



# ATHENS STATE UNIVERSITY

## Disclosure Document Annual Security Report and Crime Statistics



In compliance with  
The Campus Awareness  
and Campus Security Act of 1990  
(Title II of Public Law 101-542)

September 2023

(256) 233-8222  
300 N. Beaty Street  
ATHENS, ALABAMA 35611

# **CAMPUS SECURITY PROCEDURES AND CAMPUS CRIME STATISTICS**

Under university policy, Athens State University procedures have been established to comply with The Campus Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990 (Title II of Public Law 101-542) and Section 16-22-1, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended by Act 2013-191, 2013 Regular Session. Inquiries regarding the information contained herein should be directed to the Vice President of Financial Affairs, Business Office - Founders Hall, Room 109. 256-216-3303 or extension 303.

## **A. REPORTING CRIMINAL ACTIONS OR OTHER EMERGENCIES**

1. It is the procedure of Athens State University that any criminal act or threat of violence, including hate crimes, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, injury, destruction of university or personal property, traffic accidents or other situations which occur on the main campus, any branch of campus, or any other site operated by Athens State University and which may constitute an emergency, a danger to the health, safety or property of any person, or a threat to the public be reported immediately to Campus Security. The Security Office is in the house just south of Founders Hall. The phone number is 256-233-8222. Athens State University security officers are on duty 24 hours, seven days a week.
2. All witnesses to any situation which fits into any of the above described categories shall make themselves available to give written statements and otherwise assist university officials and law enforcement officers in the investigation of the situation. It shall be an offense subject to appropriate disciplinary action for any Athens State University employee or student to file a false report or knowingly make a false statement about or interfere with the investigation of any situation of nature described in the preceding paragraph.
3. It shall be the duty of the University, upon its designated official or officials being made aware of any situation of a nature described in Paragraph A.1. above to immediately take all reasonable action to prevent or minimize any harm or threat of harm to the employees, students and visitors of Athens State University. Furthermore, it shall be the duty of said official(s) to notify the appropriate law enforcement agency in the event of an act of a criminal nature or any other nature (for example a traffic accident) which would ordinarily involve law enforcement officials. Additionally, it shall be the duty of said official(s) to contact the appropriate fire department, emergency medical agency, or other authority or agency which is due to be notified of the respective incident. The university prohibits retaliation against anyone who exercises his or her rights or responsibilities in reporting any criminal act, and will exercise appropriate disciplinary action for any such retaliation.
4. If you are a victim of a sexual assault at this institution, your first priority should be to get to a place of safety. You should then obtain necessary medical treatment. The Campus Security Office strongly advises that a victim of sexual assault report the incident in a timely manner. Time is a critical factor for evidence collection and preservation. Do not bathe or douche, do not eat or have anything to drink, and try not to urinate if possible. Go to the hospital emergency room as medical attention is vital, and you may have injuries of which you are unaware. If you have changed clothes, place them in a paper bag as the clothes may be used as evidence.
5. An assault should be reported to Campus Security. Filing a report with a Campus Security Officer will not obligate the victim to prosecute, nor will it subject the victim to scrutiny or judgmental opinions from officers. University disciplinary proceedings, as well as special guidelines for cases involving

sexual misconduct, are detailed in the *Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures* as well as the *Harassment and Discrimination Policy and Procedures* and the *Sexual Misconduct Policy* which may be found in the Policy Library.

## **B. SECURITY OF AND ACCESS TO CAMPUS FACILITIES**

Athens State University is security conscious, and the safety of our students, faculty, staff and visitors is a high priority. The following is a description of conditions relating to access and security of its facilities. Athens State University's main campus contains approximately thirty-five (35) acres and is located near the business district of Athens, Alabama. The campus is accessible from three sides by public streets. The campus is lighted at night. Each campus building (including elevators) is equipped with emergency call boxes. In addition, there are also several exterior call boxes. Athens State Security is dialed when using these call boxes.

See section A.1 for security hours and means of contacting security. Athens State University uniformed security officers carry firearms and patrol the campus on foot and by patrol vehicle. Security officers turn in a written report on any safety or security problems encountered during their shift. Additional security is added by the Athens Police Department who make routine patrols of the campus and vicinity. Criminal offenses are referred to the Athens Police Department who have jurisdiction on campus through a Memorandum of Understanding with Athens State University Security. All crime victims and witnesses are strongly encouraged to immediately report crimes to Athens State Security who will report to Athens Police Department if necessary. Prompt reporting will assure timely warning notices on campus and timely disclosure of crime statistics.

Campus buildings are controlled by an access control system. Buildings are locked after evening classes and opened prior to morning classes. Buildings remain locked on weekends and holidays unless classes or other events are scheduled.

Redstone Arsenal classes are offered on the military complex. These facilities come under the control of the Military Police and are patrolled by them.

