JEANNE CLERY DISCLOSURE OF CAMPUS SECURITY POLICY AND CRIME STATISTICS ACT
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FOREWARD

We at Southern Regional Technical College are committed to providing a safe campus environment, and we ask that everyone takes ownership of this goal. We have undertaken many important institutional efforts to address safety and security issues, including this publication, and urge you to review the information about campus safety measures, reporting crimes and other emergencies, as well as the procedures and policies designed to protect our college community. We have no greater priority than the safety of our students, faculty, staff, and visitors, but a truly safe campus can only be achieved through the cooperation of everyone.

We strive to foster an environment in which individuals feel safe to attend, learn, and work. Our goals are principles of responsibility and respect. These values are essential to our community and serve as the foundation for productivity and success. A safe, supportive campus can be achieved with everyone’s cooperation. This publication contains information about campus safety measures and reports crime statistics for our college.

Thank you for attention to this very important mission.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Southern Regional Technical College (SRTC) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, age, political affiliation or belief, genetic information, disabled veteran, veteran of the Vietnam Era, or citizenship status (except in those special circumstances permitted or mandated by law). This non-discrimination policy encompasses the operation of all educational programs and activities, including admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other Technical College System and College-administered programs, including any Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) Title I financed programs. It also encompasses the employment of personnel and contracting for goods and services.

Title IX Coordinator
Office: Moultrie, Tifton, and Thomasville Campus:
229-217-4132
lnewton@southernregional.edu

EEOC Officer ADA/504 Coordinator
Office: VPC Moultrie Thomasville Office
229-217-4206 229-227-2668
mheard@southernregional.edu jlong@southernregional.edu

SRTC shall promote the realization of equal opportunity through a positive continuing program of specific practices designed to ensure the full realization of equal opportunity.
PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL SECURITY REPORT AND DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS – ANNUAL NOTICE COMPLIANCE

This report is prepared to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Crime Statistics Act using information provided by various campus offices including Student Affairs, Provost, Operations, and Campus Security Authorities, and information/crime statistics provided by local law enforcement agencies that have jurisdiction at each of our campuses.

This report provides statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus, adjacent to campus, and in certain off-campus buildings or property owned, leased, or controlled by SRTC. This report also contains institutional practices pertaining to campus security, crime reporting, sexual assault, alcohol and drugs, victims’ assistance programs, student discipline, campus resources, community safety alerts, crime prevention, access to campus facilities/properties, as well as personal safety tips. This document also encourages the reporting of all crime and includes how reports should be made and to whom.

SRTC distributes a notice of the availability of this Annual Security Report by October 1st of each year to every member of our college community. All currently enrolled students, employees, prospective students, and prospective employees may obtain a paper copy of this report by contacting the Office of the Vice President for Operations at 229-391-2609, by visiting the Office of the Vice President for Operations at the Tifton Campus in Building C, suite C102B, or online at the SRTC website at: www.southernregional.edu/consumer-information
CAMPUS LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY

Role

SRTC does not maintain an on-campus police department, but provides the following assets for campus security:

a. employs a security 'manager' to oversee SRTC security functions as a whole.
b. employs part-time security personnel to perform campus security.
c. employs Administrators-in-Charge (AICs). AICs are normally SRTC faculty staff members who serve in an additional role as security at campus locations in a administrator role.

Authority

SRTC security personnel have the authority and responsibility to enforce all college rules/regulations on all SRTC owned, leased, and/or operated property.

Criminal incidents are initially investigated by campus security officials and then turned over to local law enforcement authorities. Violations of college rules/code of conduct are referred to Student Affairs personnel for review/action.

Mission Statement

The primary goal of our security efforts is to serve and protect a social and academic environment that sustains and encourages moral and intellectual growth while preserving the legal rights of individuals. We will facilitate this goal by being as proactive as possible, anticipating and preventing unsafe conditions, protecting facilities and property, and protecting individuals from the imprudent or illegal acts of others.

Agreements / Memorandums of Understanding (MOU)

SRTC recognizes that laws and rules are necessary, and supports the enforcement of law by governmental agencies and rules by officials of the college. All persons on an SRTC campus are subject to these laws and rules at all times. SRTC is property of the State of Georgia; local law enforcement officers may enter the campus to conduct business as needed, with the understanding that they are expected to announce their presence with us when on campus. In addition, these officers are invited to patrol the campus to assist us in deterring crime. We enjoy a good relationship with all of the law enforcement agencies where SRTC is a part of the community. As there is no duplication of effort involved, no MOU is required. Each SRTC facility/campus falls directly in the jurisdiction of a municipal and/or county law enforcement agency.
Safety, Our Number One Priority

SRTC takes great pride in our campus community and has many advantages for students, facility, and staff. This community is a great place to learn, work, and study; however, this does not mean that the campus community is immune from problems. With that in mind, we have taken progressive measures to create and maintain a safe environment on campus.

Though SRTC is progressive with its policies, programs, and education, it is up to each of us to live with a sense of awareness and use reasonable judgment when on campus.

Working Relationship with Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

SRTC maintains a cooperative relationship with all surrounding law enforcement agencies, local, state, and federal alike. At a minimum, each campus falls into at least one municipal and/or county jurisdiction. We don’t have any MOU’s with these agencies as they each provide jurisdictional law enforcement services to our campuses.

Crimes Involving Students or Student Organizations at Off-Campus Locations

SRTC does not have any officially recognized off-campus student organizations. We rely on our close working relationships with local law enforcement agencies to receive information about incidents involving our students, on and off campus. In coordination with local law enforcement agencies, our security officers will actively investigate or coordinate investigation of certain crimes occurring on or near campus. If we learn of off-campus criminal activity involving students, we will coordinate with the appropriate law enforcement agency and forward information about the situation to the Office of Student Affairs, as appropriate.

REPORTING CRIMES AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

SRTC has a number of ways for campus community members and visitors to report crimes, serious incidents, and other emergencies to appropriate officials. We encourage the prompt and accurate reporting of all crimes to campus security officials. Regardless of how and where you decide to report these incidents, it is critical for the safety of the entire campus community that you immediately report all incidents so that security officials can investigate the situation and determine if follow-up actions are required, including issuing a Timely Warning or emergency notification. Any crime reported to any campus official must be reported to security officials.

Voluntary, Confidential Reporting

If crimes are never reported, little can be done to help other members of the community from also being victims. We encourage campus community members to report crimes promptly and to participate in and support crime prevention efforts. Our community will be much safer when all community members participate in safety and security initiatives.
If you are the victim of a crime or want to report a crime you are aware of, but do not want to pursue action within the criminal justice system, we ask that you consider filing a voluntary, confidential report with a ‘campus security authority,’ as defined on page 9 of this report. Depending upon the circumstances of the crime you are reporting, you may be able file a report while maintaining your confidentiality. The purpose of a confidential report is to comply with your wish to keep your personally identifying information confidential, while taking steps to ensure your safety and the safety of others. The confidential reports allow SRTC to compile accurate records on the number and types of incidents occurring on campus. Reports filed in this manner are counted and disclosed in the Annual Security Report. In limited circumstances, the college may not be able to assure confidentiality and will inform you in those cases.

Anyone may call campus security officials at 229-225-4096 (Thomasville), 229-821-0042 (VPC Moultrie), or 229-391-2600 (Tifton), or the Office of the Vice President for Operations at 229-391-2609 to report information. Callers may remain anonymous. Additional telephone numbers and contact information can be found at the SRTC website.

Reporting to Security and Law Enforcement Services

We encourage all members of the SRTC community to report all crimes and other emergencies in a timely manner.

If the incident/crime to be reported has already occurred, please contact campus security officers at 229-225-4096 (Thomasville), 229-821-1166 (Moultrie), or 229-850-0850 (Tifton), or the Office of the Vice President for Operations at 229-381-2609 during normal working hours, or in person at the appropriate campus security office.

If the incident/crime is occurring, and/or represents an emergency, contact 911 immediately. Although many resources are available, campus security should be notified of any crime, whether or not an investigation continues, to assure the college can assess any and all security concerns and inform the community if there is a significant threat to the campus community.

Whenever a crime is reported, a security officer or local law enforcement officer will conduct the initial investigation, gather information, and seek physical evidence. The officer attempts to determine the basic facts by questioning all persons involved in the incident as well as any witnesses. Basic and necessary information, including home address, telephone number, and date of birth, are obtained during the investigation. Please bear in mind that the police officer, by asking detailed questions, is attempting to solve the crime and assist in the apprehension of the person(s) responsible. The crime scene (the area where the incident occurred) must not be disturbed, in order to preserve physical evidence. Each member of the campus community is asked to be observant and to pay attention to descriptions of persons, including clothing worn, and vehicles, including license plate numbers. Any suspicious person observed in or around a classroom, office or work area should be reported immediately.

Depending on the type of incident/crime, the investigation may be turned over to local law enforcement authorities for action.
If additional information is needed after the initial inquiry, a security officer or law enforcement officer may contact the reporting person later to follow-up. SRTC is committed to doing everything possible to assist crime victims and witnesses.

**Reporting to Other Campus Security Authorities**

While SRTC prefers that community members promptly report all crimes and other emergencies directly to the security officials or appropriate law enforcement authorities, we also recognize that some may prefer to report to other individuals or offices. The Clery Act recognizes certain college officials and offices as ‘Campus Security Authorities (CSAs).’ The act defines these individuals as:

- A campus law enforcement unit;
- Any individual or individuals who have responsibility for campus security but who do not constitute a campus security force, such as an individual who is responsible for monitoring entrance into school property (e.g., an access monitor);
- An individual or organization specified in a school’s campus security statement as the individual or organization to which students and employees should report criminal offenses;
- An official of an institution who has significant responsibility for student and campus activities, including, but not limited to, student housing, student discipline, and campus judicial proceedings. An official is defined as any person who has the authority and the duty to take action or respond to particular issues on behalf of the institution.

