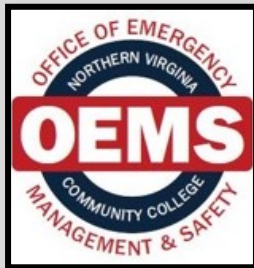


# NOVA PUBLIC SAFETY NEWSLETTER

MARCH / APRIL 2023



In honor of Women's History Month we would like to recognize the outstanding women who work for the Northern Virginia Community College Police Department. These women go above and beyond to keep our campuses and community safe!

- Sgt. Nicole Lauglois-Fisher
- Officer Ariel Beirne
- Officer Glenda Stanislaus-Johnson
- Officer Jo-ann Boquis
- Officer Kristine Cuddy
- Officer Lashana Combs
- Officer Renee Moody
- Officer Sarah Ebrahimi
- Office Susan Stewardson
- Dispatcher Gloria Rivas
- Dispatcher Janice Austin
- Dispatcher Jessica Sawyer
- OEMS Deputy Director Brenda DeRamus
- Mrs. Dana Reilly, Assistant to the Chief of Police

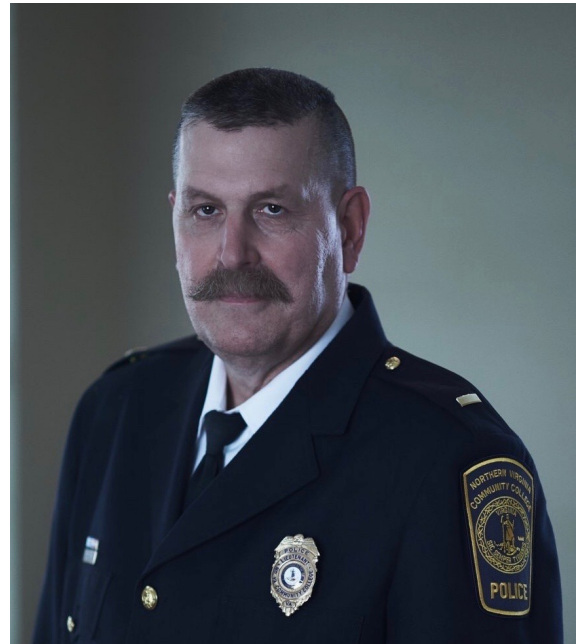
## In this Issue:

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- **10 Things to Know About Campus Security**
- **PD'S Annual Active Incident Training**
- **Spring Safety from OEMS**
- **Training Classes through NOVA PD**

## Lt. John Weinstein Retires

After almost 12 years with NOVA Police, as a district commander and director of strategic planning and outreach, Lt. John Weinstein will retire on April 1.

While at NOVA, Weinstein created the department's active incident response and firearms training programs, created the department's award-winning Public Safety Newsletter, personally delivered more than 500 presentations on our campuses, gave more than 50 national and international presentations, and published more than 50 articles in professional journals.



Download the **FREE** LiveSafe  
Mobile Safety App

Police can be reached 24/7/365 @ **(703) 764-5000**

[NOVApolice@nvcc.edu](mailto:NOVApolice@nvcc.edu)

[NOVApdoutreach@nvcc.edu](mailto:NOVApdoutreach@nvcc.edu)

## Lt. John Weinstein Retires

When asked his thoughts on leaving, Weinstein replied that after a 28-year career in the Department of Defense and 20 years with four police agencies, it was time to spend more time with his wife, Audrey, his five children and their spouses, and his 7 grandchildren. It was also time to allow upward mobility opportunities for NOVA's capable junior officers to make their contributions to the department and the college.

Those who know John do not expect him to sit around in retirement. He tells us "I plan to indulge my passions for motorcycle travel and a few other hobbies I've neglected over the years. I've also been asked by a local police academy to take over its firearms training program on a quarter-time basis and I'll be doing a little consulting. After all, my wife, suffering saint that she is, shouldn't be forced to enjoy me 100% of the time!"

