



ANNUAL FIRE AND SECURITY REPORT

2025

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

Important Telephone Numbers

MVNU Campus Safety Department

Emergency (On Campus Phone)	9-911
(Off Campus Phone)	911
Non-emergency	(740) 399-8686

Non-emergency:

Mount Vernon Police Department	(740) 397-2222
State Highway Patrol	(740) 397-5115
Crisis Hotline	(740) 397-9000, ext. 5000
Knox County Sheriff	(740) 397-3333
Knox Community Hospital	(740) 393-9000

Fire Department

Emergency (On-Campus Phone)	9-911
(Off Campus Phone)	911
Non-emergency	(740) 393-9515

Counseling (On-Campus)	(740) 392-6868 ext. 4610
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*This document prepared by Mount Vernon Nazarene University
Campus Safety Department
(740) 399-8686
www.mvnu.edu/campussafety*

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Mount Vernon Nazarene University is committed to fostering a non-discriminatory campus environment in which community members can learn and work. MVNU prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, sex, age, color, national origin, disability, marital status, or military service in the operation of all University programs, activities, and services. As a faith-based institution, the University is exempted from certain laws and regulations concerning discrimination. The University maintains the right, with regard to its lifestyle covenant, employment, and other matters, to uphold and apply its Christian beliefs related to, among other issues, marriage, sex (gender), gender identity, sexual orientation, and sexual activity to the fullest extent permitted by law. Thus, MVNU attempts to make all policies and decisions within the doctrinal and moral convictions of the Church of the Nazarene (e.g., Articles of Faith, Covenant of Christian Conduct including the Statement on Human Sexuality and Marriage, Covenant of Christian Character, and the Statement on Discrimination, 915).

Sex discrimination is prohibited by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and its implementing regulations (34 C.F.R. Part 106, as amended by 85 FR 30026 (May 19, 2020)), a federal law that provides that: No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance, including admissions and employment. Prohibited Conduct under this policy is also prohibited under the Clery Act as amended by VAWA, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4112, and other applicable statutes, regulations and administrative code provisions.

Inquiries or complaints concerning the application of Title IX may be referred to the University's Civil Rights Director/TIX Coordinator and/or the United States Department of Education:

Civil Rights Director / TIX Coordinator / 504 Coordinator
Tavaris Taylor
Mount Vernon Nazarene University

800 Martinsburg Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-399-9000, ext. 4606 www.mvnu.edu/titleix

Office for Civil Rights, Cleveland Office

U.S. Department of Education
1350 Euclid Avenue, Suite 325
Cleveland, OH 44115
216-522-4970, 216- 522-2573 (fax), OCR.Cleveland@ed.gov

The Clery Act

Choosing a postsecondary institution is a major decision for students and their families. Along with academic, financial and geographic considerations, the issue of campus safety is a growing concern.

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) is a federal mandate requiring all institutions of higher education that participate in the federal student financial aid program to disclose information about crime on their campuses and in the surrounding communities. The Clery Act affects virtually all public and private higher education institutions and is enforced by the Department of Education. Campuses that fail to comply with the act can be penalized with large fines and may be suspended from participating in the federal financial aid program.

The Clery Act, formerly known as the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act, was signed in 1990 and is named after 19-year-old Jeanne Clery, who was raped and murdered in her Lehigh University residence hall in 1986. Clery's parents lobbied Congress to enact the law when they discovered students at Lehigh hadn't been notified about 38 violent crimes that had occurred on campus in the three years prior to Clery's murder.

Compliance with the Clery Act

The Clery Act requires Mount Vernon Nazarene University (MVNU) to provide timely warnings of crimes that represent a threat to the safety of students or employees and to make their campus security policies available to the public. The act also requires MVNU to collect, report and disseminate crime data to everyone on-campus and to the Department of Education annually.

To be in full compliance with the law, MVNU must do the following:

1. Publish and distribute an Annual Security Report to the current and prospective students and employees by October 1st of each year.
2. Mount Vernon Nazarene University must also keep and make available to the public a detailed crime log of all crimes reported to them in the past 60 days.
3. Keep the past three years of crime statistics detailing crimes that have occurred: on-campus; in university residential facilities; and in public areas on or near campus. MVNU must also report liquor and drug law violations and illegal weapons possession if they result in a disciplinary referral or arrest.

4. Disclose missing student notification procedures that pertain to students residing in any on-campus student housing facilities.
5. Disclose fire safety information related to any on-campus student housing facilities. This includes maintaining a fire log that is open to public inspection and publishing the fire statistics in the Annual Safety Report.
6. Submit the collected crime and fire statistics to the Department of Education each fall.

Campus Safety

This report contains campus crime statistics and critical campus safety information such as policies, crime prevention, crime reporting, and resources to aid you in becoming more safety-minded. The best protections against campus crime are: a strong law enforcement presence; an aware, informed and alert campus community; and a commitment to reporting suspicious activities and using common sense when carrying out daily activities. MVNU strives to be a safe place to learn, live, work and grow.

Law Enforcement Authority

The primary objective of the department is to provide a safe and healthy environment that enhances the campus learning experience and complements the University's education mission.

Mount Vernon Nazarene University Campus Safety operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, from its headquarters in the Morrison building on Cougar Drive. The department employs safety officers who patrol the campus.