Although we encourage the reporting of campus criminal activity directly to security officials or appropriate law enforcement authorities, in some instances members of the campus community may choose to file a report with a CSA. A crime reported to any CSA will be conveyed to the appropriate authorities. CSAs at SRTC are identified as follows:

- President
- Vice President for Operations
- Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness
- Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Vice President for Administrative Services
- Human Resources Director
- All Campus Security Officials
- All Facility Directors
- Provost
- All Academic Deans
- All Deans of Student Affairs
- Director of Student Life
- All Law Enforcement Officers
- All Campus Administrators-in-Charge
- Safety Committee Members

If informed about a crime or an incident that may be a crime, CSAs will record any and all applicable information about the crime/incident, assist the person/victim to available options and resources, and then report it to campus security officials or appropriate law enforcement authorities. CSAs are not responsible for determining whether the crime took place, nor are they to perform any type of investigation or attempt to locate the perpetrator.

**Pastoral and Professional Counselors**

According to the Clery Act, pastoral and professional counselors who are appropriately credentialed and hired by colleges to serve in a counseling role are not considered CSAs when they are acting in the counseling role. SRTC does not employ professional or pastoral counselors. However, SRTC encourages any professional or pastoral counselor
who may be counseling a student or employee to inform those they counsel of procedures for reporting crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis to any CSA for inclusion in the annual security report. By law professional and pastoral counselors are exempt from reporting requirements.

**Disciplinary Referrals**

Regardless of criminal prosecution decisions, all criminal cases involving students are referred to the Office of Student Affairs. When there is evidence that a student has committed a crime on campus, disciplinary action at SRTC may proceed whether or not criminal charges involving the same incident have been adjudicated or dropped. For more information refer to the Code of Conduct policy in the Student Handbook.

**Annual Clery Notice Compliance**

In accordance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Crime Statistics Act, all currently enrolled students, employees, prospective students, and prospective employees are entitled to request and receive a copy of this report.

SRTC distributes a notice of the availability of this Annual Security Report by the 1st of October each year to every member of our college community. Copies of this report may be obtained by contacting the Office of the Vice President for Operations at 229-391-2609, by visiting the Office of the Vice President for Operations at the Tifton Campus, suite C102B, or online at the SRTC website. See page 6 for more information and access to the online report.

**Daily Crime Log**

SRTC maintains a daily log of all crimes/incidents reported to college officials. This log includes:

- Nature, date, time, and general location of each crime/incident
- Date that crime/incident was reported
- Disposition of complaint, if known

Log entries (or additions to log entries) are made within 48 hours of receiving a complaint or information of a crime/incident, unless that disclosure is prohibited by law or would jeopardize the confidentiality of the victim.

SRTC may withhold information as described above if there is clear and convincing evidence that the release of the information would:

- Jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation or the safety of an individual;
- Cause a suspect to flee or evade detection; or
- Result in the destruction of evidence
If this is the case, SRTC will disclose any information withheld once the adverse effect described in that paragraph is no longer likely to occur. Only that information that would cause the adverse effects described above may be withheld.

The daily log for the most recent 60-day period is open to public inspection. Anyone wishing to review the log or receive a copy of the log may do so by contacting the Office of the Vice President for Operations at 229-391-2609 during normal business hours. Logs older than 60 days will be made available within two business days of a request. Written requests may be sent to: Office of the Vice President for Operations, Southern Regional Technical College, and 52 Tech Drive, Tifton, GA 31794.

TIMELY WARNING REPORTS

In an effort to provide timely notice to the campus community in the event of a crime that may pose a serious or ongoing threat to members of the community, SRTC will issue a campus alert, or ‘timely warning’ for / on the following crimes:

- Murder / manslaughter / homicide
- Sex offenses, including rape, fondling, incest, and statutory rape
- Robbery
- Aggravated assault
- Burglary
- Motor vehicle theft
- Arson
- Arrests and disciplinary action referral for liquor law violations, drug law violations, and illegal weapon possession
- Hate crimes, including:
  - The number of each type of crime listed above determined to be hate crimes
  - The number of thefts/larcenies, simple assaults, acts of intimidation, and damage to property determined to be hate crimes
  - Dating violence, domestic violence and stalking
- Crimes listed above that are reported to campus security authorities (CSAs)
- Crimes that are considered by SRTC to represent a threat to students and employees

The purpose of these timely warning reports is notify the campus community of an incident and to provide information that may enable you to take steps to protect yourself from similar incidents.

While such warnings must be ‘timely,’ they need not be immediate, and can await the results of investigation into the situation / incident at hand. The Office of the Vice President for Operations is tasked with making the decision whether to issue a warning that will be distributed through the ‘Blackboard Connect’ system. Blackboard Connect is a service notification system utilized by SRTC to connect with students and employees.
through voice, SMS text, email, and social media. It is SRTC’s emergency alert and notification system; emergency messages will be transmitted via this system.

Otherwise, warnings will be distributed through a variety of ways, including but not limited to email, text message, PA system and runners. The circumstances of the particular situation will dictate the medium(s) used to distribute an alert or warning report. In addition, The Office of the Vice President for Operations may issue timely warning reports when there is a pattern of crimes against persons or property, including off-campus locations used or frequented by the campus community.

In accordance with the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (VAWA), names and other identifying victim information will be withheld as confidential. SRTC is not required to provide a timely warning with respect to crimes reported to a pastoral or professional counselor.

If there is an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on campus, SRTC will follow it emergency operations procedures which includes notification protocols. We will not issue timely warnings with respect to emergency operations, but will provide adequate follow-up information as the situation allows and as needed. Emergency response procedures are addressed in the next section.

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EVACUATION PROCEDURES**

*Emergency Management at SRTC*

The Office of the Vice President for Operations is responsible for developing, maintaining, and implementing emergency planning for the college. This includes emergency planning, operations, and recovery; hazard and risk mitigation and education; building partnerships with external response agencies; as well as developing and conducting exercises/drills.

Emergency response information and procedure is developed and distributed to students and employees. These procedures include, but are not limited to emergency planning guides, fire escape plans, severe weather plans, emergency operation plans, hazardous communication plan, and exposure control plan. These are maintained and distributed in a variety of ways, primarily by being posted in hallways and classrooms, and/or provided on the SRTC website. Plans are updated annually.

*Drills, Exercises, and Training*

To ensure SRTC’s emergency management plans remain current and actionable, we conduct several exercises and drills annually. These include, but are not limited to active shooter exercises, earthquake exercises, fire alarm drills, ‘lockdown’ drills, and severe weather drills. In addition some facet of each of the following plans must be tested annually: emergency operation plan, hazardous communication plan, exposure control plan, and the business continuity plan. These plans are often tested in conjunction with a scheduled exercise or drill. Exercises and drills may be accomplished in one or more of the following methods: ‘seminar,’ ‘workshop,’ ‘tabletop,’ ‘drill,’ ‘functional,’ or ‘full-scale.’
Training is provided to all participants prior to functional and higher level exercises, such as active shooter and earthquake exercises. Safety information, such as fire alarm and severe weather drills is provided to students during student orientation and is included on each course syllabus. After-action reviews are conducted after all drills and exercises.

The Office of the Vice President for Operations is responsible for all drills and exercises, the development of exercise scenarios and schedules, and coordination for these events with the campus community as well as local, state, and federal response agencies and other stakeholders. In conjunction with at least one exercise each year, we will notify the campus community of the exercise and remind the community of the college’s mass notification system and emergency response procedures.

**Emergency Notification**

SRTC is committed to ensuring the campus community receives timely, accurate, and useful information in the event of a significant emergency or dangerous situation on campus or in the local area that poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of campus community members. Blackboard Connect is a service notification system utilized by SRTC to connect with students and employees through voice, SMS text, email, and social media. It is SRTC’s emergency alert and notification system; emergency messages will be transmitted via this system. Blackboard Connect is a closed, opt-out system; everyone in the campus community is automatically enrolled in the system. Emergency notifications will be made for all significant emergencies and dangerous situations, utilizing the process found in the following paragraphs. The SRTC Vice President for Operations and/or and Facilities Directors are responsible for carrying out emergency notification procedures.

**Confirming the Existence of a Significant Emergency or Dangerous Situation and Initiating the Emergency Notification System**

Once a critical incident or other emergency situation has occurred or is occurring, security officials and/or other college personnel will proceed to the scene to assess the situation. These first responders to that incident will confirm that there is, in fact, an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all members of the campus community; security management or the Office of the Vice President for Operations will be contacted, who will, in turn, issue an emergency notification.

The Office of the Vice President for Operations, Facilities Director or security will immediately initiate all or some portions of the Emergency Operations Plan, Annex E, Communication and Notification. If, in the professional judgment of first responders, issuing a notification potentially compromises efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency, SRTC may elect to delay issuing an emergency notification. As soon as the condition that may compromise efforts is no longer present, the emergency notification will be issued to the campus community without delay.
Determining the Appropriate Segment or Segments of the Campus Community to Receive an Emergency Notification:

Campus security and/or local first responders on the scene of a critical incident or dangerous situation will assist those preparing the emergency notification with determining what segment or segments of the SRTC community should receive the notification. Generally, campus community members in the immediate area of the dangerous situation (i.e., the building, adjacent buildings, or surrounding area) will receive the emergency notification first. Responsible campus authorities will continually evaluate the situation and assess the need to notify additional segments of the campus population.

Determining the Contents of the Emergency Notification:

Speed and accuracy of the information are of utmost importance in issuing emergency notifications. To expedite this process and ensure each message contains essential information, the mass notification system contains pre-scripted templates for the most probable or highest impact emergencies based on analysis. These messages identify the situation, allow for input of the location, and identify the immediate protective action that should be taken. The individual authorizing the message will select the most appropriate template. In those cases where there are no predetermined templates in the system, the individual may use the "custom" template to craft a specific message. The goal is to ensure people are aware of the situation and they know the steps to take to stay safe.

Procedures Used to Notify the Campus Community:

In addition to utilizing the ‘Blackboard Connect’ mass notification system, other methods may be used to notify the campus community in the event of an emergency. These include, but are not limited to verbal announcements in buildings, use of a public address system, or use of an existing alarm system, such as a building fire alarm.

