

BEST PRACTICES FOR CAMPUS LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law enforcement on college and university campuses operates in a unique and increasingly complex environment. Authorities are charged with many of the same responsibilities and challenges as their local municipal counterparts—to ensure the safety of all members of the community—but campus law enforcement must do so within the framework of the policies and protocols of educational institutions that deeply cherish freedom of expression, and that don't restrict access to campus.

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Best Practices for Campus Law Enforcement

Three areas are critical to addressing the challenges of bias and hate on campus:

- Relationships;
- Preparedness and Training; and
- Communication.

Relationships

o Campus law enforcement needs to establish relationships with key campus stakeholders including:

- Student body leaders and the leaders of student organizations;
- Fraternity and sorority leaders;
- Key faculty and staff members;
- Editors and representatives of campus newspapers and other media; and
- Residence hall staff or assistants.

o Campus law enforcement must also have relationships with the law enforcement agencies in surrounding jurisdictions, including departments at other campuses.

Preparedness and Training

ADL recommends and provides:

- Training for all campus law enforcement personnel, as well as administrators overseeing campus police, covering the following topics:
 - Hate crimes, including recognizing hate crimes, the relevant statutes, reporting requirements, and victim assistance;
 - First Amendment, constitutional protections, and university policies relating to freedom of expression; and
 - Extremism, with an emphasis on the tactics and ideologies of groups and movements that target campuses, as well as on cyberbullying, cyber hate, doxxing, and trolling.
- Joint training with surrounding jurisdictions on handling protests and demonstrations.

College and university administrators should integrate campus law enforcement into the planning, preparations, and debriefing process for events such as protests and demonstrations.

Campus law enforcement and administrators should consult with their counterparts at other campuses to learn from their experiences in handling hate crimes, protests, and demonstrations.

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Communication

- Campus law enforcement and administrators need to be acutely aware of the speed at which information about incidents can spread on and off campus, particularly through the use of social media.
- Being able to recognize the indicators of hate crimes and extremist activities quickly is critically important to a school's ability to assist, protect, and support the campus community.
- Campus law enforcement and administrators should think about ways to streamline their communication to ensure that the institutions can respond quickly and effectively to fast-moving events.