

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

POLICY NO.: 1:13:01

DATE: March 18, 2010

SUPERSEDES POLICY NO.: 1:13:01

DATED: January 1, 2010

SUBJECT: Violence on Campus

APPROVED: Sidney A. McPhee, President



I. Policy

Middle Tennessee State University is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for its students, faculty and staff. MTSU does not tolerate acts of violence committed on campus or within any university-owned or operated facility. Individuals engaging in any such acts may be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law as well as subject to normal university disciplinary procedures. The University is further committed to the education of the campus community about ways to decrease the incidence of violence and appropriate responses to potential or actual violent situations.

Violence addressed by this policy is defined as “any act or threat of aggression intended to create fear of bodily harm or to otherwise threaten the safety of an employee, student, or the general public.” Examples of such behavior include, but are not limited to:

1. Any assault or battery. Assault includes speech where the target is threatened and the individual making the threat has the capability to carry it out. The target is made to feel he or she is in danger. Battery is the actual physical contact.
2. Any substantial threat to destroy property or destruction of property.

II. Procedures

To reduce the possibility of threats or acts of violence and establish an effective procedure for responding to potential or actual violent situations, the University will develop crisis management procedures to deal with potential or actual violent situations. Once established, these procedures should be communicated to the campus community by the most effective means. The Crisis Council shall be activated when necessary and appropriate to review the potential or actual violent situations and coordinate appropriate university responses such as family notifications, press statements, follow-up counseling, etc.

III. Campus Resources

1. The MTSU Environmental Health & Safety Committee is charged to function as the monitoring body to oversee the implementation of the “Violence on Campus” Policy No: 1:13:01. (Refer to EH&S Policy No: IV:00:01)
2. The University Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can offer assistance to employees who are seeking help. It can also be used by managers and supervisors seeking help in assessing and defusing a potentially harmful situation.

The phone number of the EAP should be prominently displayed in all University departments. It may also be obtained by calling the Office of Human Resources.

3. The June Anderson Center for Women and Non-Traditional Students, Guidance Services, and the Dean of Student Life’s Office can offer assistance to students, managers and supervisors seeking help in assessing and defusing potentially harmful situations regarding students.
4. If a member of the campus community becomes aware of an act of violence or the potential for future acts of violence, he or she should contact the MTSU Department of Public Safety or, if anonymity is desired, the Rutherford County Crime Stoppers.

Revisions: February 3, 1998; January 1, 2010.