Procedures for Disseminating Emergency Information to the Larger Community (i.e., individuals and organizations outside the campus community):

If SRTC activates its emergency notification annex in response to a situation that poses an immediate threat to members of the campus community, appropriate campus offices will notify the larger community about the situation and steps SRTC has taken to address the emergency. First, the Office of the Vice President for Operations and security management will contact local authorities, including affected local police departments, sheriff’s offices, and emergency management agencies. Second, the SRTC Vice President for Marketing in conjunction with the Office of the Vice President for Operations, is responsible for crisis communications and for updating notices on social media platforms and for maintaining communications with news outlets, distribution of press releases, and scheduling of press conferences.

Enrolling in SRTC’s ‘Blackboard Connect’ Mass Notification System

As our ‘Blackboard Connect’ mass notification system is an ‘opt out’ system, enrollment is automatic for students and employees. If you find or think that you are not enrolled in this
system, simply go the SRTC website, and select the following, in order: ‘About Us,’ ‘Safety & Security,’ then ‘Emergency Alert Notification,’ and finally, ‘SRTC’s School Messenger Emergency Alerts & Notifications.’ Once on the Emergency Alerts & Notifications page you can follow the directions to enroll or check your enrollment. Contact the IT office if you have any problems with enrollment.

Tests of the Emergency Response and Evacuation Procedure

SRTC tests emergency response and evacuation procedures annually by conducting announced and unannounced exercises and/or drills, including, but not limited to active shooter exercises, earthquake exercises, lockdown drills, and fire escape drills. Announced exercises and drills are publicized in writing well ahead of the events. All exercises and drills are documented with all applicable information, including planning, execution, and review.

SECURITY OF and ACCESS to SRTC FACILITIES

At SRTC all buildings/facilities open and close on varying schedules, based on factors such as location, day of the week, and academic schedule. Generally, during academic periods, buildings on Thomasville Campus, Moultrie Campus, and the Tifton Campus are open 7:00am – 10:00pm daily Monday through Thursday, and Moultrie Campus 8:00am – 3:00pm on Fridays. Schedules for other campuses and instructional centers vary based on academic schedule. Conference center schedules vary based on event. All SRTC facilities are closed on weekends except for special events.

Access to individual classrooms, laboratories, and facilities is limited to those enrolled in the courses meeting there. Likewise, access to most programs is limited to those enrolled in the program or otherwise authorized access. People have access to buildings for study, work, or teaching, but not unrelated functions. Therefore, only those who have approval are provided access.

Security Considerations for the Maintenance of Campus Facilities

SRTC is committed to campus safety and security. Locks, landscaping, and outdoor lighting are designed for safety and security. Sidewalks are designed to provide well-traveled, lighted routes from parking areas to buildings and from building to building. Grounds keeping personnel trim shrubs from sidewalks, walkways, and building entrances to provide a well-lighted route to buildings. All campus walkways and parking areas are inspected on a regular basis to ensure adequate lighting. Corrections are made promptly.

We encourage campus community members to promptly report any security concern, including concerns about locking mechanisms, lighting, or landscaping to the Office of the Vice President for Operations.
CAMPUS SECURITY POLICIES; CRIME PREVENTION AND SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAMS

A. SRTC has developed an active and comprehensive program with the objective of preventing crime to the fullest extent possible through awareness and participation of the college community. While SRTC may offer advice and assistance regarding campus safety, each individual has the primary responsibility for his/her own safety.

SRTC is committed to the principle of community policing. Crime prevention/awareness programs begin with new student or employee orientation presentations. Through the SRTC website, flyers, briefings, and the daily crime log, the college community is informed of crime trends, safety tips, special programs, and alerts (Timely Warnings).

Upon request from any department or student organization, SRTC security officials will provide informational seminars, including speakers, on a variety of topics including the prevention of rape, sexual assault, theft, robbery prevention, drug and alcohol awareness, safety issues, and advice about personal defense. SRTC security officials also routinely participate in student government association meetings and other crime prevention subjects.

Anyone desiring more information, or wishing to request assistance, including speakers, should contact the SRTC Vice President for Operations at 229-391-2609.

B. Campus Safety/Education – SRTC provides security and safety information during presentations and workshops throughout the year. Information relating to crime prevention and personal safety is made available. The following are just a few examples of the programs and materials made available each year to the campus:

- **Presentations** - Various groups are addressed with crime prevention information adapted to fit the audience. These programs include, but are not limited to:
  - **New Staff / Faculty** - An orientation program for newly hired employees.
  - **Student Orientation** - Crime prevention information and safety information provided during student orientation each semester to new students.
  - **Staff Development and Training** – Security and safety information is presented quite frequently as a part of development and training.
  - **Requested Presentations** – Security officials make presentations throughout the year to various groups, such the student government association, when requested.

- **Inter-Agency Meetings**- Security officials periodically meet with local law enforcement agencies and TCSG law enforcement authorities in order to exchange information and ideas related to policing, security, and other related concerns.

- **Critical Incident Scenarios** - Periodically SRTC conducts critical incident exercises, such as active shooter and hazardous materials exposure, with local law enforcement and other first responder agencies throughout our service area.
• **Drills** - SRTC periodically conducts fire alarm and severe weather safety drills throughout the year.

• **Crime Prevention through Environmental Design** – The Office of the Provost and Facilities/Maintenance employees make suggestions for improvements in the physical security of the campus by examining lighting levels and foliage growth during night time inspections.

• **Security Cameras** – SRTC maintains a large security camera system to detect, deter, and investigate crime on North and South campuses.

• **SRTC website – Safety and Security** - The SRTC website is updated with safety and security information, which can be found at: [http://www.southernregional.edu/consumer-information](http://www.southernregional.edu/consumer-information)

• In the website you will find information on SRTC emergency information, emergency Alert notification, being prepared to act, emergency procedures guide, safety plans, the Campus Safety Act (Clery Report), and sexual violence prevention.

• **Safety Escorts** – SRTC security officials will provide a safety escort for any student, employee, or visitor that desires an escort to or from their vehicle.

C. **Weapons Policy.** In accordance with Georgia law, the possession of weapons, dangerous weapons, or explosives on SRTC owned or controlled property is PROHIBITED (exception: law enforcement officers, peace officers, judicial officers, and others as provided for by law). Failure to comply with this policy (and state law) will result in disciplinary action, and could result in arrest and criminal prosecution.

Georgia law, OCGA 16-11-121 states: “…it shall be unlawful for any person to carry to or to possess or have under such person's control while within a school safety zone or at a school function, or on a bus or other transportation furnished by a school any weapon or explosive compound,…”

**Weapon, as defined by OCGA 16-11-127.1,** means and includes any pistol, revolver, or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind, or any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballitic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, knuckles, whether made from metal, thermoplastic, wood, or other similar material, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any weapon of like kind, and any stun gun or taser as defined in subsection (a) of Code Section 16-11-106. This paragraph excludes any of these instruments used for classroom work authorized by the teacher.

**Dangerous weapon, as defined by OCGA 16-11-121,** is any weapon commonly known as a "rocket launcher," "bazooka," or "recoilless rifle" which fires explosive or nonexplosive rockets designed to injure or kill personnel or destroy heavy armor, or similar weapon used for such purpose. The term shall also mean a weapon commonly known as a "mortar"
which fires high explosive from a metallic cylinder and which is commonly used by the armed forces as an antipersonnel weapon or similar weapon used for such purpose. The term shall also mean a weapon commonly known as a "hand grenade" or other similar weapon which is designed to explode and injure personnel or similar weapon used for such purpose. "Machine gun" means any weapon which shoots or is designed to shoot, automatically, more than six shots, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

Permit holders, e.g. those in possession of a weapons carry permit, are NOT immune from our policy and Georgia law. Permit holders may only be in possession of a weapon when dropping off or picking up someone from school.

D. Fire Incident Reporting – All campus members are instructed to call 911 to report a fire emergency. Non-emergency notifications are made to security officials and/or appropriate college officials.

E. Student Conduct.

1. The Office of Student Affairs - the mission of the Office of Student Affairs is to promote a safe, orderly, and civil campus community and to encourage and inspire students to become good citizens by engaging in personal responsibility, ethical decision making, and demonstrating respect for the rights and safety of others.

The Office of Student Affairs is responsible for administering the Student Code of Conduct, which articulates the behavioral standards and the equitable procedures employed by SRTC to respond to allegations of student misconduct. The Code of Conduct is administered at all campuses and may also address off-campus student misconduct when a student’s behavior affects a substantial SRTC interest. Students who are found responsible for violations may be subject to sanctions ranging from restriction/restitution to expulsion from the college.

2. In instances where a student’s conduct, behavior, or other objective evidence provides a reasonable cause to believe a student is an immediate and significant threat to the health or safety of other persons, to property of the University or others, to disrupting essential campus operations, or to the student’s own health or safety, the Office of Student Affairs may assign measures or actions that are designed to protect the health and safety of the community and members therein.

3. The Office of Student Affairs is also responsible for conducting pre-admission, re-enrollment, and continuing enrollment reviews for prospective, returning or current students with known behavioral problems. Any individual or entity may submit reports alleging student misconduct to the Office of Student Affairs, appropriate dean of students, or designee at the campus where the incident occurred.

4. The Office of Student Affairs also provides outreach programming designed to inform and educate students and to promote SRTC principles. Please visit the SRTC website, Student Affairs, at http://www.southernregional.edu/admissions, where you can
find information about student support, campus resources, student life, registrar, and special services.

F. Missing Students.

The Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 requires any institution participating in a Title IV federal student financial aid program that maintains on-campus housing facilities to establish a missing student notification policy and related procedures. SRTC does not have on-campus housing and does not have a policy about missing students. However, SRTC, upon notification that a student is missing, will collaborate with local law enforcement authorities to the greatest extent possible in an investigation involving one of our students.

**SRTC POLICIES GOVERNING ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS**

A. Alcohol: Students must comply with all state and federal laws regulating alcohol as well as TCSG Policy II.C.6, Alcohol on Campus. Alcoholic beverages may not be served or sold at any student-sponsored function. Students being in a state of intoxication on SRTC premises or at college-sponsored or supervised functions (including off-campus functions), internships, externships, practicum, clinical sites, co-operative, or academic-sponsored programs or activities or in a college-owned vehicle is prohibited. It is illegal in the State of Georgia for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase, possess, or consume alcohol, or to falsify or misrepresent his or her age to obtain alcohol.