## **C. CAMPUS LAW ENFORCEMENT PRACTICES**

It is the practice of Athens State University that all persons who enter and utilize its facilities must comply with all federal, state and local ordinances. In addition, Campus Security will enforce orders of protections, no contact orders, restraining or similar orders issued by a criminal, civil or tribal court if these orders have been reported by the victim to Campus Security. Students, faculty and staff are also required to comply with the rules and regulations set forth in the Athens State University Catalog and Handbook. Violations reported or otherwise detected will be completely investigated and submitted to proper authorities for prosecution, and other deportation.

## **D. CAMPUS PROGRAMS ON SECURITY AND SAFETY**

Athens State University communicates with students, faculty and staff in a variety of methods to enhance security and safety. Security officers provide visibility and patrol on foot. Security officers maintain a regular check on fire extinguishers and other safety devices. Security also provides assistance to those on campus with vehicle problems.

To enhance the protection of lives and property during major emergency situations such as fire, severe weather or other crisis, an Emergency Management Plan has been developed and distributed to all faculty and staff. This plan may be found online under the Campus Security section of the Athens State website. Hard copies may be requested from the Athens State Security Office.

<https://www.athensedu.org/pdfs/campus-security/Emergency-Guidelines.pdf>

A policy has been adopted to establish Athens State University as a Drug Free Work Place. Details concerning drug abuse prevention are provided by the office of Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs.

#### **E. CAMPUS CRIME STATISTICS**

Statistics relating to incidents occurring on the main campus, any branch of, or any other site operated by Athens State University for Calendar Years 202-2022 are included in this report.

The following definitions are consistent with those used by the U.S. Department of Justice in the Uniform Crime Reports published by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The classification by the University of any criminal offense which occurs on campus shall be based on its designation by the investigating law enforcement agency as opposed to the determination of a court medical examiner, coroner, jury or other judicial body.

## Definitions of Unlawful and/or Criminal Offenses

- (a) **Murder** (including non-negligent manslaughter) is the willful killing of one human being by another. This does not include deaths caused by negligence, suicide, accident or justifiable homicides.
- (b) **Rape** is the carnal knowledge of a person forcibly and against his or her will. Assaults or attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included; however, statutory rape and other sex offenses are excluded from this classification. **Note: City of Athens Police Department maintains information concerning registered sex offenders. A list of registered sex offenders for the city of Athens may be found online at [www.athensal.us/210/Local-Sex-Offenders](http://www.athensal.us/210/Local-Sex-Offenders)**
- (c) **Robbery** is the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.
- (d) **Aggravated Assault** is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempts to injure or kill are included in this category.
- (e) **Burglary** is defined as the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force to give entry is not required to classify an offense as a burglary, so long as the entry was unlawful.
- (f) **Motor Vehicle Theft** is defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. This offense includes the stealing of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, snowmobiles, etc. It does not include the taking for temporary use by a person having lawful access to the respective vehicle.
- (g) **A Liquor Law Violation** is an act or omission committed in violation of an ordinance or statute designed to control the possession, sale, distribution, or usage of an alcoholic beverage(s).

- (h) **A Drug Abuse Violation** is an act committed in violation of an ordinance or statute designed to control the possession, sale, distribution, or usage of a controlled substance.
- (i) **Weapons Possession** shall be the illegal possession or control of an item designated as a "weapon" by ordinance, statute, or case law.
- (j) **Theft of Property** is the unlawful taking, carrying or leading away property from the possession or constructive possession of another.
- (k) **Hate Crime** a crime in which the defendant intentionally selects a victim because of the actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ethnicity, gender, gender expression or identity, disability or sexual orientation of any person.
- (l) **Domestic Violence** includes asserted violent misdemeanor and felony offenses committed by the victim's current or former spouse, cohabitant, person similarly situated under domestic or family violence law, or anyone else protected under domestic or family violence law.
- (m) **Dating Violence** means violence by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the victim. Whether there was such relationship will be gauged by its length, type and frequency of interaction.
- (n) **Stalking** means a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for her, his or others' safety, or to suffer substantial emotional distress.

It is the practice of Athens State University that the information contained in this document shall be made available yearly to each student and employee of Athens State University.

## CLERY CRIME STATISTICS

Offense	On Campus			ACA			Non-Campus Property			Public Property		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex-Offenses, Forcible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sex-Offenses, Non-Forcible	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests: Weapons Carrying, Possession, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Weapons, Carrying, Possession	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests: Drug Abuse Violations	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Drug Abuse Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2
Arrests: Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Disciplinary Referrals: Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\*2022 ACA – Unfounded Case

## ADDITIONAL CRIME STATISTICS

Offense	On Campus			ACA			Non-Campus Property			Public Property		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
<b>VAWA Offenses</b>												
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stalking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Non-Clery Crime Statistics</b>												
Theft of Property	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Criminal Trespassing	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Criminal Mischief	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unlawful Breaking and Entering Vehicle	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

ACA is Alabama Center for the Arts in Decatur, AL.

Athens State University does not provide on campus housing.

There were no hate crimes reported for the years 2020, 2021 or 2022.



