Richard Bland College Annual Campus Security and Fire Safety Report

This report serves as the annual security and fire safety report as required by the Higher Education Opportunity Act and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. Richard Bland Department of Campus Safety & Police is responsible for compiling and publishing the College’s annual security report. The purpose of the report is to provide an overview of the College, policy information on public safety, campus and community crime statistics, phone numbers for resources, and certain safety tips. All the information provided was compiled from departments from within the college including but not limited to; Department of Campus Safety and Police, Office of Residence Life, Office of Enrollment Services, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, and other surrounding law enforcement agencies.

Overview of the College

Richard Bland College is a two year junior college and a branch of The College of William and Mary in Virginia. The College was founded in 1960 to offer students a traditional curriculum in the liberal arts and sciences leading to the Associates Degree and preparation for transfer to a four year college or university. The college is situated on 712 acres, with only 225 acres developed, in the Counties of Prince George and Dinwiddie and 25 miles south of the state capital. Richard Bland College opened its first residential housing to approximately 250 students in August of 2008. Fall 2014 enrollment showed a total student population of 1,528 which included 347 resident, 732 commuter students and 449 off-campus, dual enrollment students.

Richard Bland College has 36 full time and 52 adjunct faculty, 71 full time and 22 part time staff members. The regular teaching load is fifteen hours per semester. The College conferred 220 degrees in 2014. The College recognizes its responsibility to serve the public by providing educational and cultural opportunities for the community at large.

Campus Police, Safety & Security and Policy Information

Richard Bland Department of Campus Safety and Police

Richard Bland Department of Campus Safety and Police has full law enforcement authority on all properties owned, leased or operated by the College including all roads that pass through the campus. The Department is comprised of four full-time and three part-time officers, and two part-time communications officers. All police officers are sworn and certified by meeting the requirements set by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services. The Department works closely with both Prince George County Police Department and Dinwiddie County Sheriff's Office, in which the College is located.

The mission of the Richard Bland College Police Department is to provide a safe and secure living, learning, and working environment for the students, faculty, staff, and visitors of the College by actively pursuing a positive relationship with the campus community, preserving public order, providing emergency medical response, protecting the life and
Policy Information

Emergency Operations Plan and Preparedness

The emergency operations plan was revised in March 2012, submitted and approved by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. Revisions are made annually to reflect the changes in the College's organizational structure and mission. The plan provides guidance and essential support functions to key administrators and staff personnel in the preparation, response and recovery with regards to emergencies and potential threats on or near the College. The emergency operations plan is integrated with the jurisdictions, Prince George and Dinwiddie Counties, in which the College is located. In addition to managing the Department, the Chief of Police serves as the College Safety Officer and reports building code, fire code, and other OSHA and safety violations. These violations are forwarded to the appropriate departments for resolution. Richard Bland College conducted two emergency exercises in 2014.

Emergency preparedness information on what to do in an emergency is essential in keeping our college community safe. A section of the College website and a portion of the SharePoint Intranet is dedicated to emergency management. This site provides useful information on many types of hazards along with key terms that will be used during an emergency. The emergency management site can be viewed at: http://www.rbc.edu/campus-police-safety-security/emergency-response-2/

Emergency Notification System (ENS)

Richard Bland Department of Campus Safety and Police maintains the College's emergency notification system. RBC Alert conforms to Section 23-9.2:11 of the Code of Virginia and in accordance with the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended. RBC Alert is a means of communication that provides students, faculty, and staff with emergency information and/or updates about incidents that are occurring or may occur. In addition, RBC Alert provides weather related alerts and information. All emergency information can be received by phone (landline), cell phone, e-mail, and/or SMS text message. The College provides this valuable service through Blackboard Connect-ED. Messages will be sent to the college community when circumstances may pose a threat of imminent danger. Emergency situations consisting of but not limited to; fire, hazardous materials, acts of violence, or weather condition that could be or is affecting the campus community will be disseminated. The Director of Campus Safety and Chief of Police, Lieutenant, and all of the on-duty police officers may authorize an emergency notification along with any updated information on a situation. The system is tested monthly to ensure effectiveness. Information on how to receive alerts is provided to the college community annually through e-mail, faculty and staff meetings, student orientation, and during vehicle registration. Additional information can be found at: http://www.rbc.edu/campus-police-safety-security/rbc-alert/
**Timely Warning**

“Timely warnings” will be provided to the college community in the event of a reported crime, either on campus or in the immediate vicinity of the campus that, in the judgment of the Chief of Police or his designee, constitutes an ongoing threat to the college community. The warnings are usually disseminated for the following crimes, which meet the standards set by the Uniformed Crime Reporting guidelines (UCR) and National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS): arson, murder (including nonnegligent and negligent manslaughter), and robbery. Cases involving the crimes of aggravated assault, sex offenses, burglary, and motor vehicle theft are considered on a case-by-case basis depending on the facts of the case. If there is not an ongoing threat to the college community a timely warning would not be disseminated. The warnings may be sent as an “outreach message” or “emergency notification depending on the circumstances.

