



COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE CALL THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020

PANELISTS

- Jeff Earle—Chief of Police, University of Alaska-Anchorage
- David Nunley—Captain, Baptist College of Health Sciences, Memphis, TN
Patrick Ogden—Associate Vice President & Chief of Police, University of Delaware
- Eric Plummer—Associate Vice President for Public Safety and Chief of Police, University of North Dakota

CAMPUSES PLAY CRITICAL ROLES

- The United States Army Corps of Engineers conducted assessments of facilities and resources on three of the campuses represented on today's call should they be needed to stand-up hospitals or house first responders. These assessments included residence halls, stadiums and arenas, and dining facilities.
- Should other campuses be approached for assessments, it is important to involve campus facility managers.
- Similarly, campus administrators must consider the long-term effects on usual functions and activities should the campus be used to assist with surge responses.
- Campuses also play a significant role in statewide emergency management, partnering with emergency management and health agencies to remain abreast of latest developments and needs.
- Many campuses have implemented emergency management protocols; for instance, the University of Delaware has established the Coronavirus University Response Team (CURT), in which 30 senior leaders meet daily to assess the current situation and plan upcoming activities.
- At Baptist College, the Security Department is collaborating with municipal police and public safety agencies from other nearby institutions to share guidance and resources.



OFFICER SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Wash your face and hands for at least 20 seconds. Or, for your hands, use a gel-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Ensure that it remains wet on your hands for 15 seconds—don't dry it off.
- Use sanitizing wipes on officer equipment and work spaces at the beginning and end of shifts.
- Provide constant reminder to staff to use PPE, practice physical distancing, and disinfect shared workspaces frequently.
- The University of Delaware PD screens officers for fevers when they show up for work. Plus, the agency has gone to minimum staffing for officers and dispatchers to minimize interactions. Officers in field training have parked their vehicles and resorted to foot patrols with their training officers.
- University of Alaska-Anchorage officer encountered an individual with COVID-19 who wanted to fight the officer. The agency is now determining next steps for the officer regarding quarantine.

CLERY REPORTING AND COVID-19

- The Clery Act emergency notification requirement mandates notifying the campus community of a confirmed significant emergency, dangerous situation or an immediate threat to the health or safety of the community. Certainly, COVID-19 meets the criteria for notification.
- Less clear is how often the campus community must be updated, especially regarding positive tests for COVID-19. Public safety agencies are directing students, faculty and staff to the campus website's COVID-19 sections, and relying upon communication blogs to provide constants updates.
- Important to provide information to the campus community to tamp down rumors.
- Additional information can be found here <https://clerycenter.org/article/covid-19-clery-act-faqs/>



“ZOOMBOMBING”

- A Zoombombing occurs when hackers gain access to a Zoom meeting and attempt to disrupt the video chat and upset participants by shouting profanity or racial slurs or putting disturbing images or video in the video feed.
- These hacking incidents could trigger Title IX investigations, but more guidance is needed.
- Precautions to use against Zoombombing include two-factor authentication, locking meetings once all participants are in, and going to the Zoom waiting room if a hack occurs. The University of Massachusetts Amherst offers guidance on “Zoombombing” Disruptions & How to Secure Your Video Conferencing Session <https://www.umass.edu/it/zoombombing>

OTHER KEY TAKE-AWAYS

- Calls for service on many campuses have decreased, but for others the number has increased substantially. For example, the University of Alaska-Anchorage PD attributes its threefold increase in calls to its close proximity to two hospitals.
- The immediate emergency is a long-term situation. Look to the future and consider:
 - Will campus budget shortfalls affect public safety agencies?
 - Will campuses do away with public safety (and this was implied... “and rely upon municipal police”)?
 - Do we need to think about new models (presumably less costly) for delivering campus public safety services?
- When possible, provide officers Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) to respond to natural disasters

Join the weekly COVID-19 Rapid Response Briefing Calls every Thursday at 1:00 pm EST. The schedule is posted here:

<https://www.iaclea.org/calendar>

Can't join in person? Listen to the archived call, which can be found in the COVID-19 Resource Library in IACLEA CONNECTIONS.