B. Controlled substances, illegal drugs, and drug paraphernalia: SRTC prohibits possession, use, sale, or distribution of any controlled substance, illegal drugs, or drug paraphernalia except as expressly permitted by law. Students or employees who use, possess, or sell illegal drugs are subject to criminal prosecution as well as administrative disciplinary actions including mandatory counseling, suspension, or dismissal.

C. Any influence that may be attributed to the use of drugs or of alcoholic beverages shall not in any way limit the responsibility of the individual for the conduct or consequences of his/her actions.

D. The possession, sale, or furnishing of alcohol and illicit drugs on SRTC property is governed by SRTC policy and regulations, the Student Code of Conduct, as well as state and federal laws. These rules and laws are strictly enforced by SRTC and local law enforcement authorities. Violators are subject to college disciplinary action, as well as criminal prosecution, fines, and/or imprisonment.

E. Alcohol and Drug-abuse Education. Drug and alcohol addiction is defined as both a physical and psychological dependence on a substance. This addiction can reveal itself in a variety of ways; left untreated, drug and alcohol addiction can ruin marriages, destroy relationships, and impact children for years to come. Addiction can also lead to an early death. Treatment is often necessary to overcome these addictions.
1. For employees, the Technical College System of Georgia provides an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for any employee who has a problem with substance abuse. If you suspect that you or someone close to you may have a problem with alcohol or other drugs . . . stop hurting and start healing. Employees can reach the EAP twenty-four hours a day by calling 800-334-6014 or at www.caiquality.com. These services are provided by Cameron and Associates, 6100 Lake Forest Drive, Suite 550, Atlanta, GA 30328.

Any employee or supervisor with additional questions related to alcohol and other drug problems may contact the Office of Human Resources at 229-217-4207.

**SRTC’S RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, DATING VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND STALKING**

SRTC does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs, nor tolerate sexual harassment or sexual violence, which is a type of sex discrimination. Other acts can also be forms of sex-based discrimination and are also prohibited whether gender based or not and include dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. As a result, SRTC issues this statement of policy to inform the community of our comprehensive plan addressing sexual misconduct; educational programs and procedures that address sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, whether the incident occurs on or off campus, and how these events are reported to a college official. In this context, SRTC prohibits the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and reaffirms its commitment to maintain a campus environment emphasizing the dignity and worth of all members of the campus community.

SRTC is committed to creating a safe and secure campus environment that is free from acts of intimidation or the fear of falling victim to a sexual assault or sexual violence. SRTC has partnered with EverFi to provide education in critical life skills such as sexual assault prevention and alcohol abuse prevention, and utilizes ‘Haven,’ an online sexual assault awareness and prevention course, available to all students. Haven is specifically designed to address the issues of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, including information on recognizing warning signs of abusive behavior, risk reduction techniques, and positive options for bystander intervention. Every student is expected to complete ‘Haven’. New employees and students are provided a description of our prevention and awareness programs upon hiring or during student orientation, appropriately.

An important component of the Haven course is a list of resources and links for students, which includes information on SRTC’s student code of conduct, as well as a link to state of Georgia legal statutes regarding relationship and sexual violence.

*Our Commitment to Addressing Sexual Assault, Rape, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking*

SRTC does not tolerate sexual misconduct or abuse, such as sexual assault or any other forms of nonconsensual sexual activity. Sexual misconduct in any form violates the
student code of conduct, and may violate federal and state laws. Violations are subject to
disciplinary sanctions through the Office of Student Affairs and may result in arrest and
prosecution under Georgia law. Please review the student code of conduct to review
procedures, policies, and protocols for reporting and addressing allegations of student
sexual misconduct. Student rights and responsibilities are also addressed in the code of
conduct.

What is Consent?

Consent is defined as voluntary, positive agreement between the participants to engage in
specific sexual activity. If coercion, intimidation, threats, or physical force are used there is
no consent. If a person is mentally or physically incapacitated or impaired so that such
person cannot understand the fact, nature or extent of the sexual situation, there is no
consent. This includes impairment or incapacitation due to alcohol or drug consumption,
or being asleep or unconscious. Inducement of incapacitation of another with the intent to
affect the ability of an individual to consent or refuse to consent to sexual contact almost
always, if not always, negates consent. Silence does not necessarily constitute consent.
Whether a person has taken advantage of a position of influence over an alleged victim
may be a factor in determining consent.

Defining Sexual Assault, Rape, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking

**Sexual Assault:** Sexual assault is any involuntary sexual act in which a person is coerced
or physically forced to engage against their will, or any nonconsensual sexual touching of a
person. It is any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent
of the recipient.

**Domestic Violence:** A pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one
partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic
violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions, or threats
of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that intimidate,
manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or
wound someone.

**Dating Violence:** Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social
relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a
relationship will be determined based on a consideration of the following factors:

- The length of the relationship.
- The type of relationship.
- The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

**Stalking:** A pattern of repeated and unwanted attention, harassment, contact, or any
other course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable
person to feel fear, for his or her safety, or suffer substantial emotional distress. Georgia
law states: ‘A person commits the offense of stalking when he or she follows, places
under surveillance, or contacts another person at or about a place or places without the
consent of the other person for the purpose of harassing and intimidating the other
person.’

What to do if you have been the victim of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic
violence or stalking

After an incident of sexual assault, it is important to seek medical attention as soon as
possible. It is important that victims of sexual assault not bathe, douche, smoke, change
clothing or clean the bed/linen/area where they were assaulted if the offense occurred
within the past 96 hours so that evidence as may be necessary to the proof of criminal
activity may be preserved. In circumstances of sexual assault, if victims do not opt for
forensic evidence collection, health care providers can still treat injuries and take steps to
address concerns of pregnancy and/or sexually transmitted disease.

Victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence are encouraged
to also preserve evidence by saving text messages, instant messages, social networking
pages, other communications, and keeping pictures, logs or other copies of documents, if
they have any, that would be useful to investigators/law enforcement and/or the college
officials. Although SRTC strongly encourages all members of its community to report
violations of this policy to law enforcement, it is the victim’s choice whether or not to make
such a report, and victims have the right to decline involvement with the police.

To criminally report an incident involving a sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and
dating violence, contact campus security or local law enforcement authorities. If the
assault has just occurred, or is recent, move to a safe place and contact authorities
immediately. If you are not sure about prosecution, but you might want to prosecute later,
you are encouraged to obtain a medical evidentiary examination if you have sexually
assaulted or injured. You are encouraged to file a law enforcement report and you always
have the right to change your mind and not to pursue a criminal complaint.

Victims who are uncertain about what to do can call the National Sexual Assault
Telephone Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE (4673), a safe, confidential service. The Hotline
provides access to a range of free services including:

- Confidential, judgment-free support from a trained staff member
- Support finding a local health facility that is trained to care for survivors of sexual
  assault and offers services like sexual assault forensic exams
- Someone to help you talk through what happened
- Local resources that can assist with your next steps toward healing and recovery
- Referrals for long term support in your area
- Information about the laws in your area
- Basic information about medical concerns

Whether or not a victim reports the crime to law enforcement authorities, if the alleged
offender is a member of the SRTC community, the victim has a right to proceed to seek
discipline against the offender as explained in the student handbook.
SRTC will assist any victim with notifying local authorities if they so desire. A victim of sexual assault has the following rights provided by federal law:

- Survivors shall be notified of their options to notify law enforcement.
- Accuser and accused must have the same opportunity to have others present.
- Both parties shall be informed of the outcome of any disciplinary proceeding.
- Survivors shall be notified of counseling services.
- Survivors shall be notified of options for changing academic and living situations.

A victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who proceeds through the criminal process has additional rights:

- To receive information concerning available services for victims
- To be notified of certain significant actions and proceedings pertaining to the case
- To be accompanied at all public criminal proceeding by a victim advocate, family member or another person
- To offer prior comment on the sentencing of a defendant to include the submission of a written and/or oral victim impact statement
- To be restored, to the extent possible, to the pre-crime economic status through restitution, compensation, and the return of property

The victim has the right to have assistance in the preparation of, submission of, and follow-up on financial assistance claims to the Crime Victim’s Compensation Program.

Moreover, to the extent of the victim’s cooperation and consent, SRTC offices will work cooperatively to ensure that the complainant’s health, physical safety, work and academic status are protected, pending the outcome of a formal investigation of the complaint. For example, if reasonably available, a complainant may be offered changes to academic or working situations in addition to assistance to receiving counseling, health services, and in notifying appropriate local law enforcement. Additionally, in most cases and consistent with other federal law, personal identifiable information about the victim will be treated as confidential and only shared with persons with a specific need to know who are investigating/adjudicating the complaint or delivering resources or support services to the complainant. Victims may request that directory information on file be removed from any public source.

**Risk reduction, warning signs of abusive behavior and future attacks**

No victim is EVER to blame for being assaulted or abused. Unfortunately, studies show that a person who is the victim of sexual or dating violence is more likely to be re-victimized. Below are some tips to help reduce your risk, to recognize warnings signs of abusive behavior and how to reduce the risk of a potential attack.

1. **Warning Signs of Abusive Behavior** - Domestic and dating abuse often escalates from threats and verbal abuse to violence. And, while physical injury may be the most obvious
danger, the emotional and psychological consequences of domestic and dating violence are also severe. Warning signs of dating and domestic violence include:

- Being afraid of your partner.
- Constantly watching what you say to avoid a “blow up.”
- Feelings of low self-worth and helplessness about your relationship.
- Feeling isolated from family or friends because of your relationship.
- Hiding bruises or other injuries from family or friends.
- Being prevented from working, studying, going home, and/or using technology (including your cell phone).
- Being monitored by your partner at home, work or school.
- Being forced to do things you don’t want to do.

2. **Help Reduce Your Risk and Avoid Potential Attacks** - If you are being abused or suspect that someone you know is being abused, speak up or intervene.