**Emergency Evacuation**

All academic buildings and administrative offices are required to participate in emergency evacuation procedures twice a year during each semester. The emergency evacuation procedures are tested through planned, unannounced fire drills. These drills prepare the occupants of the building for an organized evacuation in the case of an emergency. During the evacuation drills, the occupants familiarize themselves with the most direct route to exit each building. All drills are coordinated by Campus Police, Safety & Security.

**Missing Person**

Any missing person from the campus community, adult or juvenile will be immediately reported to Department of Campus Safety and Police. The Department will generate an incident report and initiate an investigation. The College community is asked to provide as much information as possible about an incident especially if a description is available of the suspect, victim, and/or a vehicle. The Department of Campus Safety and Police will send out an alert via shared crime information networks with surrounding law enforcement agencies (Prince George and Dinwiddie Counties).

If a member of the College community becomes aware or has reason to believe that a student who resides in residential housing is missing, he/she should contact Department of Campus Safety and Police at (804) 863-4085. The Department will investigate the case by producing a missing persons report. If during the investigation, it is determined that the student may be missing for 2 hours or there is formidable information to immediately pursue an active investigation, the Department will notify the student’s confidential emergency contact. If the missing student residing in residential housing is under the age of 21, the Department will notify the student’s parent or legal guardian immediately after it is determined that the student has been missing for 2 hours or there is formidable information to immediately pursue an active investigation.

Students residing on campus have the option to register a confidential emergency contact with Department of Campus Safety and Police who will be notified if the student is determined to be missing. Only the Department of Campus Safety and Police personnel and Office of Residence Life staff will have access to contact information and can only be used in
the furtherance of the missing person investigation. This is in accordance with the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

Alcohol and Controlled Substance Policy

Richard Bland College takes violations of its alcohol and drug policies seriously. Use of alcohol on College property is prohibited by policy (See page 14-15, Student Handbook). The College enforces all state, and local laws, which penalize the possession, distribution, and use of controlled substances and illicit drugs. Offenders of such charges are subject to arrest and student discipline. Drug violations will typically result in suspension or expulsion. Violations of College policy are addressed through the Student Conduct Policy and criminal prosecution is addressed through the appropriate general district and circuit courts in Prince George County or Dinwiddie County.

Students must be mindful of the health risks associated with the abuse of alcohol and drugs. The following are consequences of substance abuse:
- Risk of overall health and well being
- Impairment of judgment and coordination
- Decreased motivation
- Damage to the brain, heart, and liver
- Decreased attention, comprehension, and ability to recall information.
- Physical and psychological dependence
- Overdose and alcohol poisoning
- Fainting/Blackouts

Students are encouraged to visit the counselors in the Center for Student Affairs if they (or their peers) are struggling with alcohol or drug abuse. The Office of Student Affairs has Community Service Referral Guides available in a hard copy format or online at: http://www.rbc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Community-Resource-and-Referral-Guide.pdf. The guide provides a list of various counseling agencies that assist individuals struggling with substance abuse.

Campus Building Access

The classroom facilities and administrative facilities are locked and unlocked by either electronically controlled security systems, managed through the College’s Information Technology services or by Department of Campus Safety and Police. Most College buildings are open to the public during normal operating hours. The classroom facilities are locked after the evening courses have concluded and are opened at 7:00 a.m. for classes to begin during weekdays. Most College buildings are locked on Saturdays, Sundays and recognized holidays unless a sanctioned event is scheduled. The administrative offices are locked from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. during weekdays and are closed on Saturdays, Sundays and recognized holidays.

Residential apartments on campus are secured at all times. Only students who reside in the residence halls are permitted access using an assigned proximity card. This is controlled by an electronic security system. All visitors are to be escorted by a residential student or staff member. All exterior emergency doors are alarmed. The residential facilities have video surveillance cameras located at each exit and entry. Cameras are also located in each
hallway, on every floor, and in the elevators. Cameras are recorded and monitored occasionally by police and in the evening by security officers. All interior apartment doors are controlled by proximity card access. Only students who reside in the apartment have access. A student’s individual room is secured by a key lock issued to the student only. Resident Advisors (RAs) and police officer’s conduct hallway tours during the evening hours to insure the safety and security of the buildings.

**Services Provided**

**Student Identification Cards**

All students must have a college identification card each year to use the library, participate in intramural or club sports, and other college related activities. All residential students must have college identification cards for access to the residential village. Student identification cards are produced by the Department of Campus Safety and Police and can be obtained each year during student orientation or during specified days and hours during the academic year.

**Student Counseling**

All students are advised on academic courses by the Center for Student Affairs. The Center for Student Affairs and Office of Residence Life staff is also available for students who need counseling on other issues or problems occurring on campus or in reference to everyday life. Students who have an addiction or other problems that may need further counseling may obtain information for outside resources from these staff members as well. The College has also partnered with the James House through a memorandum of understanding and contact can be made with one of their counselors by contacting the James House directly or through the Campus Police, Safety & Security and/or Center for Student Affairs. For more information, please visit: [http://www.rbc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Community-Resource-and-Referral-Guide.pdf](http://www.rbc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Community-Resource-and-Referral-Guide.pdf).

