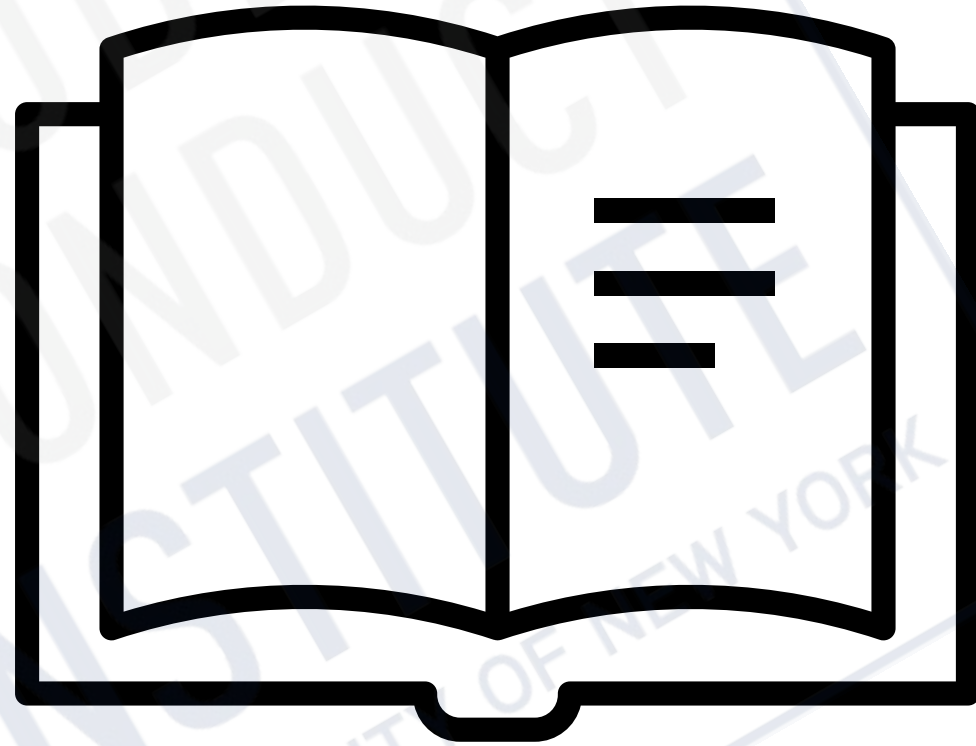


Understanding the Intersection

- Emergency Notification or Timely Warning
- If a Notification is Issued, Don't Also Issue Warning
- Multimodal Broadcasting
- Justify & Document All Decisions
- Retain Records for 7 Years

Understanding the Intersection

- Policies for Each Disclosure
- May Be in One Place
- Separate Elements
- Coordinating Incoming Information
- **Don't Co-Mingle**





Understanding the Differences

*The Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting, 2016
Edition page 6-16*

