

TITLE IX RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded education program. Employees, in their role under Title IX, are required to report all incidents of sexual violence and other sexual discrimination to the College. Additionally, “Responsible Employees” are required to advise students of their right to file a complaint with the College, regardless of their desire to pursue an investigation with law enforcement. You may do so by contacting:

- Title IX Coordinator (Students)
Felicia Harris
(706) 649-5032
Hartline Bldg, Room 153A
- Title IX Coordinator (Employees)
Jennifer Thompson
(706) 649-1883
Hartline Bldg, Room 203

CLERY/VAWA VICTIMS’ RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

When a student or employee reports being the victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whether on or off campus, the following options will be provided.

1. If dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking has occurred:

- Get to a safe place
- Report the Incident
 - Emergencies: Call 911 and Campus Police
 - Campus Police: (706)649-1933 or Carl Patrick Hall, Room 206
 - Office of VP of Student Affairs: (706)649-1820 or Hartline Building, Room 173
 - CARE Center (Student Counseling Services) (706)649-5032 or Hartline Building, Room 160
 - Title IX Coordinator (Students): Felicia Harris (706) 649-5032 Hartline Building, Room 153A
 - Title IX Coordinator (Employees) Jennifer Thompson (706) 649-1883 Hartline Building, Room 203

- Preserve Evidence – Preserving evidence in all cases of sexual assault is imperative. For example, avoid showering, douching, eating, drinking, or brushing your teeth if at all possible, after a sexual assault; this could destroy evidence. Bedding or clothing worn during or after the assault should be preserved and collected by law enforcement. A forensic sexual assault exam may be conducted and the evidence stored even if you elect not to have law enforcement involvement.
- Law Enforcement Involvement – Victims have the right to notify police or decline police involvement. If the victim chooses to notify the local police, campus police can assist with that notification. Law enforcement can collect and store evidence even if the victim wishes not to involve police so that it’s available should the victim change their mind at a later time.
- Temporary Protection Orders (TPO) and No Contact Orders A temporary protective order is a legal document issued by court to help victims obtain protection from persons abusing, harassing or stalking them. TPOs are issued through the Superior Court of the County in which the Perpetrator/Respondent resides. If the Respondent is not a resident of Georgia, the TPO may be issued in the County where the abuse occurred or where the Victim/Petitioner resides.

2. Confidentiality

- GA Law – In accordance with Georgia Open Records Act the College Police will not release the name or identification of victims of rape.
- Mostly Confidential – The College will protect the identity of victims the fullest extent possible. When a victim wishes to remain anonymous or not have their identity disclosed to a perpetrator, the college’s ability to respond to the complaint may be limited.

3. Interim Measures Available

- The Title IX Coordinator or Student Affairs representative can speak to you about possible changes to academic, living, transportation or working situations. These remedies may be made if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether or not you choose to report the incident of sexual misconduct or interpersonal violence to campus police or local law enforcement.

4. Code of Conduct

- Victims may choose to file conduct charges for violation of policy. Student Affairs staff members are available to guide you through the conduct process and answer any questions.

Office of VP of Student Affairs
(706) 649-1820
Hartline Building, Room 173

Additional information regarding crime victims rights can be found in O.C.G.A. 17-17-1, et seq.



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Counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, and other services:

On-Campus Resources

Students:

- Office of VP of Student Affairs
(706) 649-1820
Hartline Building, Room 173
- Title IX Coordinator
Felicia Harris
(706) 649-5032
Hartline Building, Room 153A
- CARE Center (Counseling Svcs)
(706) 649-1938
Hartline Building, Room 150

Employees:

- Title IX Coordinator
Jennifer Thompson
(706) 649-1883
Hartline Building, Room 203

All:

- Campus Police
(706) 649-1933
Carl Patrick Hall, Room 206

Off Campus Resources

- Local Police (911)
- The Center at 909,
Sexual Assault Support Ctr, Inc.
909 Talbotton Rd. Columbus, GA 31904
(706) 571-6010
- Hope Harbour Outreach for Domestic Violence
4182 GA-1, Columbus, GA 31904
(706) 324-3850
- Columbus Alliance for Battered Women
(706) 256-0237

Other Resources:

- <http://rainn.org>
Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network
- <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/sexual-assault>
Dept. of Justice
- <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html>
Dept. of Education, Office of Civil Rights
- <http://www.gnesa.org>
STATE Coalition Against Rape
- <http://gcadv.org>
STATE Coalition Against Domestic Violence



Notice of Victims' Rights, Options and Resources

Pertaining to

Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964,
The Clery Act as Amended by the
Violence Against Women Act.

Presented by



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