

## **Annual Security and Fire Safety Report 2025**

In compliance with federal law, Truett McConnell University publishes annual information on campus safety and emergency procedures, statistics of certain criminal activity on campus, and information about fire safety in residence halls. This report is prepared by the Student Life office with input from Campus Security and Facilities Management. Crime statistics are collected from campus sources, including Student Life and Campus Security, and from the Cleveland Police Department.

### **Reporting Crimes/Suspicious Activity/Potentially Dangerous Situations**

Truett McConnell University is committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment for all students, faculty, and staff. In order to help ensure everyone's safety, TMU encourages everyone to report crimes, suspected crimes, suspicious activity, or any potentially dangerous situation to proper authorities immediately. Reports can be made to any of the following:

- Cleveland Police – Dial 911 (Always do this first in emergencies.)
- Campus Security – 706-969-0588 or 706-865-2134 ext. 3200
- Student Life Staff – 706-865-2134 ext. 4100 or visiting their office at the Nix Student Center.
- Any member of the Residence Life Staff, including Resident Directors and Resident Assistants – contact information is provided to resident students and is available inside each residence hall

Victims or witnesses may make anonymous reports by contacting any of the above offices and notifying them that they wish to remain anonymous. In all cases, TMU encourages everyone to make timely and accurate reports of any criminal activity to both TMU authorities and local law enforcement. TMU will assist in making such report whenever feasible.

For sexual misconduct including sexual harassment, sexual violence, or any form of sexual discrimination, you can share your concerns, ask questions, or submit specific complaints by contacting the following email addresses.

- [TitleIX@tmu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@tmu.edu)

Once a report is received by TMU:

All reports of criminal activity or potential criminal activity will be forwarded to Campus Security, the Director of Student Life, and the Cleveland Police. TMU will work with local law enforcement to investigate and resolve all such complaints.

Reports of suspicious activity will generally be investigated by Campus Security. If it is determined that a crime has likely occurred, Student Development personnel and the Cleveland Police will be notified.

Reports of non-criminal potentially dangerous situations will be reported to the proper campus authorities for resolution.

### **Emergency Notification and Timely Warnings**

TMU will issue an emergency notification to all faculty, staff, and students upon confirmation of any significant emergency or dangerous situation occurring on campus that may involve an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees. Such notifications will be made in one or more of the following methods:

- myTMU
- TMU e-mail system.
- Audible alarms such as smoke/fire alarms or severe weather sirens; and
- Personal notifications by TMU staff.

Anyone who knows of an emergency or potentially dangerous situation on campus is encouraged to notify Campus Security at 706-969-0588 and/or the Cleveland Police department by dialing 911. Upon receipt of such a report, appropriate TMU personnel will work to confirm, when appropriate, the existence of such emergency or dangerous situation. If it is determined that an emergency or dangerous situation exists that may involve an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees, the Student Development Office will issue appropriate notifications to the appropriate members of the campus community. In all cases, anyone who may reasonably be expected to be affected by the situation will be notified.

Emergency notifications will contain as much accurate information as is reasonable possible that is necessary for persons to take appropriate measures for the protection of themselves and others. The content of the emergency notifications will be determined with collaboration from personnel in Student Life, Campus Security, Facilities Management, and Administration as needed.

Certain emergency notification systems are initiated automatically. These include smoke/fire alarms and severe weather sirens. Others, including the myTMU and TMU e-mail system, are initiated by TMU personnel.

In most cases, when TMU has confirmed that a significant emergency or dangerous situation exists that may affect the health and/or safety of students or employees, emergency notifications will be made. These notifications will be made to provide necessary information to best equip members of the campus community to take steps to ensure personal safety. There are limited circumstances in which an emergency notification may be delayed or withheld.

These are limited to situations in which appropriate TMU personnel reasonably believe that issuing such notification would compromise:

- Assistance to a victim;
- TMU and/or local authorities' ability to contain an emergency;
- Response to the emergency; or

- Our ability to otherwise mitigate the emergency.

In certain situations, it may be appropriate or necessary to make notifications to those outside the campus community. In those cases, Campus Security will notify the Cleveland Police Department and the White County Emergency Management Agency of the situation and relevant details to allow those agencies to make the necessary

The emergency notifications systems will be tested on a regular basis. myTMU and TMU e-mail systems are updated and tested at the beginning of each semester. These tests are accompanied by a campus-wide email explaining the test and notifying the campus of TMU's current procedures. Smoke/fire alarms are tested annually by a third-party contractor who is supervised by Campus Security personnel. Severe weather sirens are tested on the first Wednesday of each month by the White County Emergency Management Agency. In addition, all residential students participate in at least one scheduled fire and severe weather drill each semester. A report or e-mail will be submitted following each test that describes the test/drill, the date and time of the drill, and whether the drill was announced or unannounced.