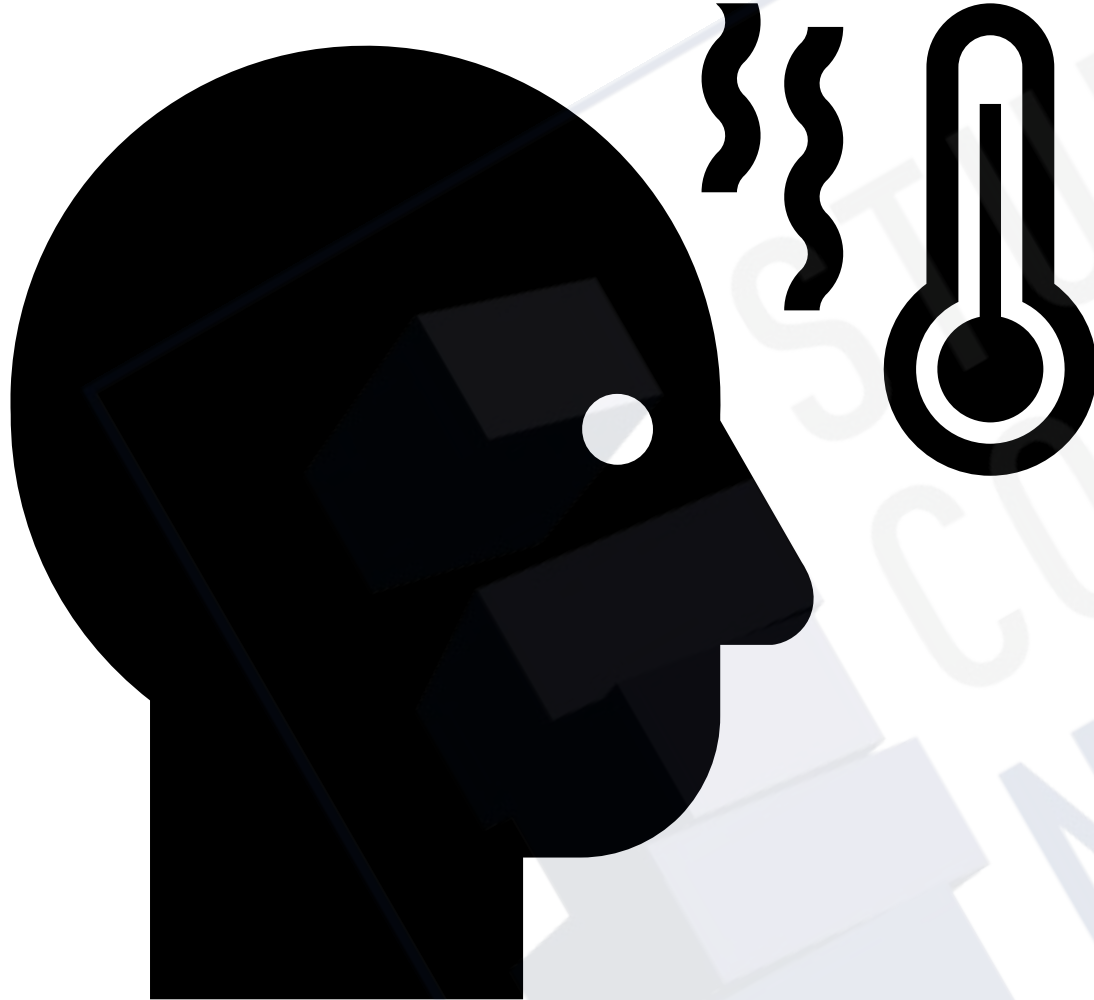
- **Emergency Notification**
- **Scope:** Wide focus on any significant emergency or dangerous situation (may include Clery Act crimes).
- **Why:** Emergency notification is triggered by an event that is currently occurring on or imminently threatening the campus. Initiate emergency notification procedures for any significant emergency or dangerous situation occurring on the campus involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees.
- **Where:** Applies to situations that occur on your campus.
- **When:** Initiate procedures immediately upon confirmation that a dangerous situation or emergency exists or threatens.



Understanding the Differences

*The Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting, 2016
Edition page 6-16*

- **Timely Warning**
- **Scope:** Focus on Clery Act crimes.
- **Why:** Timely warnings are triggered by crimes that have already occurred but represent an ongoing threat. Issue a timely warning for any Clery Act crime committed on your Clery Act geography that is reported to your campus security authorities or a local law enforcement agency, and that is considered by the institution to represent a serious or continuing threat to students and employees.
- **Where:** Applies to crimes that occur anywhere on your Clery Act geography.
- **When:** Issue a warning as soon as the pertinent information is available.



All-Hazards

- Any Crime (Doesn't need to be a Clery crime)
 - Active Shooter (including who hasn't shot anyone)
- Weather
- Natural Disaster
- Fire
- Viral Outbreak