## **F. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

Athens State University is a public educational institution of the state of Alabama. Generally there shall be no possession, use or distribution of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs allowed on campus, or at any activity which it sponsors. On certain occasions, however, alcoholic beverages may be served on campus at university events, activities or guest functions. The locations for such events or activities are restricted, and all events or activities where alcohol is to be served must be approved in advance by the President or the President's designee.

The provisions of all applicable state and federal statutes and local ordinances must be observed at any activity or function where alcohol is served. In accordance with Alabama law, at no time will alcohol be served to minors or to any person who is intoxicated or appears to be intoxicated.

Please refer to the Policy Library for more information on this subject.

[www.athens.edu/policy/administrative/alcoholic-beverages-on-university-property/](http://www.athens.edu/policy/administrative/alcoholic-beverages-on-university-property/)

[www.athens.edu/policy/administrative/drug-free-university-unlawful-drugs-and-alcohol/](http://www.athens.edu/policy/administrative/drug-free-university-unlawful-drugs-and-alcohol/)

## **G. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN**

<https://www.athens.edu/org/pdfs/policies/Operating/Administrative/Emergency-Response-Plan.pdf>

### **CAMPUS ALERT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

Athens State University uses an alert notification system to alert students, staff and faculty of incidents that pose a potential threat. Such incidents include but are not limited to weather, arson, burglary, criminal homicide, robbery, sex offenses, violent persons or potential violent persons.

The alert notification is sent out either by security personnel or other designated personnel. The notification is sent via e-mail and cell phone text.

#### **PUBLIC ADDRESS (PA) SYSTEM:**

The PA SYSTEM is used to notify all campus personnel of severe weather conditions and also of any potential threats or emergencies. The PA SYSTEM is activated by either security personnel or other designated staff personnel.

The PA SYSTEM will be used for the following:

- **Severe weather**
- **Lockdown situation**
- **Any other situation which conditions warrant**

#### **TIMELY WARNING NOTIFICATION**

Athens State University will make alerts/timely warning reports without delay (within 48 hours of the report unless the release of the information would jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation or may affect the safety of an individual or cause a suspect to flee or evade detention, or may result in destruction of evidence) to the campus community of the incidents that pose a potential threat to students, faculty, staff and other members of the university community. Such incidents include, but are not limited to, weather, arson, burglary, criminal homicide, robbery, hate crimes or sex offenses. In these situations, alerts/warning reports will be issued by the campus alert notification system to include e-mail, also the various media

outlets may be notified by the office of the Vice President of University Advancement. The decision to issue such alerts/warning reports will be made by either the Vice President of University Advancement, the Director of Physical Plant or Campus Security.

## **H. CAMPUS EVACUATION**

If evacuation of the entire campus is necessary Campus Security will insure the evacuation is carried out in an orderly manner to insure safety of all concerned. The campus PA system will be used to announce the evacuation and the Athens Police Department will be notified for assistance. The campus alert notification system may be used to inform students and staff concerning the evacuation. Elevators are not to be used in an emergency situation. Faculty and Staff are to assist the physically disabled in evacuating by whatever method is most appropriate and safe for the given circumstance. Unless the emergency prohibits, the following evacuation routes should be used:

- **MAIN CAMPUS:** all personnel will be instructed by Security to go to the south side of Hobbs Street to the COLLEGE STREET CENTER south of Main Campus.
- **REGIONAL IN-SERVICE CENTER/AMSTI BUILDING:** (Highway 31 South) personnel will be evacuated to the gravel parking lot located south of the AMSTI building
- **CHASTEEN HALL:** (Clinton Street) personnel will be evacuated to the north side of the FIRST BAPTIST FAMILY LIFE CENTER north of Chasteen Hall.
- **REDSTONE ARSENAL CAMPUS:** personnel should follow the procedures for Redstone Arsenal Personnel. The on-post police would provide instructions for any necessary evacuations.
- **ALABAMA CENTER FOR THE ARTS:** personnel should follow procedures as established by Calhoun Community College.
- **CENTER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING:** personnel should evacuate to the Limestone County Archives parking lot located to the east of the Center for Lifelong Learning.

## **I. CAMPUS LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Athens State University Security Department employs security officers who have met the requirements of P.O.S.T. (Peace Officer Standards & Training) for the State of Alabama. The Security Officers are charged with providing safety and security to the campus of Athens State University.

Athens State University officers investigate any complaint in reference to safety and security issues on campus. Should a situation occur on campus requiring backup, the security officers will contact Athens Police Department for immediate assistance.

The Campus Security Department and the Athens Police Department have an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) regarding assisting campus security with law enforcement issues. The Athens Police Department is only a short distance from the campus and patrols the streets on the north, south, east and west of the campus. Campus Security has direct police radio contact with Athens Police dispatch and patrol units.

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**  
**Campus Security – 256-233-8222**  
**University Switchboard – 256-233-8100**  
**Athens Police Department – 256-233-8700**  
**Emergencies – 911**  
**(Fire, Medical, Etc.)**