

# Safety and Security

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## Point Security

<i>Academic Center:</i>	<b>404-232-5420</b>
<i>Point Living Community:</i>	<b>706-457-2832</b>
<i>East Point Campus:</i>	<b>678-410-1955</b>

The Point University campus is among the safest college campuses in Georgia, and we are committed to maintaining that status. Part of achieving and maintaining a safe campus is the willingness of every member of the community to be alert to potential problems. Reporting potential problems to appropriate authorities is an important aspect of our common life on this campus.

Point provides around-the-clock security personnel whose responsibility is to have a very public presence on campus at all times. The security force is not a police force, and thus has no legal authority to make arrests, interrogate students or perform any other activities normally associated with police forces. The security force does not carry weapons. However, Point security officers will report any illegal activity on our campus to the local police department, and the University will cooperate with the police department in such cases. When security personnel approach students and request that any activity cease, students are expected to comply. Failure to comply with security requests will be reported to the Student Life Office and will be dealt with in an appropriate manner. If students feel that security personnel are making inappropriate requests, they should still comply with the request, then schedule an appointment with the Student Life Office to resolve the issue at a later date.

In accordance with the Campus Security Act, criminal activity on campus is reported each year through material available at registration. This material will also be available upon request throughout the year.

Educational information concerning security, crime prevention and safety on and off campus will be made available through the Student Life Office. The director of student life will sponsor at least one crime prevention and safety seminar each year. Criminal activity will be reported to local police agencies, and appropriate follow-up with these agencies will be conducted.

## Personal Precautions

Point students should use precautionary measures to ensure their own safety and that of other members of the campus community. It is unnecessary and unhealthy to live in fear, particularly on our safe campus, but students should nonetheless be aware of these simple safeguards.

1. Always keep the door(s) and windows of your residence locked, particularly when you are away or asleep.
2. Always keep your car doors locked. Also, do not leave valuables in your car while it is unattended.
3. Unsecured bicycles invite theft. Purchase a bike lock and secure your bike to a stationary object, such as a bike rack. The same applies for mopeds and scooters.
4. Identify expensive and/or important belongings with some type of permanent identification, such as can be provided with a metal engraver.
5. Secure items that are easily stolen, such as laptop computers, when left unattended, even in a residence hall room. Laptop computers can be secured quickly with a cable lock.
6. When you are driving, keep your doors locked at all times. If you break down in an isolated

area, stay inside your car with the doors locked. If someone wants to help, ask them to call for assistance. If you break down or run out of gasoline on the highway, do not leave your car if you are alone. Eventually the police or someone else will offer assistance. If you see a motorist stranded, it is safest not to stop to help unless you know the driver. If you want to help, call for assistance for the stranded motorist.

7. When using public transportation, wait in busy, well-lit areas. Sit near the driver, especially if the bus is nearly empty.
8. If you need to cross campus at night, do not walk alone. If no one is with you, call the appropriate security cell phone number and an on-duty officer will escort you to your destination.

## **Campus Alert System**

Point uses the e2Campus® text-messaging system to alert students, faculty and staff of emergency situations on campus. The system is opt-in only, meaning that users must register in order to receive the text message alerts.

Alerts will be sent only if:

- Classes are cancelled due to inclement weather or another urgent situation;
- A tornado warning or other urgent weather alert is issued by the weather service; or
- Any other situation occurs on campus that requires students, faculty and staff to immediately take shelter.

Emergency alerts will *not* be sent for campus announcements or other routine information. Anyone encountering an emergency situation taking place on campus should call campus security at the appropriate number based on his or her location (see previous page).

## **Emergency Information**

Please take a few minutes to review this material and become familiar with it. It will prove invaluable should an emergency situation arise.

### ***Criminal or Health Emergency***

In the case of a criminal or health emergency, immediately 911 (from a campus phone, dial 9, then 911). Calmly describe for the operator the location, the situation and the need. Then follow the procedures listed below.

In case of suspicious activity or some other need for security assistance, call an on-duty security guard. Calmly describe the location, the situation and the need. Then notify the appropriate Campus Life Minister (CLM).

### ***Evacuation of Buildings***

In case of a fire drill, an actual fire or another emergency requiring the evacuation of a building, an alarm will sound and everyone should leave as quickly and quietly as possible by the appropriate exit. After evacuating the building, you should wait at least 100 feet away until you are notified that you may re-enter.

### ***Fire Drill***

Fire drills will be held periodically. If you are in a residence hall, close your window; leave the light on and the door open when you leave. Designated students will check your room and close the door.

### ***Thefts or Loss of Property***

Thefts, loss of property, or any other incidents involving the safety or security of the students or the University should be reported to the Campus Safety Office immediately, and to your CLM if you live in campus housing.

### ***Tornadoes***

Tornado drills will be held periodically. Gather in the interior hall or restroom on the ground floor of the building you are in. Be sure that doors are closed and that you are not near any windows. Apartment residents should go the interior restroom of their apartments.

### ***Missing Persons***

**Reporting:** If a member of the University community (faculty, staff, student, or parent) has reason to believe that a student is missing, that community member will refer the case immediately to the director of student life. If the student is enrolled in an off-site location, the appropriate student services officer at that location should be notified.

The Student Life Office will work collaboratively with others to contact and locate the student. All reasonable efforts will be made to locate the student and determine his or her state of health and well-being. The efforts include, but are not limited to:

- Phone call to student;
- Email to student through Point University email account (or other known email addresses);
- Messages through social networking websites, if possible;
- Contact with all professors to determine last day of attendance in each class; and
- Contact with housing staff (Campus Life Minister) and roommate(s) if student is residential.

If the student is located through these attempts, a determination will be made regarding his or her health and well-being. If necessary, a referral to the campus counselor and/or other appropriate offices may be made at that time.

**Policy:** If the student is not located through the above measures and has been verified to be missing for more than 24 hours, then the following actions will be taken within the next 24 hours by the Point University student life staff:

1. Notification will be made (where and when applicable and appropriate) to the appropriate Point University staff members, including student services and campus security.
2. The director of student life will make contact with the student's emergency contact and, for students under 18 years of age, a custodial parent or guardian if not emancipated. Students are asked to register and continually update emergency contact information with the Student Life Office.

Students who reside in on-campus housing are also provided an opportunity to identify a confidential emergency contact individual during check-in. This person(s) will also be contacted within 24

hours after the student is determined to be missing unless the student is under 18 years of age and not emancipated, in which case a custodial parent or guardian will be notified as mandated by law.

Once notified, the parent/guardian/emergency contact person may need to work with Point University student life staff to submit additional information with outside law enforcement agencies in order to expand the investigation.

### ***Sexual Assault***

The CLMs of each residence hall will post educational material each year concerning sexual assault. During an annual security seminar, the issue of sexual assault will be addressed. If you have been assaulted in any way, get to a safe place and then call campus security.

### ***Emergency Response Plan***

The University's Emergency Response Plan provides campus administrators with guidelines on how to respond to various types of emergencies. In the event of an emergency, it is important that all students carefully follow instructions given by faculty and staff.

### **Other Guidelines**

Elsewhere in this covenant are specific references to state and federal guidelines regarding the use of illegal drugs and alcohol by underage users. It is the policy of Point University to cooperate with law enforcement officials in the enforcement of these laws. Point security personnel may report offenses in these areas to local law enforcement agencies. Obviously, Point students are encouraged to respect such laws and are expected to obey them. However, once violations of these laws are in the hands of law enforcement officials, the University cannot rescue you. We will minister to you and help you overcome whatever issues created the situation, but we cannot interfere with the reasonable enforcement of these laws.