We thank John for his service to the college and the department and wish him well in his next adventures. Those wishing to contact him can reach him at [jweinstein0602@gmail.com](mailto:jweinstein0602@gmail.com).

## 10 Things You Should Know about NOVA Campus Security

Is there an alert system? Yes. The College maintains multiple systems. See [www.nvcc.edu/emergency/alert.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/emergency/alert.html).

- Generated by Police or Office of Emergency Management and Safety
- Means
  - Text messaging: NOVA Alert (opt-in). GO to <http://alert.nvcc.edu>.
  - Email
  - Website (nvcc.edu)
  - Computer pop-ups (if computers are turned on)
  - Audio announcement (indoors, over telephones)

What are the survival strategies?

- Response options depend on your health, if your room is capable of locking, the nature of the threat, etc.
- Means (these are not mutually exclusive)
  - Evacuate (outdoor rally locations are marked with red flags)
  - Hide/Shelter in Place
  - Lockdown
  - Actively resist
  - Storm sheltering (marked with a tornado image)

Who are your first responders?

- Uniformed, sworn, certified and armed college police (7am – 11pm); certified NOVA and Contract security (11pm – 7 am). Local police may assist if required.
- Dispatched by centralized dispatch (703-764-5000), which operates 24/7/365

When do you call police/security?

- Call 911 for immediate emergencies.
- Imminent threats to campus safety or college operations you are unable to resolve (NOVA Police offer conflict de-escalation training, mental health awareness, maintaining a safe classroom environment, etc.)
- All illegal behavior (you do not need to be certain you have observed a crime)
- Please do not call police for classroom management or discipline issues unless they constitute threats to individual safety, campus safety, or college operations

## 10 Things You Should Know about NOVA Campus Security (cont'd)

How do you contact campus police or security?

- 9-1-1 calls go directly to local municipal jurisdictions which then inform NOVA Police
- Contact NOVA dispatch 24/7/365 via landline or cell at 703-764-5000
  - Check to see if your cell gets service throughout campus.
- Other means:
  - Email: [novapolice@nvcc.edu](mailto:novapolice@nvcc.edu) (however, not continuously monitored)
  - LiveSafe mobile safety app (anonymous contact possible; always actively monitored)
  - Panic dialers (an officer will be dispatched to your location)
  - Emergency call boxes on selected campuses

What other ways does the college address security?

- Behavioral Intervention and Threat Assessment Teams (report concerning behavior [i.e., potential safety or security threats to self, others, or campus] to a Behavioral Intervention Team or via: [www.nvcc.edu/wellness](http://www.nvcc.edu/wellness)
  - Your concern will be investigated, with appropriate action taken
  - You may not be notified of outcomes if they are personnel matters
- Floor and building wardens (direct evacuations and support reassembly)
- C-CERT (Campus-Community Emergency Response Team). Assists/trains NOVA personnel in disaster preparedness and response. [oem@nvcc.edu](mailto:oem@nvcc.edu)

What are you obligated to do if you see or know about a reportable event (e.g., harassment, bullying) or crime?

- All NOVA faculty and staff are deemed Campus Security Authorities (*obligated* to report Clery-defined incidents via NOVA form 105-174) [www.nvcc.edu/forms/rtf/105-174.rtf](http://www.nvcc.edu/forms/rtf/105-174.rtf)
- Even if you are uncertain if you've observed a crime or reportable Clery or Title IX offense, call dispatch so potential threats to safety or security can be investigated promptly by appropriate authorities.
- Responsible employees, including Deans, coaches, directors, and all full-time teaching faculty, are required to initiate notice of possible Title IX violations. The full list of reportable offenses is at <https://www.nvcc.edu/policies/student/docs/Title-IX-Policy.pdf>.
- You are also required to report child endangerment and neglect within 24 hours to state or local social services agencies or the person in charge of the school or his or her designee. (§ 22.1-291.3)
- If you are not certain whether you've observed a crime or concerning behavior or whom should be notified, call dispatch and your call will be directed as appropriate.