- Get help by contacting Student Affairs, campus security, or local law enforcement authorities
- Learn how to look for “red flags” in relationships so you can learn to avoid some of those characteristics in future partners
- Consider making a report with campus security and/or the Title IX Coordinator and ask for a “no contact” directive from the college to prevent future contact
- Consider getting a protection from abuse order or no contact order from a local judge or magisterial justice
- Learn more about what behaviors constitute dating and domestic violence, understand it is not your fault, and talk with friends and family members about ways you can be supported
- Trust your instincts—if something doesn’t feel right in a relationship, talk about it or end it

3. **Sexual Assault Prevention (From RAINN)**

- Be aware of rape drugs
- Try not to leave your drink unattended
- Only drink from un-opened containers or from drinks you have watched being made and poured
- Avoid group drinks like punch bowls
- Cover your drink. It is easy to slip in a small pill even while you are holding your drink. Hold a cup with your hand over the top, or choose drinks that are contained in a bottle and keep your thumb over the nozzle
- If you feel extremely tired or drunk for no apparent reason, you may have been drugged. Find your friends and ask them to leave with you as soon as possible
- If you suspect you have been drugged, go to a hospital and ask to be tested
- Keep track of how many drinks you have had
- Try to come and leave with a group of people you trust
- Avoid giving out your personal information (phone number, where you live, etc.). If someone asks for your number, take his/her number instead of giving out yours
4. Walking around campus

- Make sure your cell phone is easily accessible and fully charged
- Be familiar with where phones are installed on the campus
- Be aware of open buildings where you can use a phone
- Take major, public paths rather than less populated shortcuts
- Avoid dimly lit places and talk to campus services if you believe that lights need to be installed in an area
- Avoid putting music headphones in both ears so that you can be more aware of your surroundings, especially if you are walking alone
- Walk at night with another person
- Carry a noisemaker (like a whistle) on your keychain
- Carry a small flashlight on your keychain
- If walking feels unsafe, call campus security

5. Acquaintance Rape - Although you may never have been personally involved in a sexually violent situation, the chances are that someone you know has been. The following material will address the subject of acquaintance rape, a problem that is increasing on college campuses. It will define acquaintance rape, offer suggestions on how to avoid it, and give information on how to help a victim. Rape is not just a problem for women. Men and women must work together to bring about the changes needed to end sexual violence.

People who are forced to have sexual contact against their will are victims of sexual assault. If the assault involves sexual intercourse by force or without consent, it is rape. Two types of rape are:

- Acquaintance Rape—rape by someone the victim knows (occurs most often)
- Stranger Rape—rape by someone unknown to the victim.

There are no definite rules to avoid becoming a victim of acquaintance rape. However, if expectations and feelings about sex are clearly communicated, then rape is less likely to happen. Here are some suggestions that will help clarify relationships:

- Be careful not to let alcohol or other drugs decrease your ability to take care of yourself and make sensible decisions.
- Trust your gut feelings. If a place or the way your date acts makes you nervous or uneasy, then get out.
- Check out a first date or a blind date with friends. Meet in and go to public places.
- Carry money for a phone call or taxi or take your own car.
- Don’t leave a social event with someone you’ve just met or don’t know well.
- Do not accept beverages from someone you don’t know and trust. Always watch your drink and never leave it unattended.
- Be assertive. Express your expectations and feelings clearly. Stand up for your rights without violating those of others.
- Communicate clearly. Realize that it takes effort for two people to understand each other. Rape can happen when two people have different expectations and desires. For example, the man may think the woman is
playing hard to get when she really means no.

- Take responsibility. Say “YES” if you mean “YES” and “NO” if you mean “NO” and know the difference.
- Before you end up in a situation in which you are vulnerable, think about your alternatives.

6. **Date Rape Drugs and Alcohol** - While under the influence of alcohol, men feel that they are more sexual. Alcohol causes greater misperceptions by reducing the ability to process complex stimuli, resulting in BAD DECISION MAKING. And consuming alcohol can be used as an excuse for behavior (as in “I was drunk”). Alcohol decreases the ability to resist an attack. In more than 75 percent of college rapes, alcohol was involved in some way. **Rohypnol and GHB** - Rohypnol and GHB are called the date rape drugs because when they are slipped into someone’s drink, a sexual assault can then take place without the victim being able to remember what happened.

- **Rohypnol** - Referred to as “Circles, forget-me pill, la rocha, lunch money drug, Mexican valium, pingus, R2, Reynolds, roche, roofies, rope, ruffles and wolfies,” Rohypnol works like a tranquilizer. It causes muscle weakness, fatigue, slurred speech, and loss of motor coordination, loss of judgment, and amnesia that lasts up to 24 hours. Rohypnol looks like an aspirin; small, white, and round.

- **GHB (Gamma-Hydroxybuterate)** - GHB (also known as “Caps, cherry meth, ever clear, easy lay, fantasy, G, G-riffic, gamma hydrate, Georgia home boy, grievous bodily harm, liquid ecstasy, liquid X, soap and sodium oxybate”) causes quick sedation. Its effects are drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, headaches, dizziness, coma, and death. GHB most common form is clear liquid, although it can also be a white, grainy powder.

**SRTC Procedures for Responding to Reports of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking**

In addition to the policies and procedures that have already been explained, you have other options. In addition to, or in the alternative to, contacting campus security officials regarding sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Concerns about conduct by a student or student group that may violate this policy may be reported to:

**Title IX Coordinator**
Office: Moultrie, Tifton, and Thomasville
229-217-4132
lnewton@southernregional.edu

Concerns about conduct by a student or student group can also be reported to:

**Vice President for Student Affairs**
Office: VPC Moultrie
229-217-4143
lwallace@southernregional.edu
Concerns about conduct by an employee or third-party that may violate this policy may be reported to:

Human Resources Director
Office: VPC Moultrie
229-217-4207
mheard@southernregional.edu

Concerns about conduct by students, student groups, employees, and/or third-parties that may violate this policy may also be reported to:

President
Office: Thomasville
229-225-5069
cwentworth@southernregional.edu

Provost
Office: VPC Moultrie
229-217-4136
jglass@southernregional.edu

If you or someone you know is the victim of a sexual assault, the victim has rights, expectations, and available programs/services, including:

• The right to report the incident to campus security officials or local law enforcement authorities. SRTC will assist victims in notifying either security officials or local law enforcement. Filing a police report does not mean the victim must pursue criminal charges. The victim maintains his or her rights throughout the process.

• The following prevention programs, awareness programs, and services are available:
  
  ➢ **Campus Security** – safety support, assistance, and conduit to local law enforcement.
  ➢ **Haven** – an online sexual assault awareness and prevention course, specifically designed to address the issues of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, including information on recognizing warning signs of abusive behavior, risk reduction techniques, and positive options for bystander intervention. Haven may be accessed online by a student logging into their Blackboard account. Links are available on the SRTC website under ‘Safety & Security.’
  ➢ **National Sexual Assault Telephone Hotline** – provides access to a range of free services including support, information and resources. **1-800-656-HOPE (4673)**
  ➢ **Alcoholics Anonymous**, phone 800 878 1829(toll free) www.aageorgia.org
  Call or visit website for information on AA meetings in your county.
  ➢ **Archbold Northside Inpatient Services**
    401 Old Albany Road, Thomasville, GA 31792
    Phone: 229-228-8100 or 800-238-8661 (toll free hotline)
    Contact: Sheila Weaver
  ➢ **Georgia Pines Mental Health Center**
Georgia Pines Mental Health offers support for those affected by mental illness, addictive diseases and developmental disabilities.  

www.geogiapines.com

- **Georgia Pines Colquitt County Mental Health**  
  615 N. Main Street  
  Moultrie, GA 31768  
  (229) 891-7374 or (229) 891-7375

- **Georgia Pines Thomas County Mental Health**  
  1102 Smith Ave., Suite H, Thomasville, GA 31792  
  (229) 225-5208

- **Behavioral Health Services of South GA**  
  Behavioral Health Services of South Ga is a public nonprofit organization operated by the South Georgia Community Service Board  
  334 Tifton-Eldorado Road  
  Tifton, GA 31791  
  Tift and Turner Counties call (229) 391-2300  
  http://www.bhsga.com/

- **Turning Point**  
  Offers inpatient and outpatient services to adults who suffer from behavioral health disorders and/or substance abuse.  
  2209 Pineview Drive, Valdosta, GA 31602  
  (229) 247-4357  
  www.greenleafcounseling.net

- **Serenity House**  
  Center for battered women and children  
  Colquitt County Serenity House  
  P O Box 14  
  Moultrie, GA 31776  
  www.serenityhouse@windstream.net  
  (229) 782-5394  
  24 Hour Crisis Line (229) 890-7223

- **Ruth’s Cottage**  
  P O Box 2727  
  Tifton, GA 31793  
  (229) 387-9697  
  1-800-33-HAVEN  
  http://www.ruthscottage.com/

- **Local County Departments of Children Services** – Provides general assistance for children and victims of child abuse. Check local listings for contact information.

- **Local County Offices of the District Attorney** – Provides victim assistance programs for victims of sexual assault and injury, including victims compensation. Check local listings for contact information.

- **Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council** – Atlanta. Administers the Georgia Crime Victims Compensation Program. 104 Marietta St, Suite 440, Atlanta, 877-547-0060.

- **Office of Student Affairs** – support, referrals, and resolution of complaints, as well as the conduct of disciplinary action.
- **Office of Human Resources** – Employee assistance. 229-217-4207, mheard@southernregional.edu.
- **Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault** – Provides resources and education on ways to stop sexual assault. 404-815-5261, http://gnesa.org.
- **Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence** – Provides resources and education on ways to stop domestic violence. 404-209-0280 or 800-33-HAVEN (334-2836), http://gcadv.org.

- SRTC will provide written notification to students and employees about existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid, and other services available for victims, both within the school and community.

- SRTC will provide written notification to victims about options for available assistance in academic schedule changes, working situations, or protective measures. The Office of Student Affairs and/or other offices will make such accommodations if the victim requests them and if they are reasonably available.

- SRTC will comply with all legal/lawful orders of protection, such as a ‘no-contact’ order or restraining orders.

- SRTC will protect the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties. NO identifying information will be placed in publicly available records about the incident/crime, criminal procedure (if any), disciplinary procedure (if any), or aftermath. SRTC will also keep any accommodations or protective measures provided to the victim confidential, to the extent such confidentiality would not impair the ability of the school to do so.

