

# Violence Prevention Committee Annual Notification

## **NOVA's Commitment to Safety: The Role of the Violence Prevention Committee, Threat Assessment Team, and Your Responsibilities**

Maintaining a safe and secure campus is fundamental to our mission at Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA). The NOVA Violence Prevention Committee (VPC) and [Threat Assessment Team](#) (TAT) play a critical role in fostering a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment by identifying and addressing behaviors that could pose a risk to the community.

In alignment with [Virginia Code § 23.1-805](#), the Violence Prevention Committee is responsible for developing policies and procedures for threat assessment and educating the NOVA community on how to recognize and report threatening and concerning behaviors. The VPC also provides guidance to the Threat Assessment Team (TAT).

The NOVA Threat Assessment Team (TAT) assesses whether an individual poses a threat of violence to themselves, others, or college community members. After a review of the details of an incident, the Threat Assessment Team provides guidance, recommends interventions, and promotes the coordination of communication throughout the review process.

## **What You Can Do:**

Recognizing and reporting threatening and/or concerning behaviors is essential. If there is an emergency that involves an imminent risk of violence, please call 9-1-1 or contact the [NOVA Police Department](#) at 703-764-5000.

We urge you to submit a [Threat Assessment Report](#) for non-emergency concerns about threatening behavior(s) or concerning behavior(s) so the TAT team can engage in their work.

## **What to Report:**

### **Threatening Behaviors:**

These include verbal threats and nonverbal threats. Examples include but are not limited to the following: verbal threats indicating a desire to harm self or others, invasion of personal space aggressively, intentional property damage, brandishing weapons, or inciting violence.

### **Concerning Behaviors:**

These include verbal and nonverbal behaviors signaling a need for intervention. Examples include but are not limited to the following: unusual or disruptive conduct, suicidal comments, preoccupation with violence or weapons, extreme emotional reactions, failure to comply with a request to stop disruptive behavior in and outside the classroom.

## Want to Learn More?

For more information, we encourage you to review the following college policies, and the information found on the [Violence Prevention Committee at NOVA](#) and the [Threat Assessment](#) websites.

- [NOVA Policy 113 - Campus and Workplace Violence Prevention](#)
- [113P - Policy Procedure: Campus and Workplace Violence Prevention](#)
- [NOVA Policy 119 – Threat Assessment](#)
- [119P – Policy Procedure: Threat Assessment Procedure](#)
- If you are a student, **Follow the NOVA Student Code of Conduct.**
- In an emergency please contact NOVA Police at 703-764-5000 or dial 911 in emergencies.
- Call the **9-8-8 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** for 24/7 emotional support and assistance.

## Additional Resources

- VPC Video Resource: [Creating a Safer NOVA Together with the Violence Prevention Committee](#)
- LifeSafe App: The following was featured in NOVA's Daily Flyer on November 13, 2025, [NOVA Police reminder: Stay safe and connected with LiveSafe](#)
  - Stay safe and connected with LiveSafe:
    - **Security at your fingertips:** The free LiveSafe app allows users to communicate with NOVA Police and access essential safety resources from their phones, helping keep the community informed, connected and prepared.
    - **How it works:** LiveSafe makes it easy to reach help directly and report concerns or suspicious activity anonymously. The app allows students, faculty and staff to:
      - Report concerns through text, photo or video.
      - Access important safety resources, including emergency procedures and campus maps.
      - Receive timely alerts about campus conditions or emergencies.
      - Use the SafeWalk feature to share a location with friends or family.
  - **Getting started:**
    1. Download the LiveSafe app from the Apple App Store or Google Play.
    2. Select Northern Virginia Community College as the organization.
    3. Use a NOVA email address to enable campus alerts.
  - **Learn more:** Visit [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) to watch a video on how to download and use the app. For questions about LiveSafe or other safety programs, contact the [NOVA Police Department](#).