

# Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Safety and Security

## How safe is the Syracuse University campus?

- >> The SU campus has one of the lowest crime rates in the city and continues to experience less crime.
- >> Despite the decline in crime, SU has increased manpower to focus on prevention and education.
- >> Given the strength of officers and colleagues at the surrounding VA Hospital, SUNY Upstate Medical University, SUNY ESF, and City of Syracuse Police, *our campus is one of the safest places you can be.*
- >> During the day, there are often more than 20 officers from these agencies covering a two-square-mile area; by late evening and overnights during the weekend, there are often as many as 30 officers.

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## What recent safety enhancements have been made?

- >> Nighttime SU Department of Public Safety (DPS) patrols and investigative manpower have been increased. Walking escort availability has been increased and a late-night safety escort shuttle (until 3:30 a.m. Sunday-Wednesday) and overnight shuttle service on Thursday-Saturday (until 6 a.m.) has been added.

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## What about security in the residence halls?

- >> Every residence hall has residential security aides who monitor access at night with direct radio contact to the DPS Emergency Communications Center.
- >> The entrances and exits of all residence halls are equipped with cameras connected to a central video security system.

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## What about safety off-campus?

- >> The recent reports of burglaries and robberies occurred off-campus; it is important to note we have increased off-campus patrol Sunday-Wednesday nights by 40 percent and on Thursday-Saturday nights by 60 percent.
- >> We've seen a 33 percent reduction in serious incidents in neighborhoods surrounding the campus, which we believe is due to patrol presence on foot and by bicycle and car in areas of student rental housing.
- >> Jointly, SU DPS and City of Syracuse Police conduct neighborhood safety patrols in immediate off-campus and fraternity/sorority neighborhoods on Friday and Saturday nights.

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## Does DPS have any other security tools besides patrols?

- >> The **LiveSafe** app downloaded on smart phones is used by students to communicate in real time with DPS, allowing location to be tracked and quick field response by patrol officers. Through the SafeWalk function, students can share their location with friends.
- >> The **Orange Alert** text is used along with campus sirens in case of immediate threat of physical harm to the campus community to provide rapid instruction to SU students, staff, and faculty.
- >> There are nearly **1,200 cameras** at the entrances and exits of all residence halls, parking garages, and other strategic on-campus locations, throughout South Campus and in and around the Carrier Dome.
- >> There are more than **145 Blue Light** emergency call boxes around campus.
- >> When bus service stops at 3 a.m., students can call 315.443.SAFE for walking and riding safety escorts.
- >> The **Silent Witness** program allows anonymous reporting about criminal activity on or near campus through the "Report a Crime" link on the DPS website.

DPS Chief Bobby Maldonado can be reached directly at 315.443.8736, and Associate Chief John Sardino is reachable at 315.443.5479. For more information about safety, security and the services of the Department of Public Safety, view our website at [publicsafety.syr.edu/](http://publicsafety.syr.edu/).