Emergency Notifications Clery Required Policy

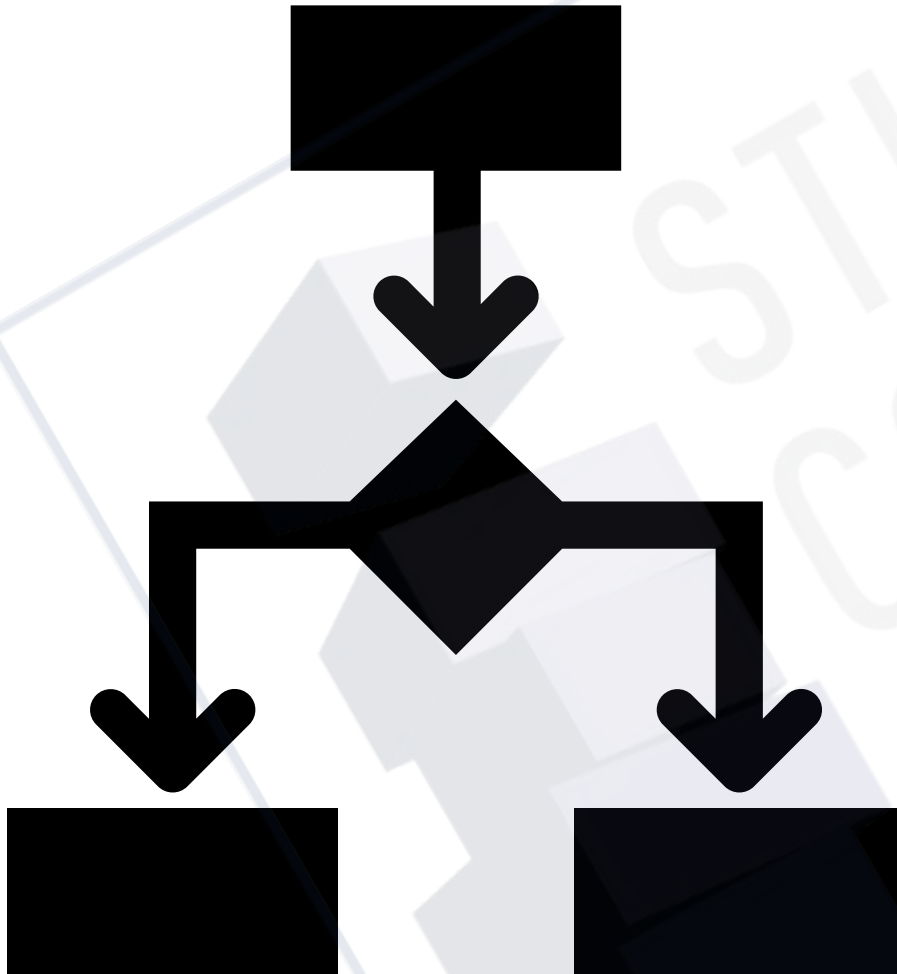
- All-Hazards
- On-Campus
- Immediate Threat
 - Health OR Safety
- All or a Segment
 - *Students OR Employees*



Steps for Triggering a Notification

- Confirm Emergency
- Determine Community Segments
- Determine Content
- Initiate System

Emergency Notification Specifics



- Part of Emergency Response & Evacuation Policy
- Triggering Incident
- Professional Judgement of Responsible Authorities
 - Law Enforcement, Emergency Management, Public Health
- Titles for who takes each action
- Adopt & Disclose Specific Steps