In addition to emergency notifications, TMU will at times send notifications as a result of criminal activity that has happened on campus and may represent an ongoing threat. Such notifications are known as "timely warnings." These notifications will be sent to help aid in the prevention of similar crimes and to assist individuals in protecting themselves. A timely warning will be issued every time a crime, or potential crime that is required to be reported by the Cleary Act, is reported to the university and the university reasonably believes it represents a serious or continuing threat to the campus community.

The decision to issue a timely warning will be made on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Campus Security/Deputy Director of Campus Security in consultation with the Student Development office and TMU administrators.

Factors that will be considered include:

- The nature of the crime;
- The continuing danger to the campus community; and
- The possible risk of compromising law enforcement efforts.

Timely warnings will include as much relevant information as reasonably possible to enable members of the campus community to aid in providing for their own safety and help prevent similar crimes.

Timely warnings will be issued through the myTMU system via push notifications, text message or emails. Notifications may also be made using the TMU e-mail system.

## **Security and Access to Campus Facilities**

TMU Campus Security employs nine full-time as well as three part-time Campus Security Officers who monitor the main vehicular entrance to campus and patrol campus 24 hours a day. Only persons with reasonable need are allowed to drive onto campus. In addition, 255 security cameras are strategically located throughout campus to monitor activities. These cameras are monitored by Campus Security employees. During patrols, officers make routine checks for building security. This includes checking to ensure appropriate doors are locked and checking for hazards such as blocked areas of egress and lighting outages.

All non-residential campus buildings are locked and unlocked by Campus Security based on a daily schedule. Exterior doors of residential buildings that have common areas connecting rooms are locked 24 hours a day. Only residents of each building are given keys or key card access. Residential buildings with exterior entrances to individual rooms/suites are locked and unlocked by the residents of each unit.

Campus Security Officers are not law enforcement officers and have no power of arrest. TMU works closely with both the Cleveland Police Department and White County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services to the campus. While there is no formal written agreement between TMU and these agencies, both agencies routinely patrol campus and respond to criminal complaints.

TMU does not have any non-campus facilities, nor are there any official organizations that have regular activities at any off-campus locations.

### **Education and Prevention Programs**

Campus safety and security policies and procedures are covered with students, faculty, and staff during annual orientation programs. Presentations are made by Campus Security and Student Development employees. Additionally, students are informed of procedures for reporting crimes and crime prevention during mandatory hall meetings that are held at least three times each semester. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to be proactive in taking responsibility for their own safety and are given methods for safe bystander intervention when appropriate. Periodic emails to the campus community serve as reminders of campus safety policies and procedures.

### **Drug and Alcohol Possession/Use**

TMU does not permit students, regardless of age or classification, to use, possess, distribute, or otherwise partake in alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs. All students agree to abstain from these items during their enrollment at TMU, regardless of whether they are on or off campus, both during

the academic term and all breaks. All violations of local, state, or federal law are reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities for investigation and prosecution.

TMU provides an annual drug and alcohol awareness program through the orientation program for students, faculty, and staff. Additional awareness programs are presented to students throughout the year, including during public safety week in October and hall programs throughout each semester.

### **Victim's Rights**

TMU will provide all available resources to support victims of crimes on the TMU campus. These resources include providing professional counselors, assisting with law enforcement reports, and providing assistance during and legal proceedings. TMU will provide the victim of an alleged crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense a report on the outcome of any campus disciplinary proceedings arising from said crime.

### **Missing Student Notification Policy**

All students will be offered the opportunity to designate a person to be contacted in the event he or she is determined to be missing for a period of more than 24 hours. This designation will be made as part of the emergency contact information provided for the University's emergency mass notification system. Students may choose to have this information kept confidential.

Anyone may report a student missing to any member of the University administration, Student Development staff, or Campus Security officers. Any such report that is received will be documented and referred immediately to the Student Development office for investigation.

The Student Development Office, in cooperation with the university administration, will immediately initiate an investigation into the report to determine if the student is actually missing.

