

A Safe Campus Starts with You

Become Aware

A message from Shawnee State University President Rita Rice Morris

Creating a culture of safety begins with awareness of the issues that impact college students. While those issues are varied— and we could spend a great deal of time discussing each — we want to begin a conversation about violence and discrimination, and what each of us can do to maintain a safe campus environment.

Universities, including Shawnee State, are bringing greater focus to the issues of sexual harassment, bullying, and violence in response to federal legislation including Title IX, the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), the Clery Act, and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA).

We have created this short educational tool to help you become more aware of the issues surrounding sexual violence and resources for reporting and resolving violence. Federal regulations require us to provide this training to you.

Thank you for your time and sincere attention to these issues.

Know Where We Stand on Sexual Misconduct

Shawnee State University is committed to having an educational and working environment that is free from any form of sexual harassment or sexual misconduct, including sexual violence. These acts violate an individual's fundamental rights and personal dignity and will not be tolerated.

The University seeks to address sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual violence through education, policy enforcement, and by providing mechanisms for students, faculty, staff, and visitors to [report concerns or complaints](#). Prompt corrective measures will be taken to stop sex discrimination, sexual harassment and sexual violence whenever it occurs.

Click on the following links to learn more about the institution's policy and procedures on sexual harassment/misconduct:

- [Policy 5.01 Equal Opportunity & Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy](#)
- [Procedure 5.01:2 Reporting Complaints of Discrimination, Sexual Harassment/Misconduct and Retaliation](#)
- [Procedure 5.01:4 Sexual Harassment/Misconduct](#)

You may also access [Shawnee State University's Conduct Code](#), which provides a detailed description of behaviors that violate our expectations and result in a conduct review and disciplinary action.

The Code also provides details on the student judicial process at Shawnee State University, including the process that you may use to appeal decisions made regarding your conduct.

Please become familiar with the Student Conduct Code and feel free to discuss any expectations that you do not fully understand with the [Dean of Students](#).

Know What We're Talking About

Offenses/Terms

Sexual Misconduct or Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment (also called "sexual misconduct") is conduct that is: 1) sexual in nature; 2) unwelcome; and 3) denies or limits an individual's ability to participate in or benefit from the University's education program or work environment.

Sexual harassment or sexual misconduct includes sexual violence and crimes based upon sex, including dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Both males and females can be victims of sexual harassment, and the harasser and the victim can be of the same sex.

The conduct can occur in any University program or activity and can take place in University facilities, on a University bus, or at other off-campus locations such as a University-sponsored field trip or a training program at another location. The conduct can be verbal, nonverbal or physical.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence by a

current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim or other individual similarly situated as a spouse.

Dating Violence

Dating violence is violence by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. Dating violence includes sexual or physical abuse or threat of such abuse.

The existence of such a relationship is determined based on the reporting party's statement with consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.

Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is an offense that meets the definition of rape, fondling, incest or statutory rape. Sexual assault may be forced and/or against a person's will or unforced and against the person's will.

Stalking

Stalking means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable

person to: 1) fear for his/her safety or the safety of others; or 2) suffer substantial emotional distress.

Consent

Consent must be informed, knowing and voluntary. Consent must be clear and unambiguous for each participant throughout any sexual encounter.

Consent to some sexual acts does not imply consent to others, nor does past consent to a given act imply ongoing or future consent. Consent can be revoked at any time.

For all of these reasons, sexual partners must evaluate consent in an ongoing fashion and should communicate clearly with each other throughout any sexual encounter. Consent cannot be obtained from someone who is asleep or otherwise mentally or physically incapacitated, whether due to alcohol, drugs, or some other condition. Consent cannot be obtained by threat, coercion, or force.

Agreement given under such conditions does not constitute consent. In order to give effective consent, one must be of legal age (16 years or older in Ohio).

Know How to Report

If you believe you have been a victim of a criminal sexual assault, you should contact the Department of Public Safety at (740) 351-3232 or call 9-1-1.

If you believe you have been subject to sex discrimination or harassment, including sexual violence, you may report such misconduct by submitting the [online complaint form](#).

You may also file a formal complaint by reporting to one of the following University Officials:

Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Student Affairs	Brandon Lamma	Student Affairs, University Center	(740) 351-3011	blamma@shawnee.edu
Deputy Title IX Coordinator, Athletics	Coleen Kosan	Student Success Center, Massie Hall	(740) 351-3758	ckosan@shawnee.edu
Dean of Students	Marcie Simms	Student Affairs, University Center	(740) 351-3262	msimms@shawnee.edu
Interim Vice President	Bob Trusz	Student Affairs, University Center	(740) 351-3280	btrusz@shawnee.edu
Title IX Coordinator	Malonda Johnson	Human Resources, Massie Hall 016	(740) 351-3484	mjohnson@shawnee.edu

Be An Active Bystander!