**Student Escort**

Campus Police, Safety & Security is available to escort students to and from buildings on campus to their cars and/or the residence halls in the evening hours. This service is offered to those who must cross campus during the nighttime alone. The Department of Campus Safety and Police can be contacted for this service by calling (804) 863-4085.

**Medical**

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is available 24 hours a day from Dinwiddie County Fire & EMS and/or Prince George County Fire & Rescue. To contact EMS, call the Department of Campus Safety and Police, at (804) 863-4085, or 911.
**Sexual Misconduct and Harassment Policy**

**Introduction**

Members of the College community, guests and visitors have the right to be free from sexual violence. All members of the campus community are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that does not infringe upon the rights of others. The College maintains a zero tolerance policy for sexual misconduct. When an allegation of misconduct is brought to an appropriate administration’s attention, and a respondent is found to have violated this policy, serious sanctions will be used to reasonably ensure that such actions are not repeated. This policy has been developed to reaffirm these principles and to provide recourse for those individuals whose rights have been violated. This policy is intended to define community expectations and to establish a mechanism for determining when those expectations have been violated.

**Overview of Policy Expectations with Respect to Physical Sexual Misconduct**

The expectations of our community regarding sexual misconduct can be summarized as follows:

1. In order for individuals to engage in sexual activity of any type with each other, there must be clear, knowing and voluntary consent prior to and during sexual activity. Consent is sexual permission. Consent can be given by word or action, but non-verbal consent is not as clear as talking about what you want sexually and what you don’t. Consent to some form of sexual activity cannot be automatically taken as consent to any other form of sexual activity. Silence—without actions demonstrating permission—cannot be assumed to show consent.

2. Additionally, there is a difference between seduction and coercion. Coercing someone into sexual activity violates this policy in the same way as physically forcing someone into sex. Coercion happens when someone is pressured unreasonably for sex.

3. Because alcohol or other drug use can place the capacity to consent in question, sober sex is less likely to raise such questions. When alcohol or other drugs are being used, a person will be considered unable to give valid consent if they cannot fully understand the details of a sexual interaction (who, what, when, where, why, or how) because they lack the capacity to reasonably understand the situation. Individuals who consent to sex must be able to understand what they are doing. Under this policy, “No” always means “No,” and “Yes” may not always mean “Yes.” Anything but a clear, knowing and voluntary consent to any sexual activity is equivalent to a “no.”

**Sexual Violence – Risk Reduction Tips**

Risk reduction tips can often take a victim-blaming tone, even unintentionally. With no intention to victim-blame, and with recognition that only those who commit sexual violence are responsible for those actions, these suggestions may nevertheless help you to reduce your risk experiencing a nonconsensual sexual act. Below, suggestions to avoid committing a non-consensual sexual act are also offered:

1. If you have limits, make them known as early as possible.
2. Tell a sexual aggressor “NO” clearly and firmly.
3. Try to remove yourself from the physical presence of a sexual aggressor.
4. Find someone nearby and ask for help.
5. Take affirmative responsibility for your alcohol intake/drug use and acknowledge that alcohol/drugs lower your sexual inhibitions and may make you vulnerable to someone who views a drunk or high person as a sexual opportunity.
6. Take care of your friends and ask that they take care of you. A real friend will challenge you if you are about to make a mistake. Respect them when they do.

If you find yourself in the position of being the initiator of sexual behavior, you owe sexual respect to your potential partner. These suggestions may help you to reduce your risk for being accused of sexual misconduct:

1. Clearly communicate your intentions to your sexual partner and give them a chance to clearly relate their intentions to you.
2. Understand and respect personal boundaries.
3. DON’T MAKE ASSUMPTIONS about consent; about someone’s sexual availability; about whether they are attracted to you; about how far you can go or about whether they are physically and/or mentally able to consent. If there are any questions or ambiguity then you DO NOT have consent.
4. Mixed messages from your partner are a clear indication that you should stop, defuse any sexual tension and communicate better. You may be misreading them. They may not have figured out how far they want to go with you yet. You must respect the timeline for sexual behaviors with which they are comfortable.
5. Don’t take advantage of someone’s drunkenness or drugged state, even if they did it to themselves.
6. Realize that your potential partner could be intimidated by you, or fearful. You may have a power advantage simply because of your gender or size. Don’t abuse that power.
7. Understand that consent to some form of sexual behavior does not automatically imply consent to any other forms of sexual behavior.
8. Silence and passivity cannot be interpreted as an indication of consent. Read your potential partner carefully, paying attention to verbal and non-verbal communication and body language. In campus hearings, legal terms like “guilt, “innocence” and “burdens of proof” are not applicable, but the university never assumes a student is in violation of university policy.

