The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f)) is the landmark federal law, originally known as the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990, that requires colleges and universities across the United States to disclose information about crime on and around their campuses to the campus community. The Clery Act is monitored by the Department of Education, is named in memory of 19 year old university freshman Jeanne Ann Clery who was raped and murdered in her residence hall room on April 5, 1986. Jeanne's parents, Connie and Howard, discovered that students hadn’t been told about 38 violent crimes on their daughter’s campus in the three years before her murder. They joined with other campus crime victims and security advocates and persuaded Congress to enact this law.

The law requires reporting for specific crimes such as murder, robbery, arson, and sexual assault. It also requires reporting hate crimes as well as firearms, and (selected) alcohol and narcotics violations. The Clery Act establishes requirements and procedures for timely notifications of emergency or dangerous situations, along with appropriate protective actions.

The law was amended in 1992 to add a requirement that schools afford the victims of campus sexual assault certain basic rights. It was amended again in 1998 to expand the reporting requirements. The 1998 amendment also formally named the law in memory of Jeanne Clery.

Subsequent amendments in 2000 and 2008 added provisions dealing with registered sex offender notification and campus emergency response, respectively. The 2008 amendment also added provisions to protect crime victims, "whistleblowers", and others from retaliation.

NOVA’s Campus Clery crime statistics and relevant security information can be viewed on the college website http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/police/college-safety-report/crime-statistics/index.html. This information can also be requested at any of our six campus Police stations. Contact the NOVA Police Department with any questions or concerns.
Knock, Knock. Who’s There?

NOVA Police are not just concerned about your safety on campus; we also care about your security at home. Please review some of the safety tips given by The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) on how to deal with someone attempting to sell a home security system.

Everyone wants to feel safe at home. When home security salespeople come knocking, their pitch can be convincing. The Federal Trade Commission, the nation’s consumer protection agency, and your state Attorney General urge you to use caution when you consider what security system sales agents offer.

During the spring and summer, home security or alarm companies hire traveling sales agents to go door-to-door, making unsolicited “cold calls” on homeowners. In some cases, the salespeople use high-pressure or deceptive sales tactics to convince potential customers to buy expensive, but sometimes substandard, systems or equipment they don’t need.

Do not let anyone into your home if you feel uncomfortable. Before discussing any business, request to see the sales agent’s identification, find out the name of the business they represent, and the goods or services they wish to sell.

NEW EMERGENCY COORDINATOR AT NOVA

NOVA welcomes our new District 3 Emergency Coordinator, Brenda DeRamus. DeRamus will be in charge of Emergency Planning and operation at the Alexandria and Loudoun campuses. DeRamus comes to us from the Virginia Department of Transportation where she was the District Security Administrator.

As District 3 Emergency Coordinator DeRamus is responsible for the security of more than 25 facilities, including four locations deemed “critical infrastructure”. She worked directly with the Agency’s Operations and Security Division to provide emergency management security assessments and to develop and implement plans, policies and procedures.

Prior to her employment at VDOT, she served as a Division Commander for the Prince William County Sheriff’s Office, providing management supervision over daily court services operations. As the Division Commander, she was responsible for the protection of court officers, witnesses, jurors, judges, citizens, and up to 120 prisoners.

In addition, she supervised deputies under her command, coordinated and planned security, media relations and trial preparation for high-security and high-profile trials, to include the security and management of the John Allen Mohammad “DC Sniper” trial and sentencing. In these positions, she conducted threat, risk and vulnerability assessments and developed plans accordingly; researched and evaluated security equipment; wrote policies and procedures; coordinated training, evacuations and drills; and coordinated and supervised joint training operations with law enforcement and other emergency responders.

She has received advanced training in Threat and Risk Assessment, Weapons of Mass Destruction, Incident Response, Incident Management/Unified Command, as well as Physical Security Principles and Practices through the United States Marshal’s Service.

Is there a topic you feel needs to be addressed in this newsletter? If so contact your Community Outreach Officer.

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Knock, Knock. Who’s There? (con’t.)

Signs of a Security System Scam

Unscrupulous door-to-door sales agents use many of approaches to get you to buy an alarm system and monitoring services.

Here’s what to look for:

- They may offer you a limited time offer, and claim that you need to act now. For example, they may try to get you to sign a contract by telling you that the equipment is “free.” More than likely, strings are attached. To get your “free” alarm, you may have to sign a long-term and expensive system monitoring contract.

- They may pressure their way into your home and then refuse to leave. It is not impolite or rude to tell a salesperson you’re not interested. It’s much easier and safer to say “no” on the doorstep than to try to get the salesperson to leave once they’re inside. If a salesperson continues to pressure you after you’ve asked them to leave, call the police.

- They may use scare tactics. For example, they may talk about a rash of supposed burglaries in your neighborhood. You may call the Police to inquire about local crime statistics.

Some door-to-door sales agents target homeowners who have signs on their properties for security systems with other companies. In these cases:

- The sales agents may state or imply that they are from your existing security company and that they’re there to “upgrade” or “replace” your current security system. Once inside your home, however, they may install a new security system and have you sign papers that include a costly contract for the monitoring service.

- They may claim your security company has gone out of business, that they’ve taken over the accounts, and that you have to buy new equipment and sign new contracts. If this happens, call your current monitoring company to confirm. Normally, you would be notified of a change like this by mail or telephone, not by an unannounced visit by a representative from another company.

Before you do business with anyone selling a home security or alarm system, whether they come to your door or you seek them out, the FTC and your state Attorney General urge you to ask potential contractors for the following information.

- Contractor’s name
- Street address (no P.O. Box)
- Telephone number
- Contractor’s license number
- State that issued the license
- Name under which the license is filed

Use this information to check out the alarm company with the appropriate authorities: your state Attorney General (www.naag.org), local consumer protection agency (www.consumeraction.gov), Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.org), or state licensing officials (www.nascla.org). If the salesperson is reluctant to give you this information, consider it a red flag and find another company.
New Traffic Pattern on the Annandale Campus

Annandale campus traffic patterns have undergone significant changes throughout the summer. If you have not been on the Annandale Campus in a while, please drive carefully and refer to the pictures posted below for guidance. With the construction of the CA Building completed, Center Drive from East Drive is now open for vehicle and pedestrian traffic. The South Drive exit that leads to Wakefield Chapel Road is currently closed. With the closing of the South Drive exit to Wakefield Chapel Road, detours signs have been posted around campus to divert traffic from South Drive to West Drive. Please refer to the pictures below for further information and contact your NOVA police department at (703) 323-3111 with any question or concerns.

Please Drive Safely

Center Drive from East Drive is now open for vehicle and pedestrian traffic.

The intersection of East Drive and Center Drive is now a one-way stop and NOT a four-way stop. Use caution when entering East Drive from Center Drive and the B-7 parking lot.

Detour signs have been placed to divert south drive traffic to exit and enter from West Drive.

There are new traffic pattern signs to guide drivers on South Drive.