

Residence Hall Safety and Security

During the school year the New College of Florida campus is home to about 800 students that live in on-campus residential facilities. Keeping the residence facilities safe requires attention to some particular security concerns.

- Always lock the doors and windows in your room.
- Be sure to close and lock your room door if you will be away, even for a minute.
- DO NOT leave the key to your room left in the lock of the door.
- If a door lock is broken, put in a work order for Physical Plant personnel to make repairs.
- Never prop open room doors.
- DO NOT admit unauthorized/uninvited persons into your room.
- Keep your valuables out of sight and locked in a box or closet.
- Soliciting and sales are not allowed on campus. Report solicitors you encounter to Campus Police at ext. 4210.

Personal Safety and Security

Many crimes occur because people are in the wrong place at the wrong time. Avoid people and situations, which may invite trouble. Trust your instincts and trust your college authorities. When in doubt, call Campus Police.

- Walk with another person after dark or call Campus Police at ext. 4210 for an escort. You may also contact Campus Police from any emergency blue light callbox. Make sure you familiarize yourself with their locations throughout the campus.
- Stay in well-lighted areas. Avoid shortcuts and isolated areas. Walk away from alleys, dark corners and bushes whenever possible.
- Trust your instincts if you suspect you are being followed. Change directions, head for a campus building, or an emergency callbox.

- Be aware of your surroundings at all times and convey confidence through body language.
- Have keys ready upon entering, dormitory or office buildings.
- If a driver stops and asks you for directions keep your distance from the vehicle.
- Don't carry credit cards or large sums of cash.
- Purses are an attractive target for thieves...don't carry one if it isn't necessary.
- DO NOT risk injury if someone attempts to forcibly take your purse, wallet or personal belongings.
- Don't attach your I.D. to your keys or mark your keychain with your name and address.
- Mark valuable property with an engraver to increase your chances of recovering the property if it is stolen. The Campus Police provides this service free of charge.
- Report suspicious persons or activities to Campus Police. Be prepared to describe the person by gender, race, color, length of hair, body size, scars, identifying marks, tattoos, clothing, facial hair if any, mode of travel, and if by vehicle, the type, color and license plate.
- Campus Police currently has 2 Quorum Personal Alarm devices available for sign-out. These alarms are small, lightweight devices that emit a loud, high-pitched "scream" with the pull of a pin. Simply come into the Campus Police office and leave your college I.D. to sign out the alarm.
- **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE ANY SITUATION THAT COULD BE A POTENTIAL DANGER**

Identity Theft

Identity theft is growing at an alarming rate. It effects on average between 2 & 3 million people a year. Identity theft occurs when personal information has been compromised and used to commit fraud or theft. During the course of the day, there are many occasions when checks are written, purchases are made with credit/debit

cards, and information is received or sent via mail or telephone. These normal transactions can result in the theft of a person's identity. Minimize the risk by managing credit information carefully and responsibly:

- Don't leave credit information lying around in your vehicle.
- Shred voided checks, unused deposit/withdrawal slips and credit card offers.
- Keep number of credit cards to a minimum.
- If you keep a receipt, black out the account number.
- Never give out personal information to strangers on the phone.
- Be conscious of your surroundings at ATM's or when giving out information over the phone (i.e. making a credit card purchase or discussing your account with a legitimate financial institution). Make sure your pin # or conversation can't be seen or overheard by someone who may be "lurking" in the area.
- Check your credit report once a year with a credit bureau.
- If you become a victim or believe you might be, contact Campus Police immediately for assistance.

Ask a Campus Police officer for more personal safety tips. We are happy to address any questions or concerns that you have about safety in the residence facilities, academic buildings and administrative buildings.

Please visit our website at www.ncf.edu/police for more information regarding New College of Florida Police Department. You can also find links to other helpful resources including:

- **Sarasota Campus Victim's Advocate—Concetta Hollinger (941) 504-8599**
- **SPARCC (Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center, Inc. of Sarasota) 24 hour Crisis hotline (941) 365-1976**
- **Counseling and Wellness Center (941) 487-4254; 5805 Bay Shore Road (West side of campus)**

Auto Security and Safety

Auto theft is a growing problem and the campus area is not immune. Take action to safeguard your vehicle:

- Lock all doors while driving and after parking.
- Store valuables out of sight or locked in the trunk.
- Help secure your vehicle against theft or burglary with an electronic alarm or steering wheel locking bar.
- If you don't use your car regularly, check on it every day or two.
- Keep a copy of your registration, insurance and title in a safe place separate from your vehicle.
- Immediately report all thefts, as well as suspicious activity in parking lots and near parked cars to Campus Police



Bike Security and Safety

There are some basic tips for keeping both bike and rider safe:

- Ride defensively with the flow of traffic and always use hand signals.
- When cycling, be AWARE, VISIBLE and PREDICTABLE.
- Be considerate of pedestrians and vehicle drivers.
- Don't impede free use of handicap ramps or other access points with bikes locked to and rails, stairwells etc.
- Keep your bike maintained—especially the brakes.
- Register your bike and record the serial number with NCFPD. You may also engrave the bicycle free of charge.
- Use a U-lock type device to secure your bike. Bikes locked with cables or small chains are frequently stolen.
- When locking your bike, secure both the frame and front wheel to the bike rack.
- Report suspicious activity or loitering around bike racks to NCFPD. Thieves usually carry a hidden bolt cutter or other cutting tool.

Campus Police also offers the Bicycle Anti-theft Program (B.A.T.). By registering your bicycle and affixing a New College of Florida B.A.T. decal to the bike, the owner of the bike is authorizing any officer of the Campus Police to stop anyone operating the bike to confirm ownership or permission to possess should the officer suspect that the operator is not the owner. This is a completely voluntary program and participation is not required in order to register your bike with Campus Police.



Crime Prevention and Community Education

No community is 100% crime free. A college campus is not unlike any other community with the same problems and concerns. Although the incidence of serious crime at New College is relatively low, the Campus Police Department encourages all members of the college community to learn good crime prevention habits. Most crimes are of opportunity and can be avoided with a little planning and common sense. Good crime prevention is simply teaching people how to avoid becoming victims. Campus Police recognizes the types of problems that commonly occur on campus and is involved in presenting information on a number of safety and security topics.



Campus Police
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www.ncf.edu/police

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