- When a student or employee reports that he/she is a victim of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or staking, SRTC will provide the victim a written explanation of his/her rights and options, as explained in previous paragraphs and sections of this report.

- Disciplinary action in cases of alleged dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking can be found on page xx of this report.

**Bottom Line**

This report contains a great deal of information about sexual assault procedures and policies in the previous ten pages. The bottom line however, is the following steps that one should follow after a sexual assault:
- Get to a safe place as soon as possible!
- Try to preserve all physical evidence – don’t bathe, shower, brush teeth, douche, use the toilet, or change clothing before a medical exam.
- Get medical attention as soon as possible – an exam may reveal the presence of physical injury that the victim is unaware of.
- Contact the police – Sexual assault is a crime, it is vital to report it.
Consider talking to a counselor.

Internal Disciplinary Procedures that will be followed once an incident of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking has been reported

Sexual misconduct and relationship violence, in any form, violates the Student Code of Conduct, and may violate federal and state laws. Violations of this policy are also subject to disciplinary sanctions through the Office of Student Affairs (students) and/or the Office of Human Resources (employees). Reports or complaints alleging sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are processed on the basis of the status of the alleged perpetrator/offender:

- Reports or complaints against any SRTC employee will be processed by the Human Resources Office.
- Reports or complaints against an SRTC student will be processed by the Office of Student Affairs.
- Reports or complaints against any SRTC student/employee by individuals who are NOT members of the college community will be processed by the Human Resources Office, Office of Student Affairs, and/or Office of the Provost, as appropriate.

Disciplinary procedures will be conducted in accordance with the SRTC Code of Conduct.

STUDENT DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

The administration of Southern Regional Technical College (SRTC) reserves the right to maintain a safe and orderly educational environment for students and staff. Therefore, when, in the judgment of College officials, a student’s conduct disrupts or threatens to disrupt the College community, appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken to restore and protect the atmosphere of collegiality and mutual respect on campus. This procedure is intended to provide an orderly protocol for handling student disciplinary cases in accordance with the principles of due process and justice.

Definitions

1. Academic Misconduct: includes but is not limited to, the definition on found in the Student Code of Conduct, Article II, Paragraphs 1-4.

2. Business Days: weekdays that the College administrative offices are open.

3. Hearing Body: any person or persons authorized by the President of SRTC to provide a hearing as provided in this procedure.

4. Member of the College Community: any person who is a student, faculty member, College official or any other person(s) involved with SRTC or the College community or employed by SRTC.
5. Policy: the written regulations of SRTC as found in, but not limited to, the Student Code of Conduct, Southern Regional Technical College Catalog and Student Handbook, Southern Regional Technical College Policy Manual, and the Policy Manual approved by the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia.

6. Student: all persons taking courses at SRTC, both full-time and part-time, dual enrollment, joint enrollment, non-credit, and credit. Persons who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the College are considered “students.”

7. Student Organization: any number of persons who have complied with the formal requirements for SRTC recognition on.

8. College Official: any person employed by SRTC, performing assigned administrative responsibilities on a part-time, full-time or adjunct basis.

9. College Premises: all land, buildings, vehicles, facilities, and other property in the possession of or owned, used, or controlled by SRTC (including adjacent streets and sidewalks).

Procedure

A. Filing a Complaint

1. Any person may file a complaint with the Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) or the College President’s designee against any student for an alleged violation of the Student Code of Conduct. The individual(s) initiating the action on should complete a Student Code of Conduct Complaint Form, available in the Academic Affairs office or the Student Affairs office, and provide it to the VPSA or the College President’s designee. The Executive Director of Adult Education on will serve as the Student Disciplinary Officer for all Adult Education on students.

2. Academic misconduct is handled through Academic Affairs. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to: (1) aiding and abetting academic misconduct; (2) cheating; (3) fabrication on; and/or (4) plagiarism. Note: The process for grade and other academic appeals can be found in the Southern Regional Technical College Student Catalog and Handbook.

3. Investigation on and Decision:
a. Within five (5) business days after the Student Code of Conduct Complaint Form (the “Complaint”) is filed, VPSA or the College President’s designee shall complete a preliminary investigation of the incident, and schedule a meeting with the student against whom the complaint was filed in order to discuss the incident and the allegations. In the event that additional time is necessary, the student will be notified. After discussing the complaint with the student, the VPSA or the College President’s designee shall determine whether the student committed the alleged conduct, and whether the alleged conduct constitutes a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

b. The student shall have 5 business days from the date contacted by the VPSA or the College President’s designee to schedule the meeting. This initial meeting may only be rescheduled one time. If the student fails to respond to the VPSA or the College President’s designee within five (5) business days to schedule the meeting, reschedules the meeting more than once, or fails to appear at the meeting, the VPSA or the College President’s designee will consider the available evidence without student input and make a determination on.

c. In the event that a complaint alleges violations of the Student Code of Conduct by more than one student, each student’s disciplinary proceeding, as well as any appeals relating to that proceeding, shall be conducted individually.

d. If the VPSA or the College President’s designee determines that the student has violated the Student Code of Conduct, he/she shall impose one or more disciplinary sanctions consistent with those described below. If the VPSA or the College President’s designee determines that the alleged conduct did not occur, or that the conduct was not a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, he/she shall not impose any disciplinary sanctions on the student and the investigation on shall be closed.

B. Disciplinary Sanctions Based on the severity of the incident, the VPSA may take one of two actions:

1. After a determination on that a student has violated the Student Code of Conduct, the VPSA or the College President’s designee may impose without referral to the Hearing Body, one or more of the following sanctions. Notifications on shall be sent to the student and the person(s) who initially filed the complaint.

a. Restitution on: A student who has committed an offense against property may be required to reimburse the College or other owner for damage to or misappropriation of such property. Any such payment in restitution on shall be limited to the actual cost of repair or replacement.
b. Reprimand: A written reprimand may be given any student. Such a reprimand does not restrict the student in any way, but it signifies to the student that he/she is in effect being given another chance to conduct himself/herself as a proper member of the College community, and that any further violation on may result in more serious sanctions.

c. Restriction: A restriction upon a student’s privileges for a period of 0 me may be imposed. This restriction may include but is not limited to denial of the right to represent the College in any way, denial of use of facilities, alteration on or revocation on of parking privileges, or restrictions from participating in extracurricular activities.

d. Disciplinary Probation on: Continued enrollment of a student on probation on may be conditioned upon adherence to specified terms. Any student placed on probation on will be notified of the terms and length of probation on in writing. Any conduct determined after due process to be in violation on of these terms while on probation on may result in the imposition of more serious disciplinary sanctions, as specified by the terms of probation.

e. Failing or Lowered Grade: In cases of academic misconduct, it is the policy of SRTC that students who engage in any form of academic misconduct receive a zero (0) on the presented material or activity. A second occurrence of academic misconduct will result in the student receiving a failing grade for the course. Additional incidents of academic misconduct may result in the student being suspended from the College for at least one semester.

2. After a determination on that a student has violated the Student Code of Conduct, the VPSA or the College President’s designee may recommend the imposition of one of the sanctions listed below if appropriate. The VPSA’s recommendation on will be forwarded to the Hearing Body, which may impose one or more of the following sanctions, as well as those described in section B.1 above, following a hearing. A copy of the written recommendation shall be provided to the student and the person filing the complaint.

a. Disciplinary Suspension: If a student is suspen ded, he/she is separated from the College for a stated period of 0 me. Conditions of reinstatement, if any, must be stated in the notice of suspension.

b. Disciplinary Expulsion: Removal and exclusion from the College, College controlled facilities, programs, events, and activities is imposed. A record of the reason for the student’s dismissal is maintained by the VPSA or the College President’s designee. Students who have been dismissed from the College for any reason may apply in writing to the VPSA for reinstatement twelve (12) months following the expulsion. If approval for reinstatement is granted, the student will be placed on disciplinary probation on for a specified term. The probationary status may be removed at the end of the specified term at the discretion on of the VPSA or the College President’s designee.
c. System-Wide Expulsion: Where a student has been expelled or suspended three times from the same or different colleges in the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) in the past seven (7) years, the student will not be permitted to register at any college in the TCSG for a period of ten (10) years after the most recent expulsion/ suspension.

3. Violation on of Federal, State, or Local Law

a. If a student is convicted or pleads nolo contendere to an off-campus violation on of federal, state, or local law, but not with any other violation on of the Student Code of Conduct, disciplinary action on may be taken and sanctions imposed for misconduct that is detrimental to the College’s vital interests and stated mission and purpose.

b. Disciplinary proceedings may be instituted against a student charged with violation on of a law that is also a violation of the Student Code of Conduct if both violations result from the same factual situation, without regard to criminal arrest and/or prosecution on. Proceedings under this Student Code of Conduct may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or following criminal proceedings.

c. When a student is charged by federal, state, or local authorities with a violation of law, the College will not request or agree to special consideration on for that individual because of his or her status as a student. The College will cooperate fully with law enforcement and other agencies in the enforcement of criminal law on campus and in the conditions imposed by criminal courts for the rehabilitation of student violators. Individual students, acting in their personal capacities, remain free to interact with governmental representatives as they deem appropriate.

4. Interim Disciplinary Suspension

As a general rules, the status of a student accused of violations of the Student Code of Conduct should not be altered until a final determination is made regarding the allegations against him/her. However, interim suspension may be imposed upon a finding by the VPSA or the College President’s designee that the continued presence of the accused student on campus constitutes a potential or immediate threat to the safety and well-being of the accused student or any other member of the College community or its guests, or that the continued presence of the student on campus creates a risk of substantial disruption of the classroom or other college related activities. If an interim disciplinary suspension is imposed, the matter must be referred as soon as possible to the Hearing Body. The student need not request an appeal.