In campus hearings are conducted to take into account the totality of all evidence available, from all relevant sources.

The College reserves the right to take whatever measures it deems necessary in response to an allegation of sexual misconduct in order to protect students’ rights and personal safety. Such measures include, but are not limited to, modification of living arrangements, interim suspension from campus pending a hearing, and reporting the matter to the College or local police. Not all forms of sexual misconduct will be deemed to be equally serious offenses, and the College reserves the right to impose different sanctions, ranging from verbal warning to expulsion, depending on the severity of the offense. The College will consider the concerns and rights of both the complainant and the person accused of sexual misconduct.
Sexual Misconduct Offenses Include, but are not limited to:

1. Sexual Harassment
2. Non-Consensual Sexual Contact (or attempts to commit same)
3. Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse (or attempts to commit same)
4. Sexual Exploitation

Sexual Harassment:

Sexual Harassment is unwelcome, gender-based verbal or physical conduct that is, sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it, unreasonably interferes with, denies or limits someone’s ability to participate in or benefit from the college's educational program and/or activities, and is based on power differentials (quid pro quo), the creation of a hostile environment, or retaliation.

Examples include, an attempt to coerce an unwilling person into a sexual relationship; to repeatedly subject a person to egregious, unwelcome sexual attention; to punish a refusal to comply with a sexual based request; to condition a benefit on submitting to sexual advances; sexual violence; intimate partner violence, stalking; gender-based bullying.

Non-Consensual Sexual

Non-consensual sexual contact is any intentional sexual touching, however slight, with any object, by a man or a woman upon a man or a woman that is without consent and/or by force. Sexual Contact includes, intentional contact with the breasts, buttock, groin, or genitals, or touching another with any of these body parts, or making another touch you or themselves with or on any of these body parts; any intentional bodily contact in a sexual manner, though not involving contact with/of/by breasts, buttocks, groin, genitals, mouth or other orifice.

Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse

Non-consensual sexual intercourse is any sexual intercourse however slight, with any object, by a man or woman upon a man or a woman that is without consent and/or by force. Intercourse includes, vaginal penetration by a penis, object, tongue or finger, anal penetration by a penis, object, tongue, or finger, and oral copulation (mouth to genital contact or genital to mouth contact), no matter how slight the penetration or contact.

Sexual Exploitation

Sexual exploitation occurs when a student takes non-consensual or abusive sexual advantage of another for his/her own advantage or benefit, or to benefit or advantage anyone other than the one being exploited, and that behavior does not otherwise constitute one of other sexual misconduct offenses. Examples of sexual exploitation include, but are not limited to invasion of sexual privacy; prostituting another student; non-consensual video or audio-taping of sexual activity; going beyond the boundaries of consent (such as letting your friends hide in the closet to watch you having consensual sex); engaging in voyeurism; knowingly transmitting an STD or HIV to another student; exposing one's
genitals in nonconsensual circumstances; inducing another to expose their genitals; sexually-based stalking and/or bullying may also be forms of sexual exploitation.

**Additional Applicable Definitions:**

1. **Consent:** Consent is clear, knowing and voluntary. Consent is active, not passive. Silence, in and of itself, cannot be interpreted as consent. Consent may be given by words or actions, as long as those words or actions create mutually understandable clear permission regarding willingness to engage in (and the conditions of) sexual activity.
2. Consent to any one form of sexual activity cannot automatically imply consent to any other forms of sexual activity.
3. Previous relationships or prior consent cannot imply consent to future sexual acts.
4. Force is the use of physical violence and/or imposing on someone physically to gain sexual access. Force also includes threats, intimidation (implied threats) and coercion that overcome resistance or produce consent ("Have sex with me or I'll hit you. Okay, don't hit me, I'll do what you want.").
5. Coercion is unreasonable pressure for sexual activity. Coercive behavior differs from seductive behavior based on the type of pressure someone uses to get consent from another. When someone makes clear to you that they do not want sex, that they want to stop, or that they do not want to go past a certain point of sexual interaction, continued pressure beyond that point can be coercive.

**NOTE:** There is no requirement that a party to resist the sexual advance or request, but resistance is a clear demonstration of non-consent. The presence of force is not demonstrated by the absence of resistance. Sexual activity that is forced is by definition non-consensual, but non-consensual sexual activity is not by definition forced.

1. In order to give effective consent, one must be of legal age.
2. Sexual activity with someone who one should know to be -- or based on the circumstances should reasonably have known to be -- mentally or physically incapacitated (by alcohol or other drug use, unconsciousness or blackout), constitutes a violation of this policy.
3. Incapacitation is a state where someone cannot make rational, reasonable decisions because they lack the capacity to give knowing consent (e.g., to understand the "who, what, when, where, why or how" of their sexual interaction).
4. This policy also covers a person whose incapacity results from mental disability, sleep, involuntary physical restraint, or from the taking of rape drugs. Possession, use and/or distribution of any of these substances, including Rohypnol, Ketamine, GHB, Burundanga, etc. is prohibited, and administering one of these drugs to another student is a violation of this policy.
5. Use of alcohol or other drugs will never function as a defense to a violation of this policy.
6. The sexual orientation and/or gender identity of individuals engaging in sexual activity is not relevant to allegations under this policy.
Sanction Statement

Any student found responsible for violating the policy on Non-Consensual or Forced Sexual Contact (where no intercourse has occurred) will likely receive a sanction ranging from probation to expulsion, depending on the severity of the incident, and taking into account any previous campus conduct code violations.