Only Exceptions

- Compromise:
 - Efforts to Assist a Victim
 - Mitigation of Emergency





Break



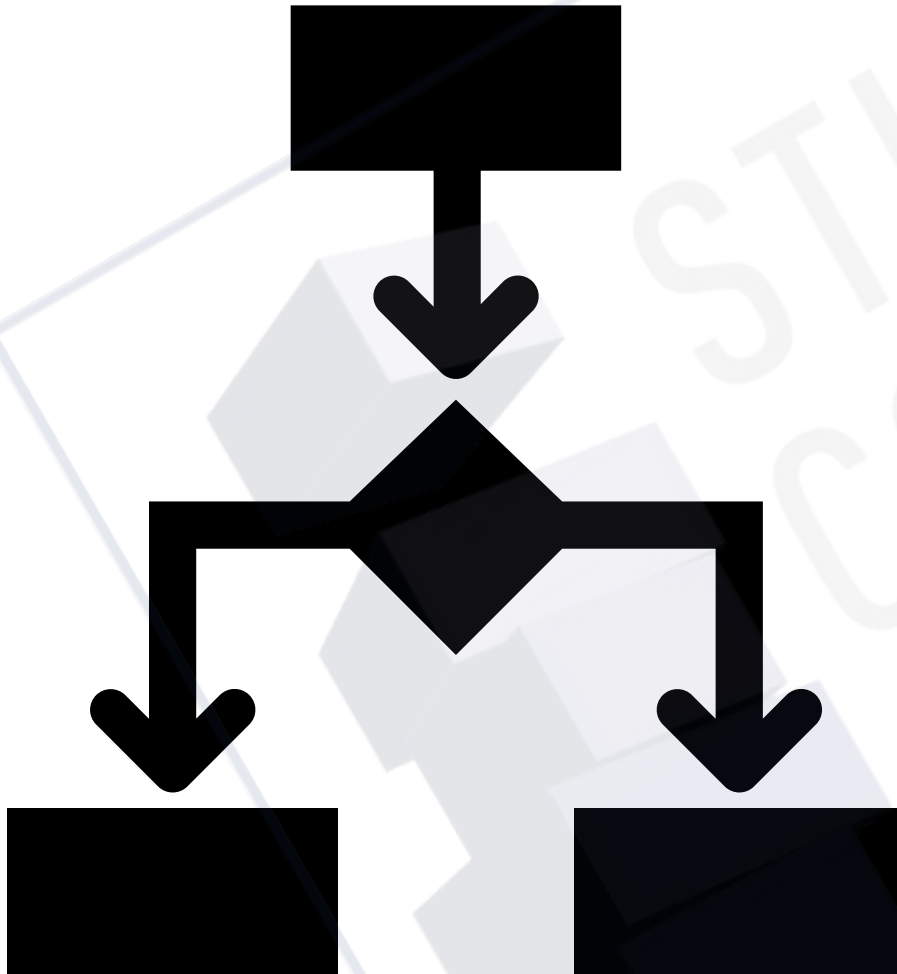
cleryquestions@safecampuses.biz



Checkpoint Question

- All Clery Crimes Require a Timely Warning?
 - True
 - False

Checkpoint Question



- All Clery Crimes Require a Timely Warning?
 - True
 - **False**
- All Clery Crimes Require an ASSESSMENT for a Timely Warning.

Clery Act Crimes

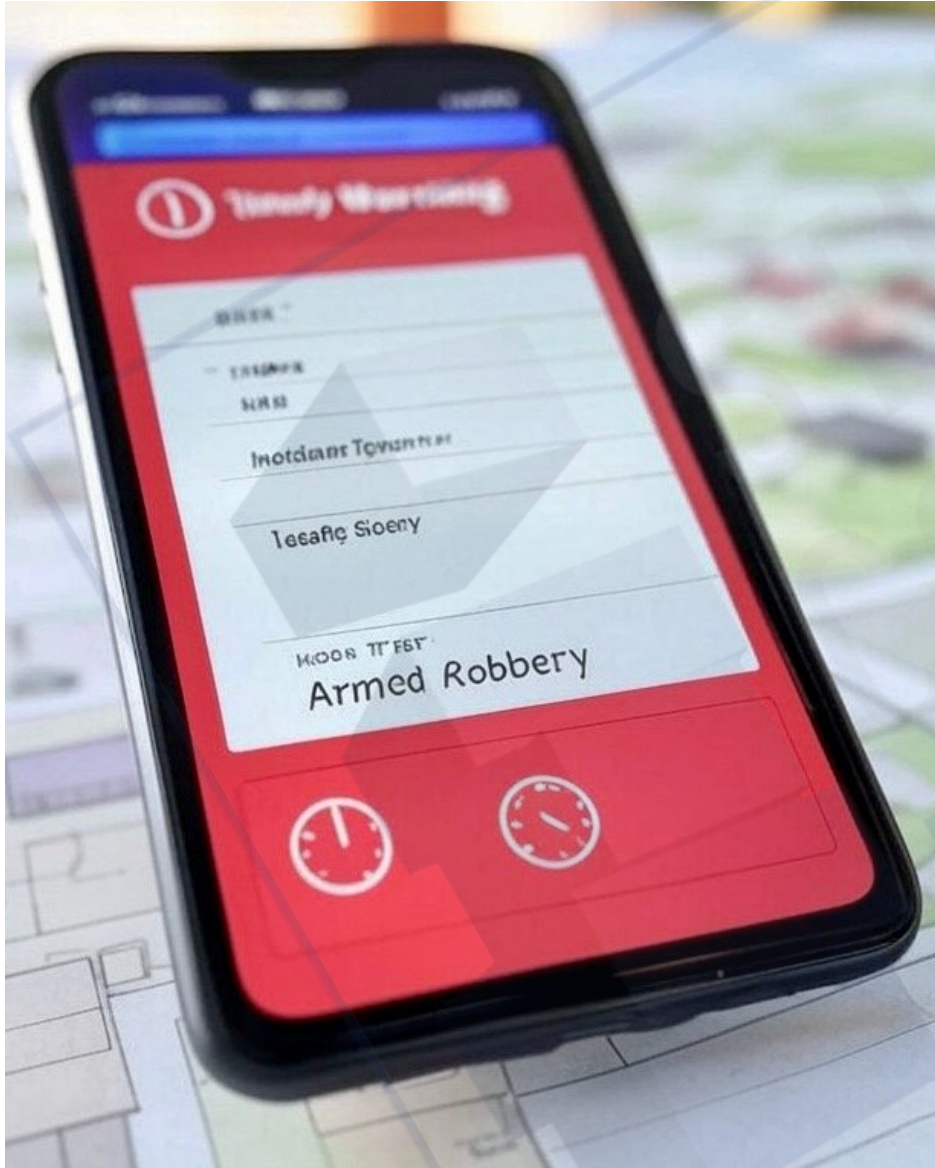
- Primary Crimes
 - murder
 - sex offenses
 - robbery
 - aggravated assault
 - burglary
 - motor vehicle theft
 - manslaughter
 - arson