What is NOVA's designated response to an active shooter? "Run, Hide, Fight." You may review your options, which are not mutually exclusive, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0>.

- Run (evacuate), if possible.
- Hide: if you cannot evacuate, shelter in place, preferably behind an object that will stop a bullet as well as conceal you from view. If the assailant enters your room, do not cluster in a single location; move about randomly to make yourself a more difficult target.
- Fight: if you have no other alternative and your life is in danger.
- The end of the event will be announced via text message and other means noted in #1 above.

## 10 Things You Should Know about NOVA Campus Security (cont'd)

Is there police or security on your campus?

- NOVA police, who are fully sworn and possess all law enforcement authorities and responsibilities, are on NOVA's 6 campuses from 7 am – 11 pm.
  - Police offices are located on each campus, and assigned officers are supervised by a sergeant. Call dispatch for the location of the police office on your campus.
  - You can receive a free copy of the crime log, which documents daily crimes on campus, and the Annual Security Report (mandated by Clery) from any officer, at any NOVA police station, or via dispatch.
  - If needed, NOVA officers can be assisted by local law enforcement officers, per memoranda of agreement with local agencies.
- Uniformed and certified NOVA security officers patrol the campuses, from 11 pm – 7 am.
- Contract security patrols Pender, Signal Hill, and the Reston Center. Additionally, they patrol NOVA campuses on weekends when NOVA is closed (11 pm – 7 am).
- NOVA center personnel at Reston and Pender should call local police/sheriff.

Do NOVA police/security provide other support? Yes. All services may be accessed by calling Dispatch.

- Monthly Public Safety Newsletter is sent to the NOVA community via the Daily Flyer (to faculty and staff) and an email link (newsletter copies are also available at the NOVA Police website: [www.nvcc.edu/police](http://www.nvcc.edu/police))
- Escorts to vehicles
- Lost and Found
- Access control
- Safety training (20 different modules, all offered free of charge)
- Presentations to classes
- Social hosts for international students
- Partnerships with local federal, state and local agencies for safety and security events (e.g., DEA Drug Take-Back; VIN etching and texting and driving safety with Virginia State Police, Safe Passage Home)

## NOVA Police Conduct Annual Active Incident Training

Keeping NOVA campuses safe is the highest priority of the NOVA Police Department. With the rise in Active Shooter incidents, as documented by the FBI, your NOVA Police employ a three-pronged strategy to fulfil this critical life-saving responsibility.





## NOVA Police Conduct Annual Active Incident Training



The first element involves police briefings on all NOVA campuses about the characteristics of an active shooter incident, response strategies, and what to expect from the police. The second element is defined by a series of safety briefings given at all campuses through NOVA Police Outreach. These briefings include Staying Safe in the Classroom, Dealing with Difficult People, 10 Things Faculty Should Know about Security, Self-Defense Considerations, and Suspicious Behavior Recognition and Reporting. Campus community members interested in these and other presentations should contact NOVA Police at 703-764-5000 or [novapolice@nvcc.edu](mailto:novapolice@nvcc.edu).

Third, the entire NOVA Police Department undergoes annual training on tactical responses to an active shooter. This year's training, conducted March 5th and 12th, was held on the Alexandria campus's soon to be demolished AT building. Besides practicing immediate and effective tactical responses to an active shooter and a barricaded suspect with multiple hostages and tourniquet application, officers had the unique opportunity to practice destructive entry against locked doors. This type of realistic training is usually limited to SWAT Team members; it is rare that patrol officers, who would arrive on scene long before SWAT members, receive such critical training.

In addition to this recent training, NOVA officers regularly participate in live-fire weapons training at the firearms range.

In commenting about his department's active shooter training, Chief of Police Jake Jacoby stated "NOVA police officers actively patrol our campuses and maintain close liaison with other NOVA entities to enhance situational awareness as preventive measures. NOVA officers are well trained and dedicated to confronting all threats to campus safety."

If you would like more information about NOVA Police active shooter training, to participate in future training as a role player, or to learn what to do in an active shooter situation, please contact [novapolice@nvcc.edu](mailto:novapolice@nvcc.edu).