Any student found responsible for violating the policy on Non-Consensual or Forced Sexual Intercourse will likely face a recommended sanction of suspension or expulsion.

Any student found responsible for violating the policy on sexual exploitation or sexual harassment will likely receive a recommended sanction ranging from warning to expulsion, depending on the severity of the incident, and taking into account any previous campus conduct code violations.

The Student Conduct Board reserves the right to broaden or lessen any range of recommended sanctions in the case of serious mitigating circumstances or egregiously offensive behavior. Neither the initial hearing officers nor any appeals body or officer will deviate from the range of recommended sanctions unless compelling justification exists to do so.

Confidentiality, Privacy and Reporting Policy

Institutions must clearly articulate who are “responsible employees” under Title IX for purposes of initiating notice and/or investigation, and those who have more discretion on how they act in response to notice of gender-based discrimination. Different people on campus have different reporting responsibilities and different abilities to maintain confidentiality, depending on their roles at the university and upon university policy. When consulting campus resources, all parties should be aware of confidentiality, privacy and mandatory reporting in order to make informed choices. On campus, some resources can offer you confidentiality, sharing options and advice without any obligation to tell anyone unless you want them to. Other resources are expressly there for you to report crimes and policy violations and they will take action when you report your victimization to them. Most resources on campus fall in the middle of these two extremes. Neither the college nor the law requires them to divulge private information that is shared with them except in certain circumstances, some of which are described below. A victim may seek assistance from these college officials without starting a formal process that is beyond the victim’s control, or violates her/his privacy.

To Report Confidentially

If one desires that details of the incident be kept confidential, they should speak with mental health counselors, health service providers or off-campus rape crisis resources who can maintain confidentiality. Campus counselors are available to help you free of charge, and can be seen on an emergency basis. In addition, you may speak on and off-campus with members of the clergy and chaplains, who will also keep reports made to them confidential.
Reporting to those who can maintain the privacy of what you share

You can seek advice from certain resources who are not required to tell anyone else your private, personally identifiable information unless there is cause for fear for your safety, or the safety of others. These are individuals who the College has not specifically designated as “responsible employees” for purposes of putting the institution on notice and for whom mandatory reporting is required, other than in the stated limited circumstances. These resources include those without supervisory responsibility or remedial authority to address sexual misconduct, such as RLC’s, faculty members, advisors to student organizations, career services staff, admissions officers, student activities personnel, and many others. If you are unsure of someone’s duties and ability to maintain your privacy, ask them before you talk to them. They will be able to tell you, and help you make decisions about who can help you best. Some of these resources, such as RLC’s, should be instructed to share incident reports with their supervisors, but they will not share any personally identifiable information about your report unless you give permission, except in the rare event that the incident reveals a need to protect you or other members of the community. If your personally identifiable information is shared, it will only be shared as necessary with as few people as possible, and all efforts will be made to protect your privacy.

Non-Confidential Reporting Options

You are encouraged to speak to officials of the institution to make formal reports of incidents (deans, vice presidents, or other administrators with supervisory responsibilities, campus police, and human resources). The College considers these people to be “responsible employees.” Notice to them is official notice to the institution. You have the right and can expect to have incidents of sexual misconduct to be taken seriously by the institution when formally reported, and to have those incidents investigated and properly resolved through administrative procedures. Formal reporting means that only people who need to know will be told, and information will be shared only as necessary with investigators, witnesses, and the accused individual.

Federal Statistical Reporting Obligations

Certain campus officials have a duty to report sexual misconduct for federal statistical reporting purposes (Clery Act). All personally identifiable information is kept confidential, but statistical information must be passed along to campus law enforcement regarding the type of incident and its general location (on or off-campus, in the surrounding area, but no addresses are given) for publication in the annual Campus Security Report. This report helps to provide the community with a clear picture of the extent and nature of campus crime, to ensure greater community safety. Mandated federal reporters include: student/conduct affairs, campus law enforcement, local police, coaches, athletic directors, residence life staff, student activities staff, human resources staff, advisors to student organizations and any other official with significant responsibility for student and campus activities. The information to be shared includes the date, the location of the incident (using Clery location categories) and the Clery crime category. This reporting protects the identity of the victim and may be done anonymously.
Federal Timely Warning Reporting Obligations

Victims of sexual misconduct should also be aware that College administrators must issue immediate timely warnings for incidents reported to them that are confirmed to pose a substantial threat of bodily harm or danger to members of the campus community. The College will make every effort to ensure that a victim's name and other identifying information is not disclosed, while still providing enough information for community members to make safety decisions in light of the danger. The reporters for timely warning purposes are exactly the same as detailed at the end of the above paragraph.