Clery Act Crimes

- Arrests & Referrals – liquor law violations, drug-related violations, and weapons possession
- Hate Crimes – Primary Crimes, and larceny-theft, simple assault, intimidation, and destruction, damage, or vandalism of property
- VAWA Offenses – domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking
- *Hazing (June 23, 2025)*



Timely Warning Clery Requirement & Clery Required Policy

- Clery Crime
- Clery Geography
- Considered a Threat by Institution
- To Students & Employees

Campus Security Authorities (CSAs)



- Campus Police or Security Department
- Non-Departmental Security Roles
- Designated Reporting Entities
- *Institutional Officials with Significant Responsibility*

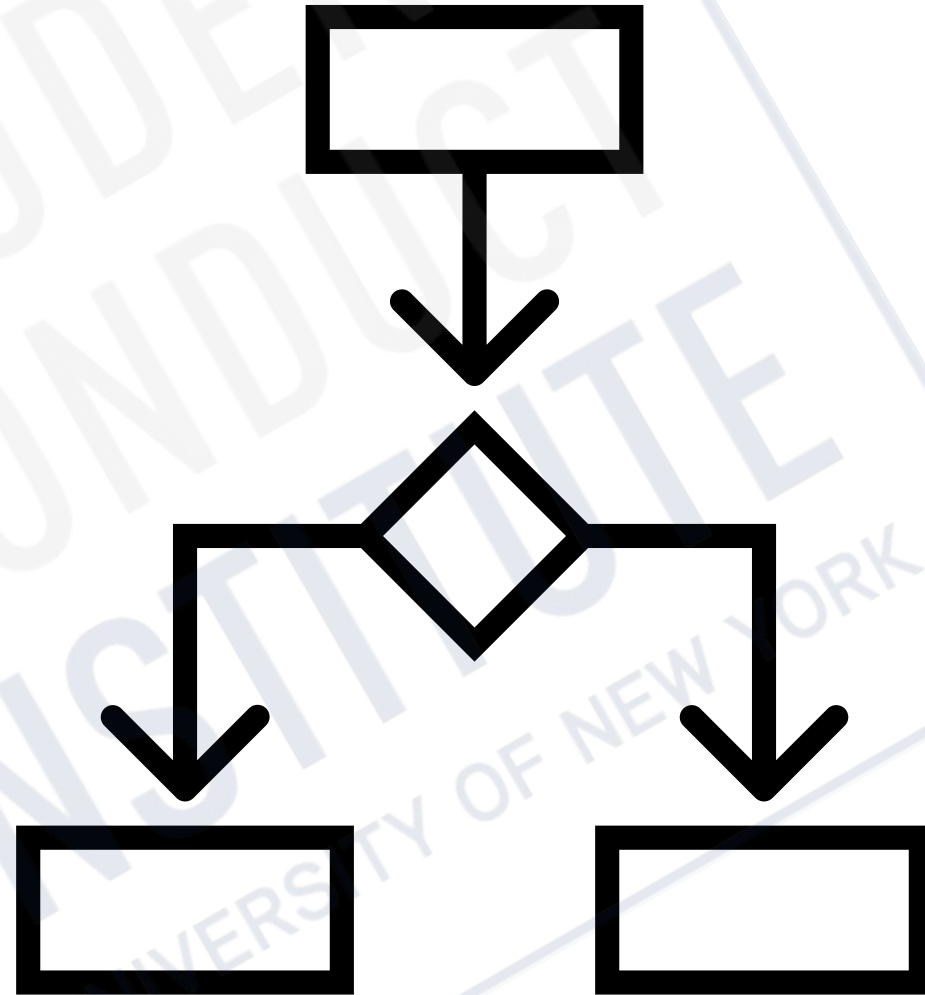
Campus Security Authorities (CSAs)

