The beginning of a new year is a propitious time to review the college’s many safety resources.

- Program the telephone number of NOVA Police Dispatch into your cell phone (703) 764-5000. As a rule, calling NOVA Dispatch will result in a faster response for an emergency on campus than calling 911.
- Police escorts to your vehicles are available. Call dispatch at (703) 764-5000.
- Emergency call boxes are located in numerous interior and exterior locations (exterior units have a blue dome light above the unit).
- NOVA emergency radio broadcast 1630 AM
- NOVA CARE teams, located at each campus, address concerning behavior: [http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/novacares/index.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/novacares/index.html)
- College safety video: [http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/police/](http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/police/)
- Panic dialers on classroom and office phones
- NOVA Alert broadcast system. Sign up at: [http://alert.nvcc.edu](http://alert.nvcc.edu)
- NOVA Sexual Assault Services: [http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/police/college-safety/sexual-assault/](http://www.nvcc.edu/current-students/police/college-safety/sexual-assault/), or call (703) 338-0834.
- The NOVA Office of Emergency Management and Planning (OEMP) website ([www.nvcc.edu/emergency](http://www.nvcc.edu/emergency)) has emergency procedures and plans to help you during an emergency. Specific procedures for various scenarios can be found at [http://www.nvcc.edu/about-nova/emergency/campus/index.html](http://www.nvcc.edu/about-nova/emergency/campus/index.html). Check out the Safety video while you are on the site too!
- NOVA’s Emergency Action Plan (EAP) provides detailed procedures for several emergencies that may occur on campus. You can find the EAP at [http://www.nvcc.edu/about-nova/emergency/emergencyactionplan-032013.pdf](http://www.nvcc.edu/about-nova/emergency/emergencyactionplan-032013.pdf)

The most important thing you can do to maximize your emergency preparedness is to learn your surroundings. Consider “what if scenarios.” What if there were a fire? What if I needed to find shelter? Walk around your classroom or office buildings so you can identify:

- The two safest and most direct evacuation routes.
- The locations of campus emergency phones, Automated External Defibrillators (AED), and fire extinguishers.
- The locations of the designated assembly locations outside NOVA buildings.
- Locations to shelter-in-place for a severe weather event.
- The appropriate procedures for an active shooter/violent incident.

The next page contains response procedures for specific response procedures for emergencies. We recommend you keep a copy with you when on campus.
Emergency Procedures Review

Active Shooter
- Determine the most reasonable way to protect your own life and call 9-1-1 or 703-764-5000 when it is safe to do so.
- Run. Evacuate if you can. (This may be your best chance of survival.) Have an escape route in mind. Leave your valuables behind and keep hands visible.
- Hide in an area outside of the shooter’s view. Block entry to your hiding place and lock doors. Turn off lights and silence electronic devices.
- Fight as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger. Attempt to incapacitate the shooter. Act with physical aggression.
- Call 9-1-1 or 703-764-5000.
- Do not use cellular phones or two-way radios.
- Do NOT activate the fire alarm system to evacuate.
- Shelter in place or evacuate the building as directed.
- Do not re-enter the building until cleared by authorized personnel.
- Untrained persons should not try to rescue people who are inside a collapsed building. Wait for emergency personnel.
- Activate the nearest fire alarm and call 9-1-1 if possible. If there are no fire alarms, knock on doors and yell “fire” as your exit the building.
- Evacuate the building. Do not use elevators!
- Feel closed doors with the back of your hand. Do not open if doors are hot.
- Move well away from the building when evacuating and assemble at designated assembly areas.
- Do not re-enter the building until cleared by authorized personnel.

Bomb Threat/Explosion

Fire

Hazardous Materials
- If an emergency develops or if anyone is in danger, call 9-1-1.
- Move away from the site of the hazard to a safe location (up wind if possible).
- Follow the instructions of emergency personnel.
- Alert others to stay clear of the area.
- Notify emergency personnel if you have been exposed to the hazard or have information about its release.

Power Failure

Tornado

SUSPICIOUS PERSON
- Do not physically confront the person.
- Do not let anyone into a locked building/office.
- Do not block the person’s access to an exit.
- Call 9-1-1 or 703-764-5000. Provide as much information as possible about the person and his or her direction of travel.

SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE
- Do not touch or disturb the object.
- Do not use cellular phones or two-way radios.
- Call 9-1-1 or 703-764-5000.
The NOVA Police: A Retrospective

As the largest academic institution in the Commonwealth, as well as its best two-year school, NOVA is rightly proud of its accomplishments. Similarly, the College’s police department has matured over the last 25 years to become one of the premier college police departments in the country, and recognized for excellence by police agencies throughout the National Capital Region.

Our selection to work the President’s inauguration, host more than five Presidential visits, host numerous visits by the Governor and other state dignitaries, and Chief of Police Dan Dusseau’s nomination as a finalist two years running in a national campus safety magazine as Police Chief/Security Director of the Year are only a few of the affirmations of the department’s excellence and professionalism. Our officers also train officers from surrounding jurisdictions at two police academies, speak more than 10 languages, have advanced degrees to include a doctorate, and great experience. We publish this monthly public safety newsletter, and established an active community outreach program in 2010 (where we went from 25 presentations to almost 200 in 2013).

But it was not always so! In 1984, the department transitioned from a security organization to “institutional police” and to a bona fide police department on December 1, 1985. Before 1984-5, the College had only a few security guards, without weapons or arrest powers. Campus guards reported to their respective Business Managers. With 6 separate budgets, there was little uniformity between campus security operations. We had a 16-passenger van, and there was one dispatcher who covered only the Annandale campus during the day. When our guards transitioned to police officers, they carried old revolvers and had a few unreliable shotguns.