Sexual Assault/Sex Offenses

Sexual Assault is a serious and inappropriate sexual behavior that is not tolerated at Richard Bland College. Rape, sexual assault and/or battery, and other forcible and non-forcible sex offenses are criminal acts and punishable by civil, criminal and administrative action. The Student Disciplinary System administered through the Center for Student Affairs adjudicates, at the request of the victim, all cases involving sex offenses or sexual harassment in which the alleged perpetrator is a student of Richard Bland College.

The Department of Campus Safety and Police is always available and ready to assist anyone that is a victim of sexual assault or any other crime. Victims are many times hesitant to tell anyone of a sexual assault because they tend to feel a variety of conflicting emotions. Victims need to remember the attack is not their fault and the College is prepared to help. A victim may receive assistance from staff at the Center for Student Affairs, an outside counseling resource, or when criminal charges are filed, a victim witness coordinator is available through the local Commonwealth's Attorney's Office. The Department of Campus Safety and Police have police officers trained and certified to investigate crimes involving sexual violence.

If you are a victim of sexual assault:

- Contact the Department of Campus Safety and Police for assistance, information, or to report the incident. The Department should be contacted for on-campus incidents and the local police should be contacted for off-campus incidents.

- Seek medical attention at the closest hospital. Arrangements to have a qualified physician or SANE (a certified forensic sexual assault nurse examiner) staff will be made to conduct an examination and to collect evidence if you decide to pursue criminal charges.

- If possible, do not change clothes, shower, eat or drink between the rape or assault and your visit to the hospital. Take a change of clothes with you because police investigators will need to obtain and secure the clothes you were wearing for evidence. The evidence in this type of case is critical and can assist in the prosecution.

- The hospital can assign a trained companion to assist you with your needs and can help direct you to available services.
• If you do not wish to prosecute, it is important to have a physical exam after the assault. There could be physical injuries and/or bruising. In addition the perpetrator might have passed on a sexually transmitted disease that requires treatment. The hospital can give you information on testing for HIV/AIDS. This test may ease your mind but six months must elapse after the incident to accurately detect the presence of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

• Consider your judicial options carefully. See legal options below.

• If the assault interferes with your ability to complete your academic work, consult with the Center for Student Affairs. The Director of Student Affairs can assist in changing academic and living situations should the victim request such assistance and such changes are reasonably available.

• Counseling is available by the Center for Student Affairs and/or from an outside resource. All counseling provided to victims of sexual assault is CONFIDENTIAL.

Legal Options

Sexual assault victims have three legal options to choose from: filing criminal charges, filing college disciplinary charges, and/or filing a civil suit. The victim does not have to pick one option. The victim may choose any number or all three of the above options. The victim can only choose the college disciplinary charge if the perpetrator is a student of Richard Bland College.

The option of filing criminal charges is supported by the Department of Campus Safety and Police. The first step in the criminal process is to file a police report so an investigation by a police officer can begin. If the crime occurred on-campus, it is under the jurisdiction of the Department of Campus Safety and Police. If the crime occurred off-campus, it is under the jurisdiction of the locality in which the offense was committed and must be reported to that jurisdiction’s law enforcement agency. It is best to go to the police as soon as possible after an incident, in order to preserve as much evidence as possible. You do not have to file criminal charges immediately but the criminal case is stronger when the investigation starts immediately following the crime. There may be statutes of limitations for filing certain criminal charges, depending on the type of attack.

The option of filing a disciplinary charge, through the student disciplinary system, is administered through the Center for Student Affairs. The victim must request the charge or if the victim files a police report a charge will be filed with the Center for Student Affairs for discipline against the perpetrator. The charge can only be filed if the alleged offender is a student of Richard Bland College. The Division of Student Affairs will examine violations to college policy. Disciplinary hearings do not replace or are not a substitute for criminal prosecution. Students who choose disciplinary charges are also encouraged to evaluate and seek criminal charges and/or civil prosecution. Contact the Center for Student Affairs for further information by calling (804) 862-6249.

The option of filing a civil suit is the right of a victim to sue the perpetrator or other parties involved for monetary damages. This course of action can be done alone or in conjunction
with criminal prosecution and/or the filing of disciplinary charges. As with disciplinary hearings, the burden of proof is a preponderance of the evidence. This action does require an attorney and victims are advised to seek further consultation in this matter with a private attorney.

**Sex Offender Registry and Access to Related Information**

The Federal Campus Sex Crime Prevention Act requires that the campus community is made aware of where to find information of registered sex offenders. The Virginia State Police maintains the State sex offender registry. The registry can be found at: [http://sex-offender.vsp.virginia.gov/sor/](http://sex-offender.vsp.virginia.gov/sor/).

**Important Phone Numbers**

Richard Bland College publishes the following numbers so members of the campus community can quickly make contact to the appropriate office for assistance and/or information.