5. Conditions of Disciplinary Suspension and Expulsion
a. A student who has been suspended or expelled from the College shall be denied all privileges afforded a student and shall be required to vacate SRTC premises at a time determined by the VPSA or the College President’s designee.

b. In addition, after vacating the SRTC premises, a suspended or expelled student may not enter upon SRTC premises at any time, for any purpose, in the absence of written permission from the VPSA or the College President’s designee. A suspended or expelled student must contact the VPSA or the College President’s designee for permission to enter the SRTC premises for a limited, specified purpose.

c. If the student seeks to submit a signed Disciplinary Sanction Appeal Form, the VPSA or the College President’s designee must accept the Form by mail or fax if he/she refuses the student’s request to enter the SRTC premises for that specified purpose. d. A scheduled appeal hearing before the Hearing Body shall be understood as expressed permission from the VPSA or the College President’s designee for a student to enter the SRTC premises for the duration of that hearing.

C. Hearing/Appeals Procedure

1. A student who wishes to appeal a disciplinary decision by the VPSA or the College President’s designee regarding an assigned sanction of restitution, reprimand, restriction, or disciplinary probation on must file a written notice of appeal through the President’s Office for review by the Hearing Body within five (5) business days of notification on of the decision. The person filing the initial complaint against the student must be notified of the hearing date.

2. If the VPSA or the College President’s designee recommended a sanction on of disciplinary suspension, disciplinary expulsion, interim disciplinary suspension, or system-wide expulsion, the matter will be referred to the Hearing Body by the VPSA. The student need not file a written notice of his/her desire to appear before the Hearing Body. The person filing the initial complaint shall also be given notification on of the hearing.

3. The student will then have the right to appear in a hearing before a Hearing Body assigned by the President or his/her designee within ten (10) business days to present evidence and/or testimony. If the student has been placed on an interim disciplinary suspension, the hearing must be held as soon as possible, preferably within five (5) days. The student has the right to be assisted by any single advisor he/she chooses, at his/her own expense. The student is responsible for presenting his/her own case and, therefore, advisors are not permitted to speak or to participate directly in any hearing before a Hearing Body. The Hearing Body may consist of a single person or a group of people from the College community. There shall be a single official record, such as a recording, of all hearings before the Hearing Body. The official record shall be the property of SRTC. The
standard of proof in all hearings shall be a preponderance of the evidence. The
Chairperson of the Hearing Body shall notify the President and the VPSA in writing of the
Hearing Body’s decision. The SRTC President or his/her designee will notify the student in
writing of the Hearing Body’s decision.

4. If the student appeared before the Hearing Body to appeal the VPSA or the College
President’s designee’s sanction of restitution on, reprimand, restriction, or disciplinary
probation on, the Hearing Body’s decision regarding the appeal is final. A copy of the
Hearing Body’s written decision will be provided to both the student and the person who fi
led the original complaint.

5. If the student appeared before the Hearing Body after the VPSA or the College
President’s designee recommended disciplinary suspension, disciplinary expulsion, interim
disciplinary suspension, or system-wide expulsion, the student shall have the opportunity
to appeal directly to the President.

6. If entitled to an appeal to the President, the student shall have five (5) business days
after receiving written notification on of the Hearing Body’s decision to request in writing an
appeal. The student shall ensure that all relevant information on is included with this
request. The person who fi led the original complain shall be notified of the student’s
appeal.

7. The President or his/her designee’s review shall be in writing and shall only consider
evidence currently in the record; new facts not brought up in earlier stages of the appeal
shall not be considered. The President or his/her designee shall deliver the decision to the
student and the person who fi led the original complaint within ten (10) business days. The
decision of the President or his/her designee shall be final and binding.

D. Document Retention

The VPSA or the College President’s designee shall retain a copy of all documents
concerning complaints, investigations, administrative actions, and communications in
relation on to any incident that resulted in a disciplinary investigation on of any kind against
a student. The VPSA or the College President’s designee will also retain records of any
disciplinary appeals fi led by the affected student, as well as the resulting record of appeal
and decision submitted by the Hearing Body and President or his/her designee. A record
of the final decision must also be retained. All records specified in this section on shall be
retained for a period of five (5) years.

- **Document Retention** - The Vice-president for Academic and Student Affairs shall
  retain a copy of all documents concerning complaints, investigations, administrative actions, and communications in relation to any incident that resulted
in a disciplinary investigation of any kind against a student. The Vice-president for Academic and Student Affairs will also retain records of any disciplinary appeals filed by the affected student, as well as the resulting record of appeal and decision submitted by the Hearing Body and the college President or his/her designee. A record of the final decision must also be retained. All records specified in this section shall be retained for a period of five years.

Unlawful Harassment and Discrimination of Students Procedure

It is the policy of SRTC that all students shall be provided an environment free of unlawful harassment (including sexual harassment and sexual violence), discrimination, and retaliation.

All students and employees are expressly prohibited from engaging in any form of unlawful harassing, discriminating, intimidating or retaliatory behavior or conduct in all interactions with each other, whether or not the interaction occurs during class or on/off campus. Visitors to campuses also shall not engage in prohibited conduct and may be barred for such prohibited conduct if other corrective measures are ineffective. Allegations of prohibited conduct occurring at clinical sites to which students are assigned shall be investigated in accordance with this procedure.

Any individual who has engaged in prohibited conduct will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion or dismissal. Nothing in this procedure shall be interpreted to interfere with any person’s right to free speech as provided by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

All students are encouraged to report any prohibited conduct. Reports will be treated in an expeditious and confidential manner.

SRTC will not tolerate retaliation for having filed a good faith harassment and/or discrimination complaint or for having provided any information in an investigation. Any individual who retaliates against a complainant or witness in an investigation will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion or dismissal.

Any individual who knowingly makes a false charge of unlawful harassment/discrimination or retaliation, or who is untruthful during an investigation may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion or dismissal.

Employee complaints of unlawful harassment or discrimination shall be conducted pursuant to the process outlined in Procedure III.A.1, Unlawful Harassment of Staff.
RELATED AUTHORITY

- Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972
- 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681 et seq.
- Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act
- Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act
- O.C.G.A. § 19-7-5
- Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act
- Age Discrimination Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act of 2008 Rehabilitation Act, as amended
- Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act
- Technical College System of Georgia.

PROCEDURE

A. Administration and Implementation

1. The SRTC President shall designate one or more officials to serve as the Title IX Coordinator and the Section 504 Coordinator and ensure the designated officials have received appropriate training.

2. Contact information for the Title IX and Section 504 Coordinators and the Statement of Equal Opportunity should be permanently displayed on official bulletin boards and included in electronic or written college publications and academic materials as described in the TCSG Usage for Statement of Equal Opportunity.

3. Instructors/administrators must take ongoing proactive steps to ensure educational opportunities (to include classrooms, clinics, labs, programs, etc.) and student activities (clubs, sports, etc.) are accessible and free from any type of unlawful discrimination or harassment.

4. The Title IX Coordinator will conduct training programs and monitor the college to ensure the correct administration and implementation of this procedure, and will ensure that proactive or corrective measures have been taken to prevent unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.

B. Reporting and Management Action

1. All students are encouraged to report events of unlawful harassment, discrimination, sexual violence and/or retaliation against themselves or others, regardless of where the incident occurred.

2. Students have the right to file (or not to file) a criminal complaint for sexual violence with the local law enforcement authorities before, during, or after filing a complaint with the college. The technical college shall not unreasonably delay investigation under this procedure to await the outcome of any criminal investigation.
3. If a student filing a complaint requests anonymity or asks that the complaint not be pursued, the college must inform the student that its ability to respond may be limited, that harassment and retaliation for filing a complaint is prohibited and steps to prevent retaliation will be taken. The college should take all reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint consistent with the request and pursue other steps to limit the effects of the alleged harassment and prevent recurrence.

4. SRTC may weigh a request to not pursue a complaint considering the following factors: the seriousness of the alleged conduct, the complainant’s age, whether there have been other harassment complaints about the same individual, and the alleged harasser’s rights to receive information about the allegations if the information is maintained as an “education record” under FERPA. The college must inform the student if the request cannot be ensured.

5. Reports concerning all prohibited conduct references in this procedure will be processed confidentially to the extent permitted by law; communications regarding complaints will be disseminated to others on a need-to-know basis to ensure that necessary steps are taken to protect the community as a whole and that appropriate disciplinary measures or corrective actions are considered and taken.

6. Allegations or suspicions of unlawful discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment, sexual violence, or unlawful retaliation may be reported to the technical college’s Title IX or Section 504 Coordinators, the President, or the Human Resources Director should the complaint involve employees. Complaints may also be emailed to unlawfulharassment@tcsg.edu. SRTC’s contacts are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title IX Coordinator</th>
<th>ADA/504 Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office: Moultrie, Tifton, and Thomasville</td>
<td>Office: Thomasville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>229-217-4132</td>
<td>229-227-2668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:lnewton@southernregional.edu">lnewton@southernregional.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jlong@southernregional.edu">jlong@southernregional.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EEOC Officer</th>
<th>ADA/504 Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office: VPC Moultrie</td>
<td>Office: Moultrie, Tifton, and Thomasville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>229-217-4207</td>
<td>229-217-4132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:mheard@southernregional.edu">mheard@southernregional.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lnewton@southernregional.edu">lnewton@southernregional.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Complaints under this procedure can be expressed in writing, by telephone, or in person; individuals are, however, encouraged to express their complaints in writing to ensure all concerns are addressed.

8. If an allegation of unlawful harassment, discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, or retaliation is made to an employee not designated to receive such reports, the employee receiving the complaint must report the allegation as provided in section 6 above.

9. Allegations of any sexual conduct involving individuals under the age of 18 must also be reported as an allegation of child abuse as outlined in O.C.G.A. § 19-7-5.
10. The college President may suspend, transfer, or reassign employees or students in order to prevent possible further harassment, discrimination, sexual violence, or retaliation; to facilitate the investigation, or to implement preventative or corrective action under this procedure.

11. Any allegation of unlawful harassment, discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, or retaliation against employees must be reported to the Human Resources Director who may elect to conduct the investigation in conjunction with other local investigators.

C. Investigations

1. All complaints of prohibited conduct under this procedure shall be investigated by local investigators thoroughly and should be completed within 45 business days of the receipt of the complaint. The parties will be notified if extraordinary circumstances exist requiring additional time.

2. A complaining party will be notified within 5 business days of receipt of the complaint if the complaint does not specify facts sufficient to allege unlawful discrimination, harassment, sexual violence, or retaliation and that a formal investigation will not be conducted pursuant to this procedure. The complaining party may appeal the decision in writing to the president within 5 business days of receiving the notice. The president’s decision will be final.