If, after investigation, the student is determined to have been missing for at least 24 hours or is believed to be in danger, the Cleveland Police will be immediately notified, and the university will attempt to contact the student's designated emergency contact. If the missing student is under 18 years of age, and is not an emancipated individual, the university is required to notify a custodial parent or guardian within 24 hours after that student is determined missing. In all cases, the university will notify the Cleveland Police Department if criminal activity is suspected.

### **Sexual Assault Prevention and Response**

TMU does not illegally discriminate on the basis of sex in its educational programs and sexual assault and sexual violence are types of sex discrimination. TMU takes all reports of sexual assault, sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking as urgent matters that will be investigated and resolved.

### *Definitions*

Sexual Assault - O.C.G.A. § 16-6-5.1 "Sexual Assault" is defined as sexual contact that is perpetrated by "a person who has supervisory or disciplinary authority over another individual."

Rape - O.C.G.A. § 16-6-1 Rape is defined in the State of Georgia as a "male having carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Carnal knowledge in rape occurs when there is any penetration of the female sex organs by the male sex organs."

The code recognizes that rape can occur even between spouses so the defendant cannot use the fact that he is married to the person accusing him of rape as a defense.

Rape is punishable by death, life imprisonment with or without parole, or a minimum of 25 years imprisonment, followed by probation for life.

Domestic Violence - O.C.G.A. § 19-13-1 "Family Violence" as defined in this article, the term "family violence" means the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between past or present spouses, persons who are parents of the same child, parents and children, stepparents and stepchildren, foster parents and foster children, or other persons living or formerly living in the same household.

- (1) Any felony; or
- (2) Commission of offenses of battery, simple battery, simple assault, stalking, criminal damage to property, unlawful restraint, or criminal trespass.

Dating Violence - VAWA: Means 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:

- i. The length of the relationship.

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

#### Stalking - O.C.G.A. § 16-5-90 Stalking

(a)(1) 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 consent of the other person for the purpose of harassing and intimidating the other person... This Code section shall not be construed to require that an overt threat of death or bodily injury has been made.

(2) A person commits the offense of stalking when such person, in violation of a bond to keep the peace posted pursuant to Code Section 17-6-110, standing order issued under Code Section 19-1-1, temporary restraining order, temporary protective order, permanent restraining order, permanent protective order, preliminary injunction, or permanent injunction or condition of pretrial release, condition of probation, or condition of parole in effect prohibiting the harassment or intimidation of another person, broadcasts or publishes, including electronic publication, the picture, name, address, or phone number of a person for whose benefit the bond, order, or condition was made and without such person's consent in such a manner that causes other persons to harass or intimidate such person and the person making the broadcast or publication knew or had reason to believe that such broadcast or publication would cause such person to be harassed or intimidated by others.

#### *Education and Prevention Programs*

TMU annually host presentations from Rape Response, Inc. on the recognition, prevention, intervention, and reporting of all types of sexual assault, sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Students are taught warning signs, reporting protocols, and bystander interventions. In addition, personnel from Rape Response, Inc. are on campus regularly to consult with students and continue the educational process. Hall programs are conducted each semester that provide information on these topics.

#### *Reporting a Complaint*

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to report any possible or suspected cases to any responsible employee at TMU. These include faculty, director level staff, and any member of the Student Development Staff, both professional and student. The university will promptly investigate all reports and follow up appropriately. When appropriate, and with the consent of any potential victims, reports will be referred to law enforcement for criminal prosecution. All cases will also be adjudicated through the campus judicial process that is outlined in the TMU Student Handbook.

## Sex Offender Registration

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act (CSCPA) of 2000 is a federal law that provides for the tracking of convicted sex offenders enrolled at, or employed by, institutions of higher education. The CSCPA is an amendment to the Jacob Wetterling Crimes against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Act. The federal act requires state law enforcement agencies, (Georgia Bureau of Investigation) to provide TMU with a list of registered sex offenders who have indicated that they are enrolled, employed or carrying on a vocation at TMU.

White county maintains a Sex Offender Registry and makes this information available to the public and the campus community through the internet.

