

Paris Junior College Crime Awareness

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 total educational experience. Paris Junior College wants all these experiences to be meaningful and safe; therefore, PJC has programs that support security measures to provide a safe environment for the students, faculty, staff, and visitors. This publication is developed to provide information to ensure 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: 399**
- **Police/Fire/Ambulance - 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 everybody's business. Students, staff and faculty are partners with the college in creating an atmosphere that is safe and encourages learning.

No community can be totally free of crime in today's sometimes violent society. Crimes take place in our society at large, and the problem does not disappear at a college campus. Thefts, assaults, burglaries and other violations of the law do sometimes occur at Paris Junior College and other colleges. 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 that they can become victims.

Basic Precautions

- Take basic precautions such as walking in groups at night or in well lighted areas.
- Dormitory room doors and the front door should always be locked if the room is occupied or not, even for a few minutes.
- Valuable items such as stereos, cameras, televisions, and computers should be marked with engraving instruments provided by the college campus police.
- Bicycles should be engraved and registered with the housing department or campus police.

Cars must be parked in designated areas and locked. Valuables should be locked in the trunk.

Report any suspicious activity or suspicious person to your head resident or to campus police.

Police Service

The Campus Police Department is responsible for the police service for the college. All officers are commissioned Texas peace officers and graduates of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standard and Education training academy with full arrest power. All reported criminal incidents and vehicle accidents on the campus are investigated by the Department.

The department conducts foot and vehicular patrol of the campus. The department enforces all regulations, rules and laws, both of the college and the state of Texas. The department officers also assist other law enforcement agencies when requested. The department assists other agencies with warrants and subpoenas that are required to be served on campus.

Reporting

Potential criminal activities, criminal acts and other emergencies on campus can be reported by any student, faculty member, employee or visitor to the College Police Department by dialing campus number **399**. Upon receipt to the call, college police are dispatched immediately to the site of the complaint and have the authority to make arrests if necessary. They prepare and submit offense, incident, and arrest reports as needed.

Safety

The Chief of Campus Police is the college safety officer and the department is responsible for the safety aspect of the college including the following:

- Conducts inspections, investigations and safety programs;
- Maintains all records on accidents and injuries;
- Responsible for assisting head residents in dormitory orientation and fire/tornado drills;

Assists the fire department and insurance companies in annual inspections and brings 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 tornado and severe weather watches. This information is passed to administrative units for dissemination. In the event of a tornado warning the campus patrol vehicle will be driven through the campus sounding the siren.

State Law and College Policies

1. Alcohol

The use, possession and distribution of alcohol beverages on college property must comply with Texas state law, local ordinances, college policies and regulations. Misconduct may result in arrest, 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 possession of alcoholic beverages after hours (state law) is prohibited.
- The consumption and possession of alcohol on campus is prohibited (college policy).

2. Drugs

The use, possession, consumption, sale, manufacture, or furnishing of illicit drugs and narcotics including marijuana and drug paraphernalia is prohibited by state law and college regulations. Violations may result in arrest and suspension from the college and will be removed from campus housing.

3. Weapons

The use, possession, or carrying of any kind of firearm on any public school, institution of higher education property is a violation of state laws (Penal Code 46.03).

Campus Facilities

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

Crime Information and Statistics

The department also 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, which are compiled along with other state reports and submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in Washington, D.C.

The annual crime statistics of the college are available at the Campus Police Department office from 8:00am till 5:00pm Monday through Friday and posted on the PJC website.

Rapid notification of campus news alerts, weather, and closings will be listed on the PJC website front page.

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 Campus Crime Statistics Act*. This Federal Law requires sex offenders who are already participating in registration programs, to provide notice under State Law to each institution of higher education in which the person is employed, carries on a vocation, or is a student.

Information on offenders is available in the campus police office or the Texas Department of Public Safety Web link:

https://records.txdps.state.tx.us/DPS_WEB/Portal/index.aspx

Sex Offender Registration

Sex Offenders must register with PJC Campus Security and the municipality in which the campus center is located preferably before enrolling and no later than the seventh day of class.

Further Information

Further information, questions, or suggestions about campus safety can be obtained from the Paris Junior College Police Department office, located north of the Student Center.

*College policies and procedures are subject to change at any time.
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