3. Individuals designated to investigate, review, or recommend corrective actions in response to allegations will have been trained to conduct Investigations in a manner that protects the safety of victims and promotes accountability. Individuals assigned as the investigator for a particular incident shall disclose to the president any relationship with the parties that could call into question their ability to be objective prior to taking any action with respect to the investigation. The president will reassign alternate individuals if necessary.

4. Investigations will be conducted by gathering relevant information and interviewing appropriate witnesses. Both the complaining party and the respondent (the parties) will be given equal opportunity to identify witnesses and offer evidence in person or in writing. Best efforts will be made to interview all witnesses identified by the parties. Both the complaining party and the respondent may be accompanied by an advisor of his or her choice. However, the advisor may not speak on behalf of the party.

5. The College will evaluate the information collected during the investigation and determine whether a preponderance of the evidence substantiates that unlawful discrimination, unlawful harassment, sexual violence and/or unlawful retaliation has occurred.

6. Investigations and summary findings will be documented appropriately.
7. No later than 10 business days after completion of an investigation, both of the parties will be simultaneously provided a summary of the results of the investigation in writing.

8. Any information prohibited from disclosure by law or policy will be redacted from any documents prior to distribution.

D. Corrective Actions

1. The College will take all reasonable steps to prevent unlawful retaliation against complainants and any other individuals participating in investigations under this procedure.

2. If prohibited conduct is determined to have occurred following the investigation, the college, through the appropriate officials, shall implement steps to prevent a recurrence and to correct the discriminatory effects on the complaining party and others as appropriate. Steps may include, but are not limited to, mandating training or evaluation, disciplinary sanctions, policy implementation or reassignment of students or employees.

3. Should recommended disciplinary sanctions involve academic suspension, expulsion or dismissal from employment, the matter must be referred to either the Vice President of Academic Affairs for students or the Human Resources Director for employees. Allegations regarding students shall be considered and sanctions assigned as provided by the College’s Student Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedure. Sanctions for employees shall be considered as provided by the Positive Discipline Procedure.

4. Individuals who are responsible for conducting or reviewing investigations or proposing sanctions under this procedure should not also serve as reviewing officials or hearing officers in the appeal of sanctions arising from an investigation.

5. Even in the absence of sufficient evidence to substantiate a finding that unlawful discrimination, unlawful harassment, sexual violence, or retaliation has occurred, colleges are expected to address any inappropriate conduct and take all reasonable steps to prevent any future unlawful discrimination, harassment, sexual violence or retaliation.

E. Reviews and Dispositions

1. Any of the parties to a complaint under this procedure may request a review of the investigative findings within 5 business days of receiving notice of the investigative results by submitting a written request to the college President.

2. The president shall review all investigations conducted under this procedure and ensure that the appropriate corrective actions have been implemented.

3. Within 10 business days of receiving a request for a review of the investigative findings, the President of the College will notify the parties in writing of his/her final determination, including any change in the result of the findings. The notice will inform the parties they have a right to appeal the determination to the Technical College System of
Georgia’s Legal Services Office by submitting a written request within 3 business days by regular mail or email to one of the following:

Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Legal Services, 1800 Century Place, N.E., Suite 400, Atlanta, Georgia 30345

OR

Unlawfulharassment@tcsge.edu

4. The Office of Legal Services will convene a panel of at least 3 individuals not employed by the requestor’s college to review the investigative findings. The panel’s decision is final and will conclude the processing of the complaint. Both parties will be notified in writing simultaneously of the results of the review and any changes in the results of the investigative findings under appeal.

F. Record Retention - Documents relating to formal complaints including investigations, dispositions and the complaint itself shall be held for 5 years after the graduation of the student or the date of the student’s last attendance. Confidential documents shall be held in a secure location under the custody and control of the Vice-president of Academic and Student Affairs or the college President’s designee. Documents pertaining to employees are maintained in the Office of Human Resources shall be maintained in a secure location and in accordance with the Georgia Secretary of State’s records.

Sex Offender Registration — Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act

In accordance with Georgia law, sex offenders must register with local law enforcement authorities of the city or county in which he or she resides, is employed, carries on a vocation, or is a student at an institution of higher education. This includes out-of-state employees and students.

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act is a federal law that provides for the tracking of convicted, registered sex offenders enrolled as students at institutions of higher education, or working or volunteering on campus. This act requires that state procedures ensure that this registration information is promptly made available to law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction where the institutions of higher education are located and that it is entered into appropriate state records or data systems.

In accordance with the Georgia law 42-1-12, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) is the central repository for Georgia’s sexual offender registry. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in the Georgia Sex Offender Registry is accurate. Members of the general public, including everyone in the SRTC college community, may request information concerning sex offenders at the online GBI Georgia Sexual Offender Registry at:

http://gbi.georgia.gov/georgia-sex-offender-registry
…or by contacting local law enforcement authorities. SRTC officials will assist anyone requesting this information about sexual offenders on campus as well in the local community.

Lastly, it should be noted that nothing in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) may be construed to prohibit an educational institution from disclosing information provided to the institution concerning registered sex offenders.

ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS

A. While SRTC is a reasonably safe environment, crimes do occur, although rarely. However, in compliance with the Clery Act, SRTC has a responsibility to disclose information about crime on and around our campuses.

SRTC maintains a close relationship with all local law enforcement agencies where SRTC owns or controls property to ensure that crimes reported directly to these agencies that involve the college are brought to our attention. In addition to collecting Clery crime statistics from local police departments, all reports of crimes made directly to the college officials are maintained by the Vice President for Operations.

In addition to the crime data that SRTC maintains, the college collects Clery crime statistics of reports made to various campus security authorities as defined in this report.

B. Reporting Locations.

- **On-Campus:** Any building or property owned or controlled by SRTC within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area and used by SRTC in direct support of our educational purposes.
- **Non-campus properties:** Non-campus property or buildings owned or controlled by SRTC that are frequently used by students and are not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution.
- **Public properties:** Public property not owned or controlled by SRTC located immediately adjacent to and easily accessible from campus property, including thoroughfares, sidewalks, streets, lands, and parks.

C. Reportable Crimes and Violations.

**Murder/Manslaughter** – defined as the willful killing of one human being by another.

**Negligent Manslaughter** – defined as the killing of another person through gross negligence.

**Forcible sex offenses** – defined as any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person’s will; or not forcibly or against the person’s will
where the victim is incapable of giving consent. Including: forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, forcible fondling.

**Non-forcible sex offense** – unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse, including incest and statutory rape.

**Robbery** – defined as taking or attempting to take anything of value from the custody or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

**Aggravated Assault** – defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

**Burglary** – unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.

**Motor Vehicle Theft** – theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

**Arson** – any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

**Domestic Violence** – Includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family laws of Georgia.

**Dating Violence** – Means violence committed by a person—(a) who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and (b) where the existence of such a relationship will be determined by the reporting party’s statement and based on a consideration of the following factors:

- The length of the relationship.
- The type of relationship.
- The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

**Stalking** – Means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to—a) fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or b) suffer substantial emotional distress.

**Hate Crimes** – includes all of the crimes listed above that manifest evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because the perpetrator’s bias against the victim based on one of the Categories of Prejudice listed below, plus the crimes of larceny/theft, simple assault, intimidation, and damage/destruction/vandalism to property.
Larceny/Theft – includes pocket picking, purse snatching, shoplifting, theft from building, theft from motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle parts or accessories, and all other larceny.

Simple Assault – unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.

Intimidation – to unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

Destruction/Damage/Vandalism to Property (except Arson) – to willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface, or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

Weapon Law Violation: the violation of laws or ordinances dealing with weapon offenses, regulatory in nature, such as: manufacture, sale or possession of deadly weapons; carrying deadly weapons, concealed or openly; furnishing deadly weapons to minors; aliens possessing deadly weapons; all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

Drug Abuse Violations: violations of state and local laws relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing, and making of narcotic drugs. The relevant substances include: opium or cocaine and their derivatives (morphine, heroin, codeine); marijuana; synthetic narcotics (Demurral, methadone); and dangerous non-narcotic drugs (barbiturates, Benzedrine.)

Liquor Law Violations: the violation of laws or ordinance prohibiting: the manufacture, sale, transporting, furnishing, possessing of intoxicating liquor; maintaining unlawful drinking places; bootlegging; operating a still; furnishing liquor to a minor or intemperate person; using a vehicle for illegal transportation of liquor; drinking on a train or public conveyance; all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned. (Drunkenness and driving under the influence are not included in this definition.)

D. Categories of Prejudice.

Race – A preformed negative attitude toward a group of persons who possess common physical characteristics genetically transmitted by descent and heredity that distinguish them as a distinct division of humankind.

Gender – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons because those persons are male or female.
**Religion** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons who share the same religious beliefs regarding the origin and purpose of the universe and the existence or nonexistence of a supreme being.

**Sexual Orientation** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their sexual attraction toward, and responsiveness to, members of their own sex or members of the opposite sex.

**Ethnicity/national origin** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons of the same race or national origin who share common or similar traits, languages, customs, and traditions.

**Disability** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their physical or mental impairments/challenges, whether such disability is temporary or permanent, congenital or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age, or illness.

**Gender Identity** – A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons because the perceived gender of those persons may be different from the gender traditionally associated with their gender at birth.

E. CRIME STATISTICS: CLERY DATA

The following annual security report data provides crime statistics for selected crimes that have been reported to local law enforcement agencies or to campus security authorities. The statistics reported here generally reflect the number of criminal incidents reported to the various authorities. The statistics reported for the sub-categories on liquor laws, drug laws, and weapons offenses represented the number of people arrested or referred to campus judicial authorities for respective violations, not the number of offenses documented.

The Office of the Provost is responsible for completing this report, attaining required crime statistical information, and submitting the required statistics to the U.S. Department of Education via the Campus Safety and Security Survey. The Office of the Provost is also responsible for the release of this information to students, employees, and the general public.

SRTC will release this report annually by October 1, and submit the crime statistics portion of the report via the ED website by the required deadline each year.