

Paris Junior College Campus Police (DPS)

Crime Awareness Brochure



Welcome to Paris Junior College.

We appreciate you choosing Paris Junior College as your institution of higher education. Although your primary focus will be your academic endeavors, other student-life activities will be a significant part of your educational experience. Paris Junior College wants all these experiences to be meaningful and safe; therefore, P.J.C. has programs that support security/law enforcement measures in order to provide a safe environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors. This publication has been developed to provide information in hopes of ensuring a safe and secure environment for everyone at Paris Junior College.

If you need to report an emergency or report a crime, use the following numbers

- **Campus Police Ext. 399 (Outside Lines 903-782-0399)**
- **Police/Fire/EMS- Campus Phones: 9-911**
- **Off-Campus: 911**

The Student's Responsibility

It is essential that students assume responsibility for their own personal safety, the safety of others and the security of personal property by taking simple common-sense precautions. Safety is everyone's responsibility. Students, Staff and faculty should be partners in creating a safe atmosphere in order to encourage learning.

No community can be totally free of crime in today's sometimes violent society. It must be understood that crimes take place in our society as a whole and college campuses are no different. Thefts, assaults, burglaries and other crimes do sometimes occur at Paris Junior College and other institutions of higher education. It is not likely you will be a victim of crime, but it is possible. Most incidents on campus can be avoided if everyone recognizes they can become victims.

- Take basic precautions, such as walking in groups at night or in well lighted areas. Walk with people you know and are familiar with. Pay attention to your surroundings.
- Dormitory room doors should always be locked, whether the room is occupied or not, even for a few minutes.
- Make sure to record the serial numbers of your valuables so if they are stolen they may be more easily identified or recovered.
- Always lock your vehicle. Valuables left in the car should be locked in the trunk.
- Report any suspicious activity to the head resident or the campus police.

Campus Police

Paris Junior College Campus Police

The Paris Junior College Campus Police (DPS) are Texas Peace Officers whose authority is derived from the following Texas Statute:

TEX ED. CODE ANN. § 51.203 : Texas Statutes - Section 51.203: CAMPUS PEACE OFFICERS

(a) The governing boards of each state institution of higher education and public technical institute may employ and commission peace officers for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this subchapter. The **primary jurisdiction** of a peace officer commissioned under this section includes **all counties** in which property is owned, leased, rented, or otherwise under the control of the institution of higher education or public technical institute that employs the peace officer.

(b) Within a peace officer's primary jurisdiction, a peace officer commissioned under this section:

(1) is vested with all the powers, privileges, and immunities of peace officers;

(2) may, in accordance with Chapter 14, Code of Criminal Procedure, arrest without a warrant any person who violates a law of the state; and

(3) may enforce all traffic laws on streets and highways.

(c) Outside a peace officer's primary jurisdiction a peace officer commissioned under this section is vested with all the powers, privileges, and immunities of peace officers and may arrest any person who violates any law of the state if the peace officer:

(1) is summoned by another law enforcement agency to provide assistance;

(2) is assisting another law enforcement agency; or

(3) is otherwise performing his duties as a peace officer for the institution of higher education or public technical institute that employs the peace officer.

(d) Any officer assigned to duty and commissioned shall take and file the oath required of peace officers.

(e) Any person commissioned under this Act must be a certified police officer under the requirements of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers and Standards.

Acts 1971, 62nd Leg., p. 3072, ch. 1024, art. 1, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1971. Amended by Acts 1987, 70th Leg., ch. 468, Sec. 1, eff. Aug. 31, 1987; Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 285, Sec. 5, eff. Sept. 1, 2003.

The Chief of Campus Police reports directly to the College President.

Major criminal offenses such as sexual assault, murder, aggravated assault, robbery, and auto theft are also reported to local law enforcement authorities and joint investigative efforts with investigators from Paris Junior College and other law enforcement agencies may be deployed to solve these serious felony crimes. The prosecution of all criminal offenses, both felony and misdemeanor, are conducted at either Municipal Court, Justice of the Peace Court, County Court or District Court depending upon the nature of the offense.