Battle the Bystander Effect. The Bystander Effect is a phenomenon in which the more people who witness an emergency event, the less likely anyone is to intervene.

If you see someone in danger of being assaulted: Active Bystanders...

- **Ask if the person needs help.** NOTE: Before stepping in, make sure to evaluate the risk. Don't be aggressive – Keep yourself safe.
- If it means putting yourself in danger, **call Public Safety 740.351.3232** instead, or **911**.
- **Ask for assistance from other bystanders** if necessary to step in as a group.
- **Don't leave.** If you remain at the scene and are a witness, the perpetrator is less likely to do anything.
- If you know the perpetrator, tell the person you do not approve of their actions. **Ask the person to leave the potential victim alone.**

When you see something, **DO SOMETHING**
When you hear something, **SAY SOMETHING**
...when someone jokes about sexual assault
...when you hear degrading language
...when it seems like someone is trying to have sex without their partner's consent

...when someone is getting ready to have sex with an intoxicated person

...when you hear someone bragging about having sex with an intoxicated person (Remember, someone who is severely intoxicated cannot give consent, no matter what s/he verbalizes.)

Be an Ally

- When you go to a party, go with a group of friends. Arrive together, check in with each other frequently and leave together.
- Have a buddy system. Don't be afraid to let a friend know if you are worried about her/his safety.
- If you see potential problems use a distraction to redirect the focus somewhere else: "Hey, I need to talk to you" or "Hey, this party is lame. Let's go somewhere else."
- If you see someone who is intoxicated, offer to call a cab.

Protect Yourself

While you can never completely protect yourself from sexual assault, there are some things you can do to help reduce your risk of being assaulted.

- Be aware of your surroundings at all times and trust your instincts. If you feel unsafe in any situation, go with your gut.
- When you're going out, tell a roommate or friend where you're going and the approximate time you expect to return. Agree to look out for each other.
- Whenever possible travel with a friend, or better still, with a group or fiends.
- Make sure that you have your cell phone and that it is charged, and that you have money for a cab.
- Walk with purpose, even if you don't know where you are going, act like you do. Keep your head up, not looking down at your cell phone.
- Know where you're going and the safest way to get there, particularly during hours of darkness. Walk in well-traveled, well lighted areas avoiding short cuts through public parks, construction sites, alleys and parking lots.
- Do not accept drinks from people that you do not know. Keep your drink with you at all times if you are at a party or bar. It is best not to accept any open drinks, even if you know the person. You do not know their intentions.
- If going on a first date / blind date go out with a friend or group of friends to a public place, such as a restaurant.
- Know your limits when it comes to using alcohol and realize that alcohol / drugs lower your sexual inhibitions and may make you vulnerable.
- Be assertive—don't let anyone violate your space. Recognize your own boundaries regarding sexual activity, and make them known to your potential partner.

Know Your Rights

Complainants and victims will be entitled to participate in the complaint process that is equitable to the rights and opportunities afforded to the accused.

The complainant/victim and accused will be informed of relevant procedural steps for both the investigative and hearing/determination stages. These parties may be accompanied by a support person (or, if applicable, union representative) for any meeting with the investigator and at any formal hearing.

Students who are alleged complainants and victims are also entitled to the rights provided in the “victim’s rights” section of the [Student Conduct Code](#).

Know Where to Turn for Help & More Information

On Campus Resources:

Vice President for Student Affairs 740-351-3280
Student Affairs, University Center

Dean of Students 740-351-3616
Student Affairs, University Center

Title IX Coordinator or Deputies
<http://www.shawnee.edu/offices/title-IX/coordinator.aspx>

SSU Health Clinic 740-351-4362
James A. Rhodes Athletic Center, Room 118

Counseling and Health Services 740-351-3608
University Center, 2nd Floor, Room 205

Women's Center 740-351-3738
Massie Hall, Rm 019

Department of Public Safety 740-351-3232
call 9-1-1

Off Campus Resources:

**Southern Ohio Medical Center
Emergency Department**
1805 27th Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662
740-356-5000

Southern Ohio Domestic Violence Task Force
2315 Grant Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662
(740) 456-8217
www.endviolence@roadrunner.com

Southern Ohio Sexual Assault Treatment Center
602 Chillicothe Street, Room 101
Portsmouth, OH 45662
(740) 355-3528

King's Daughters Medical Center Ohio
2001 Scioto Trail
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662
(740) 991-4000

Bellefonte Hospital
1000 St. Christopher Dr
Ashland, KY 41101
(606) 833-3333

Shawnee Mental Health
901 Washington Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662
(740) 354-7702
www.shawneemhc.org

The Counseling Center, Inc
1634 11th Street
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662
(740) 354-6685

**Ohio Attorney General's Office
Crime Victim Section**
614-466-5610
Toll-free: 800-582-2877
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov/Victims