- Must Report on an Ongoing Basis
- In a “Timely” Manner to Meet Warning Requirements
- Report at the End of the Year Won’t Work



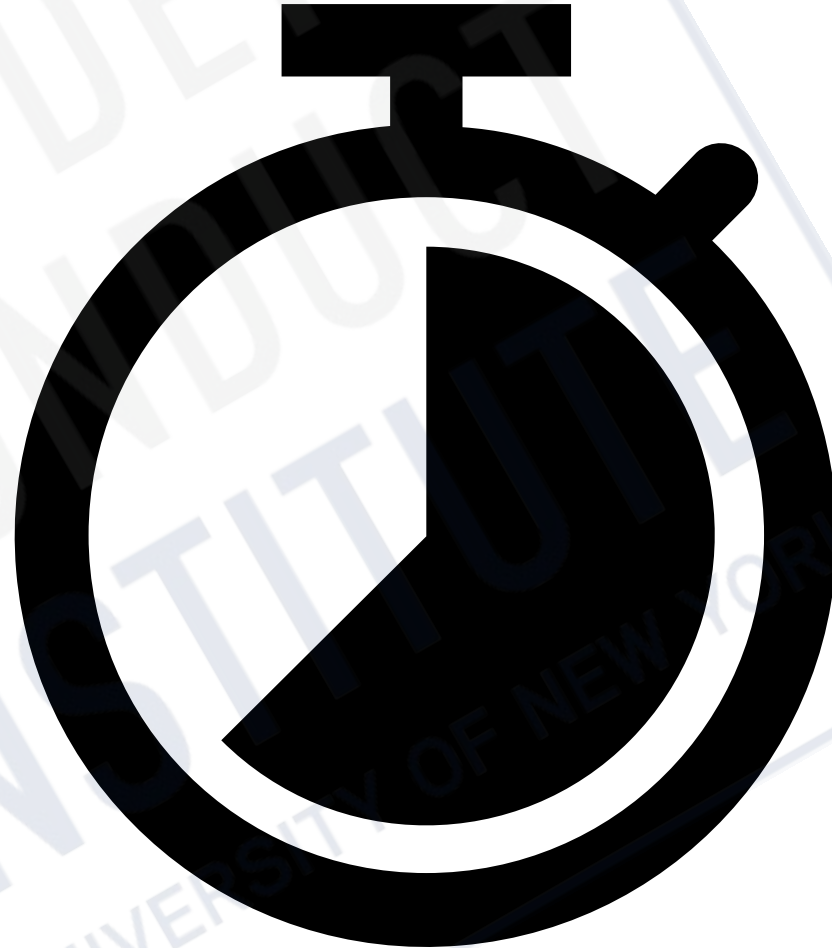
Timely Warning Triggers

- “Primary Crimes”
- Arrests & Referrals
- Hate Crimes
- VAWA Offenses
- *Hazing (Beginning June 23, 2025)*
- Decision Matrix
- Justify & Document



Timely Warning

- What is “Timely”?
 - *As soon as the pertinent information is available*
- Case-by-Case
- Decision-Maker 24/7
- Reasonableness Standard
- Are You Responding as if there is a Threat?



Timely Warning



- Keep Victims Names/PII Confidential
- Aid in the Prevention of Similar Crimes
- Report to the ENTIRE Campus Community
- **Retain record of for 7 years**

Group Exercise

What did the institution know & when?

- Student reports to local police they were drugged at a *noncampus* fraternity house
 - Originally logged as a *medical* call
 - Local police investigating
- Campus Police Take an **Information Only** Report
- Another student reports to Dean of Students they were drugged at a different *on-campus* fraternity house the next night
- A student affairs conduct management system report is circulated two days later among institutional leadership including campus police
 - Student affairs investigating
- Rumors are circulating on social media, and the campus newspaper is working on a story

Lessons Learned

- Multidisciplinary
- Information sharing
- Collaboration
- Decision making



Questions?

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