The Paris Junior College Campus Police have written agreements with local law enforcement to ensure that all reported criminal incidents are investigated in the event that campus police are not available.

Community members, students, faculty, staff and guests are encouraged to report all crimes and public safety related incidents, which occur on campus to the PJC Campus Police in a timely manner.

The Paris Junior College Campus Police have an excellent working relationship with the City of Paris Police Department, the Sulphur Springs Police Department and the City of Greenville Police Departments.

Reporting

Potential criminal activities, criminal acts and other emergencies on campus may be reported by any student, faculty member, employee or visitor to the Paris Junior College Campus Police by dialing 399 on campus or 903-782-0399.

Safety

- The Chief of Campus Police is the college safety officer and the department is responsible for the safety of the college including:
- Conducting inspections, investigations and safety programs;
- Maintaining all records on accidents and injuries;
- Responsible for assisting head residents with evacuation drills;
- Assisting the fire department and insurance companies in annual inspections and bringing any infractions in compliance with National Fire Protection Association (Life Safety Code 101) and the Occupational Safety and Health Acts (OSHA) Right to Know Law;
- Monitors National Weather Service for severe weather that could affect any Paris Junior College location. Dragon Alerts (Text & E-Mail) are utilized to disseminate information about hazardous conditions that could affect the Paris Junior College community.

State Law and College Policies

1. Alcohol

- The use, possession and distribution of alcoholic beverages on college property must comply with Texas state law, local ordinances, college policies and regulations. Misconduct is subject to arrest, citation, and or college disciplinary action and penalties.
- The purchase consumption, possession or transportation of alcoholic beverages by anyone under the age of 21 (state law) is prohibited.
- The furnishing of alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of 21 (state law) is prohibited.
- The consumption and possession of alcohol, regardless of age, on college property is prohibited (college policy).

2. Drugs

The use, possession, consumption, sale, manufacture or furnishing of illicit drugs and narcotics including marijuana, synthetic marijuana (K-2), bath salts, drug paraphernalia and other controlled substances are prohibited both by state law and college policy. Persons who violate state law are subject to arrest and or suspension from the college. Dorm students are subject to removal from campus housing.

3. Firearms

Open Carry of Firearms is prohibited on campus pursuant to state law. Paris Junior College Concealed Carry Policy is available at the following link:

http://www.parisjc.edu/downloads/dps_downloads/conceal-carry.pdf

Campus Facilities

The Physical Plant Department constantly maintains the college buildings and grounds with a concern for safety and security.

Emergency Response Plan

The Paris Junior College Emergency Response Plan is available at:

http://www.parisjc.edu/downloads/dps_downloads/emergency-response.pdf

Crime Information and Statistics

The Paris Junior College Campus Police monitors local law enforcement agencies for reports of criminal acts committed at property owned or controlled by the college. The Department submits a monthly crime report to the Texas Department of Public Safety Uniform Crime Reporting System (UCR) in Austin, Texas. The annual crime statistics for Paris Junior College are available at the Campus Police Department office from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and are also posted on the Paris Junior College Website.

Timely Notification of campus news alerts, including weather and other hazardous situations will be listed on the Paris Junior College Website as well as via Dragon Alert.

The Campus Sex Crime Prevention Act

The Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offenders Registration Act went into effect October 28th, 2002. This law also amends the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Crime Statistics Act. This Federal Law requires sex offenders who are already participating in registration programs, to provide notice to each institution of higher education in which the person is employed, carries on a vocation, or is a student.

Registered Sex Offenders must report to their registering agency that they are enrolled at Paris Junior College and must also notify Paris Junior College Campus police they have enrolled at a Paris Junior College facility, no later than 7 days after enrollment.

Sex Offender Registration

Public Sex Offender Information is available via the Texas Department of Public Safety Website at: <https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/sexoffender/>

The TXDPS website provides information regarding registered sex offenders who have registered with their local law enforcement agency as attending Paris Junior College and other information that is available to the public. If you have any questions, further information may be obtained from the Paris Junior College Campus Police Department.

College Policies and Procedures are subject to change at any time.

Revised February 2000, May 2005, May 2009 & July 2014.