OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL MEMORANDUM

THE CLERY ACT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f)) (the “Clery Act”) is a U.S. federal law that requires the University to disclose information about crime on and around its campuses, including NYU’s overseas sites.

Clery Act Background

The Clery Act is named in memory of Jeanne Ann Clery who was raped and murdered while asleep in her residence hall room at Lehigh University on April 5, 1986. After it was discovered that students hadn’t been told about 38 violent crimes on campus in the three years before Jeanne’s murder, her parents joined with other campus crime victims and persuaded Congress to enact the Clery Act.

Clery Act Requirements

The Clery Act requires the University to (1) collect, classify and count crime reports and statistics, (2) publish and distribute by October 1 of each year an Annual Campus Security Report (“Annual Report”), (3) issue Timely Warnings and Emergency Notifications (as such terms are defined in the Clery Act), (4) maintain a Daily Crime Log (as such term is defined in the Clery Act) and (5) submit crime statistics to the U.S. Department of Education (the “DOE”). Compliance with the Clery Act is enforced by the DOE, and failure to comply with its requirements can subject institutions of higher education to fines and suspension from federal financial aid programs.

Crime Reports and Statistics

The University’s crime reports and statistics are available on the [website] of University’s Department of Public Safety (“Public Safety”).

Annual Report

The University’s Annual Report, also known as the NYU Campus Security and Fire
Safety Report, includes campus crime statistics by site for the three most recent calendar years, reporting procedures and security-related policy statements. The Annual Report is prepared by Public Safety and can be found here.

Timely Warnings and Emergency Notifications
For Timely Warnings, the University issues a warning report in a timely manner to students and employees at relevant NYU locations regarding the occurrence of certain crimes that represent an ongoing threat to the safety of those students and employees.

For Emergency Notifications, the University currently uses a web based system that allows Public Safety to notify members of the NYU community of an emergency within minutes. Members of the NYU community interested in receiving emergency notifications can find registration information on the Emergency Text Messaging section of the Public Safety website.

Daily Crime Log
The University’s Daily Crime Log can be found on the Crime Statistics section of the Public Safety website.

NYU Department of Public Safety
Public Safety has a clear and straightforward mission: to strive to create a safe and secure environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors to pursue their goals and aspirations. Public Safety employs a staff of 350 trained Uniformed Officers, leadership, and support personnel and maintains a strong partnership with state and local law enforcement and municipal agencies that are responsive to the University’s concerns. Public Safety also provides a visible presence in and around the campus, so that security officers on post, on patrol, or on their way to and from their respective assignments help enhance safety for the NYU community and neighbors.

The Global Network University
Each year, more than 4,000 NYU students, faculty, and staff travel overseas for NYU-sponsored programs on six continents. NYU’s growing global presence and the many new challenges associated with that growth make it imperative that University administrators and schools be able to readily communicate with faculty, staff, and students participating in NYU-affiliated programs and events abroad. NYU has implemented NYU Traveler, a web-based application that provides the NYU community with a secure means of entering and updating travel itineraries, contact numbers and flight or other transportation information. NYU Traveler also provides authorized University administrators and Schools with up-to-date information enabling them to locate and contact students, faculty and staff abroad in the event of an emergency.
Additional Resources and Contact Information

Members of the University community may file reports, make requests or alert Public Safety and the University of an emergency by dialing the University’s 24-hour emergency telephone hotlines at **1-212-998-2222**. Additional information on how to make a report or file a complaint is available on the Investigations section of the Public Safety website.

Additional information on the Clery Act and its requirements is available in the DOE’s February 2011 Handbook for Campus Safety and Security Reporting.

Please contact Jay Zwicker, Assistant Director, Crime Prevention & Clery Act Compliance, if you have specific questions or concerns regarding compliance with the Clery Act.

Further Resources

If you have legal questions about the Clery Act, you can find a member of the Office of General Counsel who practices in this area by visiting our practice areas page and scrolling to “Public Safety and the Cleary Act”.