- Department of Campus Safety and Police: (804) 863-4085
- Emergency Police/Fire/Rescue: 911
- Director of Campus Safety and Chief of Police: (804) 862-6203
- Center for Student Affairs: (804) 862-6249
- Office of Residence Life: (804) 862-6161
- Property Management: (804) 863-1655
- Southside Regional Medical Center: (804) 765-5000

**Reporting a Crime**

All criminal activity, vehicle accidents, and suspicious activity needs to be reported to the Department of Campus Safety and Police. The cooperation, involvement, and prompt reporting of information are crucial to the success of keeping our campus safe and in solving crimes committed on campus. The Department is ready to investigate crimes and help prevent crimes from occurring in our College community. Employees and students must assume responsibility in the prevention of crime by accurately and promptly reporting suspicious activity. They must also assume responsibility for the security of themselves and the security of their personal belongings by being aware of College policies and regulations and by taking common sense precautions. Please contact the police department by phone or view our website for further information at [http://www.rbc.edu/campus-police-safety-security/](http://www.rbc.edu/campus-police-safety-security/).
Safety Tips

Walk in well-lighted areas. Walk with a friend or call Campus Police for an escort.

Avoid shortcuts and isolated areas when walking after dark.

Avoid working or studying in a building alone at night.

Lock your cars and secure any valuables when parking on campus.

Don’t leave personal property unattended in buildings.

Be familiar with the locations of emergency call boxes.

Opt-In to the emergency notification system, RBC Alert.

Never prop open exterior doors.

Never share your residential access card or keys with anyone.

Keep your room door locked even when leaving for “a minute”.

Lock windows and close shades after dark.

• Use a bicycle lock to secure your bicycle when not in use.

• Engrave your valuables.

• Carry a whistle or other noisemaker.

• Report all criminal and suspicious activity to Campus Police.
### Richard Bland College Crime Statistics

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17
Fire Safety Section

Overview

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (Public Law 110-315) became law in August, 2008 and requires all United States academic institutions to produce an annual fire safety report outlining fire safety practices, standards, and all fire-related on-campus housing statistics related to student housing. The following public disclosure report details all information required by this law as it relates to Richard Bland College.

On-Campus Housing Fire Safety Equipment

All Richard Bland College residence halls are protected by a fire suppression system which includes detection, manual pull stations, and an audible alarm. The fire system is monitored by Diebold, an off-site fire system monitoring company, 24 hours/day, and seven days/week. Depending on the type of activation, Diebold may only call the Department of Campus Safety and Police or may also call the local fire department as well. An example of Diebold only calling the Department of Campus Safety and Police would be if a smoke detector is only activated in one area of one apartment because a student burned food on the stove. An example of Diebold calling the local fire department and the Department of Campus Safety and Police would be if smoke is detected in the hallway or more than one apartment, or if a sprinkler is activated.

The buildings are also equipped with an emergency generator; upon loss of power, the generator automatically activates to assure adequate egress lighting in hallways and emergency exit stairwells. The fire system and all fire extinguishers are strictly maintained and tested in accordance with applicable state regulations and national standards.

Fire Safety Education, Training and Fire Drills

Fire extinguisher training along with CPR and first aid is made available to the Office of Residence Life staff and Residential Advisors. Informational handouts are provided at the beginning of the fall semester. All on-campus residents (including those with special needs) are briefed on fire safety issues at the beginning of each semester through floor meetings. Residents are required to comply with the fire safety regulations outlined in the “Student Handbook,” which includes information on fire safety and appropriate action(s) to take during a fire alarm or fire emergency evacuation.

Fire drills are conducted in residence halls each semester. The Department of Campus Safety and Police conducts and observes the drills. The drills are conducted to ensure proper functioning of the building fire alarm system and to familiarize residents with the process of evacuation. Occupants must evacuate for a drill just as they would for a real fire. When the fire alarm sounds, everyone must evacuate the building immediately every time. All fire alarms must be treated like a fire situation. Failure to evacuate the building, or evacuate in a timely manner, may result in disciplinary action. In addition, anyone involved in initiating a false alarm, inappropriately discharging a fire extinguisher or tampering with fire protection alarms and systems will face disciplinary action and possible criminal charges.


**Student Housing Fire Evacuation Procedures**

Students are required to follow and know the procedures written in the Student Handbook for evacuation of residential facilities in the event of a fire or fire drill. The fire evacuation procedures, listed below, can be accessed through the College website at [http://www.rbc.edu/campus-life/student-handbook/](http://www.rbc.edu/campus-life/student-handbook/).

When the fire siren sounds, everyone must leave the building immediately. No one is to return to the building until a member of the Department of Campus Safety and Police or other authorized College or responding official gives permission. All persons must stand 50 feet away from the buildings. All persons must stand clear of roadways to allow firefighting equipment to reach the building.

**Fire Prevention Policies**

The following policies and regulations can also be found in the Student Handbook. Everyone has access to the Student Handbook through the College website at: [http://www.rbc.edu/campus-life/student-handbook/](http://www.rbc.edu/campus-life/student-handbook/).