The CSCPA further amends the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) to clarify that nothing in the Act can prohibit an educational institution from disclosing information provided to the institution concerning registered sex offenders.

| Criminal Offenses                 | Year | On Campus | On Campus Student Housing | Non-Campus | Public Property | Total |
|-----------------------------------|------|-----------|---------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------|
| Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
| Manslaughter by Negligence        | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
| Rape                              | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
| Fondling                          | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
| Incest                            | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
| Statutory Rape                    | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |

|                     |      |   |   |   |   |   |
|---------------------|------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Robbery             | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Aggravated Assault  | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Burglary            | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Arson               | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                     | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| VAWA Offenses     |      |   |   |   |   |   |
|-------------------|------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Domestic Violence | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                   | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                   | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dating Violence   | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                   | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                   | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Stalking          | 2023 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
|                   | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                   | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Hate Crimes Motivated by Bias in one of the Bias Categories |      |   |   |   |   |   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Simple Assault                                              | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                                             | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                                             | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Larceny                                                     | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                                             | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                                             | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Theft                                                       | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                                             | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                                             | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Intimidation                                                | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                                             | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                                             | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

|                                              |      |   |   |   |   |   |
|----------------------------------------------|------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Damage/Destruction/<br>Vandalism of Property | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                              | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                              | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Arrest                                 |      |   |   |   |   |   |
|----------------------------------------|------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Weapons: carrying,<br>possessing, etc. | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                        | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                        | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drug Violations                        | 2022 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                        | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                        | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Liquor Law Violations                  | 2023 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
|                                        | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                        | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Disciplinary Referrals                 |      |   |   |   |   |   |
|----------------------------------------|------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Weapons: carrying,<br>possessing, etc. | 2023 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                        | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                        | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Drug Violations                        | 2023 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
|                                        | 2024 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
|                                        | 2025 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Liquor Law Violations                  | 2023 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
|                                        | 2024 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|                                        | 2025 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 |

| Total Unfounded<br>Crimes |      |   |
|---------------------------|------|---|
|                           | 2023 | 0 |
|                           | 2024 | 0 |
|                           | 2025 | 0 |

| Criminal Offenses                 | Year | On Campus | On Campus Student Housing | Non-Campus | Public Property | Total |
|-----------------------------------|------|-----------|---------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------|
| Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
| Manslaughter by Negligence        | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
| Rape                              | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
| Fondling                          | 2023 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2024 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |
|                                   | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |

## 2025 Hazing Statistics

| Reportable Offenses | Year | On Campus | On Campus Student Housing | Non-Campus | Public Property | Total |
|---------------------|------|-----------|---------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------|
| Hazing              | 2025 | 0         | 0                         | 0          | 0               | 0     |

*\* On-Campus Student Housing is a subset of the On-Campus total.*

## Fire Safety Disclosure for On-Campus Housing

### Description of Fire Protection Equipment (On-Campus Housing):

Sewell Hall: Honeywell Fire Alarm Systems, Addressable Hardwire and not sprinkled.

Garrison Hall: Honeywell Fire Alarm Systems, Addressable Hardwire and not sprinkled.

Merritt Hall: Honeywell Fire Alarm Systems, Addressable Hardwire and not sprinkled.

Otwell Hall: Honeywell Fire Alarm Systems, Addressable Hardwire and not sprinkled.

Wood Hall: FireLite Alarm Systems, Addressable Hardwire and sprinkled.

Twin Springs Student Housing: Hardwire individual smoke detectors and not sprinkled.

Cleveland Courts 1: FireLite Alarm Systems, Addressable Hardwired not sprinkled

Cleveland Courts 2: FireLite Alarm Systems, Addressable Hardwired not sprinkled

Heritage Condos Student Housing: Wireless individual staff monitored smoke detectors and not sprinkled.

**Number of regular mandatory supervised fire drills:**

Truett McConnell University requires each residence hall to have at a very minimum one announced fire drill during the Fall and Spring semesters. The first announced fire drill is on the first day of classes on campus. Each fire drill is supervised, and roll is taken. Both the fire monitoring company and Truett McConnell University Campus Security are notified prior to the drills which are conducted by the Student Development Office.

**Rules on fire safety education and training programs:**

Each residence hall holds a mandatory hall meeting within the first two days of each semester where the protocol for fire evacuation is covered. All Truett McConnell University Residence Life Staff members receive fire safety training during fall staff training.

**Policies related to use electrical appliances, open flames, smoking, and evacuation procedures:**

Residents are not permitted to have any appliance with open flame or exposed heating element in any traditional residence hall. Smoking is not permitted on campus. Evacuation procedures are covered during mandatory hall meetings each semester.

**Statistics**

Number of Reported Fires on Campus and Cause: \_\_\_\_ reported fires on campus during 2023.

Injuries requiring medical care:                      2023: 0                      2024: 0                      2025: 0

Deaths:                                                              2023: 0                      2024: 0                      2025: 0

Value of property damage:                      2023: \$0.00                      2024: \$0.00                      2025: \$0.00

**COMPLETION OF REPORT**