But what a difference 29 years make. The NOVA Police Department has grown to 52 sworn officers, all of whom have graduated and received advanced training from certified police academies, and 7 certified dispatchers. The training is rigorous enough to provide police academy officer graduates with 30 college credits. Since communications are crucial to police operations, we have moved far beyond the old CI building on the Annandale campus. We now have a 24/7/365 state-of-the-art dispatch center in the CA building that covers all campuses and is tied in to all area police communications centers. Last year, in its first full year of operations, our dispatch handled over 44,000 calls. We now have modern firearms and train more often than most surrounding departments. In fact, our firearms and active shooter response training programs are better than those of many other jurisdictions. We also have new police vehicles; new uniforms; and new equipment, such as civil disturbance gear, breaching tools for active shooter scenarios, defibrillators, protective vests, helmets, and shields.

However, effective policing is not about looking good; it’s about being good and maintaining high professional standards. We have come a long way in this regard as well. We have revised our General Orders, which govern police operations. We created a ceremonial honor guard which represents the College at official police functions and we sponsor training here on campus for local law enforcement jurisdictions. For instance, we sponsored FBI training on terrorist trends and a street crimes seminar for officers from 8 different jurisdictions. We train with other departments in the area of hostage negotiation, contribute to local crime bulletins, and perform the same operations with the same authority as the bigger county and city departments that surround us. Our officers also write for the national Campus Safety Magazine on a regular basis and we sit on its editorial board. As result we are contacted by college police departments from around the country with requests to share our expertise.
The NOVA Police Department has come a long way in three decades, and we are continuing to move forward. We take great pride in knowing we are prepared and able to provide the safe and secure environment required to achieve the college’s academic mission. Enjoy the then and now photos below.
NOVA Police Welcomes New Assistant Chief

NOVA Police welcomes our new Assistant Chief William “Jake” Jacoby. Jacoby comes to us as a 25 year veteran of the Fairfax County Police Department. During his tenure with Fairfax County, Chief Jacoby supervised their Major Crimes Division for eight years. In prior assignments he worked on the 2003 Beltway sniper investigation as well as with the FBI after the 9/11 Pentagon bombing. NBC’s To Catch a Predator series featured Chief Jacoby as a law enforcement expert on the exploitation of children by sexual predators.

Chief Jacoby was also the Assistant Commander of the Fairfax County Criminal Intelligence Division. This Division oversaw the Northern Virginia Regional Intelligence Center (NVRIC), and a multi-jurisdictional criminal task force to combat organized crime in the region. Jacoby ended his career as the Assistant Commander of the Franconia District Station. The Franconia District Station is the busiest station in the county involving calls for service. During this command, Deputy Chief Jacoby had 8 Lieutenants and 140 officers under his command. Prior to Fairfax County, he was a member of the New York City Police Department.

NOVA Security Officers Undergo Training

NOVA Security Officers, who patrol our campuses from 11:00 p.m. until 7:00 a.m., are an integral part of the NOVA public safety team. These certified security officers check their campuses regularly throughout the night to identity unauthorized or suspicious activity, provide updates to NOVA dispatch during inclement weather, and unlock appropriate buildings and classroom prior to the beginning of the day. Our Security Officers can be reached by calling NOVA Police Dispatch (703) 764-5000.

On December 3, as part of their continuing professional development, NOVA’s security officers underwent extensive training in three areas: active shooter response, dealing with difficult people, and bomb threat response. Pictured to the right are NOVA’s security officers, less Frank Sormenah (AL Campus), who underwent the training earlier.

Front L to R: Welmer Landaverde (LO), Gloria Rivas (AL), Audrey Campbell (AN). Back L to R: Art Lindberg (MEC), Kendall Jones (WO), Mart Harper (MA), and Joanne Cathcart (AN)
Upcoming NOVA Police Outreach Training

Crimes Against Women / Self-Defense Considerations

NOVA Police conduct campus-wide training sessions on responding to crimes against women and self-defense considerations. If you are interested in this or other announced training, please RSVP to NOVA Police’s Community Outreach Officer, Tony Ong at tong@nvcc.edu.

**Topics Include:**
- How to avoid / respond to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Stalking.
- What to do if you are a victim.
- Police guidance on relevant topics (i.e., protective orders, police reporting options and more).
- Demonstrations and lecture of self-defense responses and tactics (*this is NOT a hands-on session*).
- Resources in your community

**Dates/Locations: (rooms TBD)**
- January 27, Alexandria Campus, 11 am—1 pm, AA 158
- January 27, Loudoun Campus, 3 pm—5 pm, LR 105
- January 28, Annandale Campus, noon—2 pm, CA 317
- January 29, Manassas Campus, noon—2 pm, (*location TBD*)
- January 30, MEC Campus, 11 am—1 pm, Room 352
- January 30, Woodbridge Campus, 3 pm—5 pm, LWAS 336

Bystander Intervention Training

**Topics Include:**
- What is Bystander Intervention?
- How Bystander Intervention can keep you and others safe.
- Intervention tips and more.

**Dates/Locations: (rooms TBD)**
- February 10, Annandale Campus, noon—1 pm, CA 305
- February 10, MEC Campus, 2 pm—3 pm, Room 352
- February 11, Alexandria Campus, noon—1 pm, AA 196
- February 12, Manassas Campus, noon—1 pm, (*location TBD*)
- February 13, Loudoun Campus, noon—1 pm, LR 105
- February 14, Woodbridge Campus, noon—1 pm, LWAS 356