**Fire Safety Regulations**

High importance is placed by Richard Bland College on promoting fire safety in the residence halls and encouraging all students and student groups to take leadership in this area. Students are expected to participate in regular residence hall fire drills and attend periodic fire safety programs in order to understand how to manage the risks and respond appropriately in case of emergency. There are serious sanctions for those who, through violation of fire codes, create a danger for others. This includes setting off false alarms, tampering with firefighting equipment, or failing to leave a building when a fire alarm is activated. Sanctions will range from loss of privileges to dismissal from the College.

Each student room will be inspected at least twice a year to determine whether fire safety regulations are being followed. College personnel retain the right to conduct additional room inspections to ascertain safety conditions.

In general, when students present concerns or ideas that could result in safer residence halls, the Office of Residence Life will consider those suggestions.

1. Curtains, draperies, hangings, and other decorative materials suspended from walls shall be flame resistant or non-combustible.

2. Decorative materials shall not exceed 10 percent of the aggregate area of walls and ceilings.

3. No decorations or other objects shall be placed to obstruct exits, access thereto, egress there from, or visibility thereof.
All residents are expected to observe the following regulations critical to the prevention of fires in residence halls:

1. The use or possession of any dangerous chemical or explosive material, such as fireworks, gun powder, gasoline, etc., is prohibited within the residence halls.

2. The possession, lighting or burning of candles, incense, oil lamps, lanterns, grills or any device capable of producing an open or enclosed/contained flame or odor is prohibited in all student residences.

3. The possession or burning of oil lamps, other flammable items, or substances that produce an offensive odor is prohibited.

4. The possession or use of halogen lamps is prohibited.

5. Residents found to be tampering with fire alarms, smoke detectors, or fire extinguishers are subject to College disciplinary action and/or legal prosecution. The same sanctions apply to calling an ambulance or fire-fighting apparatus without just cause.

6. The hanging of any object or item from ceilings or fire sprinkler heads is prohibited.

7. Room doors, corridors, stairways, and building exits should be kept clear of obstructions at all times. Fire doors on corridors and in stairways should be kept closed at all times.

8. All residents and guests must evacuate any building in which a fire alarm sounds. Persons refusing to evacuate constitute a hazard to fire officials and will be subject to disciplinary action.

**Room Decorations and Modifications**

Room decorations and modifications are important in personalizing student rooms, but students should make plans that enhance their personal safety.

Wall hangings, posters, or other hanging room decorations must be affixed to and flush with the wall using products approved by the Office of Residence Life. Wall hangings or beads cannot cover exit routes. The indiscriminate use of nails, tacks, or screws is not permitted. Students should not hang objects from the ceiling, sprinkler system, or any component of the fire alarm system. Because of the importance of ceiling tiles in preventing the spread of fire, students are prohibited from removing or replacing ceiling tiles or storing items above the ceiling tiles.

All decorative materials shall be non-combustible or flame resistant. These materials must have a tag stating that they are non-combustible or have a certificate of flame resistant treatment.
Fresh cut trees or cut greenery is not permitted in campus residence halls.

String lighting cannot be strung from wall to wall across hallways, exit routes, or fixture to fixture. All lights must be flush to the wall.

**Electrical Appliance Regulations**

Students are not permitted to have in their residence hall rooms any appliance with open flame, including, but not limited to, hot plates, electric grills, and space heaters. Refrigerators must be no larger than 4.2 cubic feet and/or 2.0 amperes. Ceiling fans and dimmer switches are also not permitted. Extension cords are not permitted for any reason. Any length UL listed multi-plug devices are permitted only if they have a built-in circuit breaker (surge protector). The College reserves the right to reject any electrical appliance that it considers as potentially hazardous to the safety of students and others.

**No Candle/Open or Enclosed Flame Policy**

The possession, lighting or burning of candles, incense, oil lamps, lanterns, grills or any device capable of producing an open or enclosed/contained flame or odor is prohibited in residence halls. Exceptions to this policy may occur only under the following conditions: 1) written approval is provided by the Director of Student Affairs or 2) a designated building or area permits use for a specific purpose.

**Smoking**

Smoking is not permitted in residence halls. Additionally, individuals smoking outside of these facilities are encouraged to be aware of the smoke-free lifestyle of others and not place tobacco smoke in the path of entry to the residence halls. Therefore, students and their guests are forbidden from smoking within 20 feet of building entrances. Residents may not have electronic cigarettes (e-cigs) shisha pipes or hookah pipes or related smoking devices in residence halls. Fog machines may not be used in the residence halls.

**Fire Reporting**

Students are required to report all fires. Call 911 to report a fire.

Fire and EMS

Department of Campus Safety and Police

911

(804) 863-4085
### Richard Bland College Fire Statistics for Patriot Hall Housing Facility

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### Richard Bland College Fire Statistics for Freedom Hall Housing Facility

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