## OEMS - Spring Into Action and Review Your Safety Checklist

Spring is a good time to review items on your spring safety checklist, such as Smoke Alarms, Carbon Monoxide Detectors, your Family Emergency Plan, and getting rid of unwanted or old medicines.

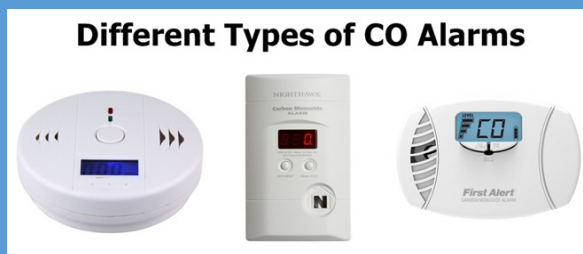
Three out of every five home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Test your smoke alarms every month and replace the battery at least once a year. Many do so on the first of the year or when the clocks change. If the alarm makes a "chirping" sound, replace the battery immediately.

**CHECK YOUR  
SMOKE  
DETECTOR**

## Spring Into Action and Review Your Safety Checklist

Smoke alarms should be in every bedroom and in the common areas on each floor of a home. Mount them at least 10 feet from the stove to reduce false alarms, less than 12 inches from the ceiling and away from windows, doors and ducts.

Anything that burns fuel can potentially become a source of carbon monoxide (CO), an invisible, odorless gas that can kill. CO alarms should be installed in a central location outside each bedroom and on every level of a home. The safety tips for CO detectors mirror those for smoke alarms: change the batteries, test them and interconnect them, if possible. Also, make sure vents for your gas appliances (fireplace, dryer, stove and furnace) are free and clear of snow or debris.



The National Safety Council recommends every family have an emergency plan to prepare for a natural disaster or other catastrophic event. Spring is a great time to review that plan with family members. Have a home and car emergency kit. The

Federal Emergency Management Agency says an emergency kit should include one gallon of water per day for each person, at least a three-day supply of food, flashlight and batteries, first aid kit, filter mask, plastic sheeting and duct tape, and medicines. Visit the FEMA website for a complete list: <https://www.fema.gov/>.

The National Safety Council also recommends you take unwanted or expired medicines to a prescription drop box or take-back event near you. More than half of people who misuse opioid pain relievers get them from a friend or family member so let's do our part and dispose of our medicines correctly.

By springing into action, you can both improve your own safety and the safety of others. Take this spring to make your world a safer place.



## Download

### LiveSafe Mobile Safety App

The LiveSafe Mobile Safety app is available for free to all NOVA faculty, students, staff and their families and friends. This powerful tool can empower you to stay safe, keep your campus safe, put potentially life-saving information at your fingertips, and facilitate timely interaction with NOVA Police and OEMS professionals in the event of an emergency or need for assistance. Download LiveSafe at iTunes or Google Play. It is easy and fast. Go to [www.LiveSafeMobile.com](http://www.LiveSafeMobile.com) to download this great app.



## 2023 NOVA POLICE TRAINING

NOVA Police conduct an extensive community outreach program. The following topics are available for presentation to faculty, students, clubs, staff, and community organizations via **Zoom or in-person**. If there are topics you would like presented or would like to request additional topics, please contact us at [novapolice@nvcc.edu](mailto:novapolice@nvcc.edu).

### Selected Topics:

- Active Shooter Response
- Dealing with Difficult People
- Creating and Maintaining a Safe Classroom Environment
- Staying Safe on the Street/Self-Defense Considerations
- Alcohol/DUI Awareness
- Stop the Bleed Tourniquet Certification
- Recognizing/Reporting Suspicious Behavior
- CPR and AED Certification
- Bystander Intervention
- Writing in the Workplace
- Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About the Police (But Were Afraid to Ask)
- Ticket Avoidance Strategies
- Crimes Against Women/Human Trafficking
- Gangs and Drugs
- Civilian - Police Interactions
- Dealing with Mental Health Issues