The department works very closely with the Mount Vernon Police Department, the Knox County Sheriff's Department, and the Ohio State Highway Patrol in the enforcement and investigation of federal, state, and local statutes, as well as university regulations. The department maintains a staff of six full-time officers, and 4 part-time officers. The officers are uniformed, and are commissioned by the University with full enforcement powers. Officers provide vehicle and foot patrols throughout the campus community.

Accurate and Timely Reporting of Criminal Offenses

Prompt and accurate reporting of criminal offenses aids in providing a timely response and timely warning notices to the community when appropriate, and assists in compiling accurate crime statistics. Community members, students, faculty, staff, and guests are

encouraged to report all crimes and public safety related incidents in an accurate and timely manner to Mount Vernon Nazarene University Campus Safety Department.

To report a crime or an emergency on Mount Vernon Nazarene University campus, call 9-1-1. To report a non-emergency security or public safety matter, call MVNU campus Safety at 8686 on a campus phone or 740-399-8686 from an off campus phone or cell phone.

Access to and Security of Campus Facilities

Generally, administrative offices are open for public access from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, after which exterior doors are locked. Classroom and other buildings used for academic purposes are secured when not in session.

Each residence hall is supervised by a Resident Director (RD). These staff members are responsible for day to day operation of the residence halls. Residence halls are locked at all times. Access to residence halls is monitored by the Resident Director and the Resident Assistant (RA) staff.

Missing Student Notification

If a faculty, staff or student member of the Mount Vernon Nazarene University community has reason to believe that a student who resides in on-campus housing is missing, he or she should immediately notify MVNU Campus Safety at ext. 8686, or the Vice President for Student Life at ext. 4602, or a Student Life Resident Director, or Resident Assistant. Any of these contacts will generate a missing student report and initiate an investigation.

After investigating a missing person report, should Mount Vernon Nazarene University officials determine that the student has been missing for 24 hours, MVNU will notify the Mount Vernon City Police department and the student's emergency contact. If the missing student is under the age of 18 and is not an emancipated individual, MVNU will notify the student's parent or legal guardian immediately after MVNU has determined the student has been missing for 24 hours.

The 24 hour regulation does not preclude MVNU from contacting the student's contact person or their custodial parent or guardian immediately upon determination that the student is missing.

Emergency Response and Evacuation

Mount Vernon Nazarene University and has in print form a comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan. This document is available for public inspection at the Campus Safety Department Monday through Friday during business hours.

The University has procedures in place to immediately notify the campus community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees occurring on campus.

Use the link below that applies to you and sign up for the two MVNU notification systems, Everbridge and Alertus. They are used to notify the campus community of weather related emergencies, school closures, incidents on campus and other important information quickly. The Alertus App will also allow you to send an alert to Campus Safety if you find yourself in an emergency situation.

The University will without delay and taking into account the safety of the community, determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system(s), unless doing so will in the professional judgment of the authorities, compromise efforts to assist victims or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency.

Upon learning of a possible emergency, the Director of Campus Safety will consult with the MVNU Senior Leadership Team to determine the legitimacy of the emergency, who to notify, the content of the notification, and initiate the notification system. If necessary, the Safety Director will disseminate emergency information to other first responders outside of the campus community.

The University conducts at least one announced emergency response exercise every year, along with other community partners and First Responders.

In the event of an emergency or dangerous situation, the campus may direct students, staff, and guests to evacuate a building, several buildings, a portion of the campus, or the entire campus.

How to be an Active Bystander

Bystanders play a critical role in the prevention of sexual and relationship violence. They are individuals who observe violence or witness the conditions that perpetuate violence. They are not directly involved but have the choice to intervene, speak up, or do something about it. We want to promote a culture of community accountability where bystanders are actively engaged in the prevention of violence without causing further harm. We may not always know what to do even if we want to help. Below is a list of some ways to be an active bystander.

1. If you or someone else is in immediate danger, dial 911. This could be when a person is yelling at or being physically abusive towards another, and it is not safe for you to interrupt.
2. Watch out for your friends and fellow students/employees. If you see someone who looks like they could be in trouble or need help, ask if they are ok.
3. Confront people who seclude, hit on, or try to make out with, or have sex with people who are incapacitated.

4. Speak up when someone discussed plans to take advantage of another person.
5. Believe someone who discloses sexual assault, abusive behavior, or experience stalking.
6. Refer people to on campus resources listed in this document for support in health or counseling.

Communication about Campus Crime

Timely Warnings

Mount Vernon Nazarene University will issue a timely warning when it receives a report of a crime or series of crimes, on campus or in the surrounding communities, that is considered to pose a continuing risk to students, faculty and staff. Campus Safety maintains a continuous liaison with the Mount Vernon Police Department, and the State Highway Patrol, especially when a serious crime occurs on adjacent property to the campus.

It is the policy of the Campus Safety to alert the campus community to certain crimes and safety/security issues occurring on campus, or in the immediate vicinity of the campus. Generally, this area will include the streets adjacent and/or adjoining campus property. However, notifications about incidents occurring outside of this area when they are likely to have a significant impact on members of the campus community may also be issued.

Alerts are required for all incidents that constitute Jeanne Clery Act Crimes and are considered to represent a serious or continuing threat to the campus community. These crimes include: Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter, Sex Offenses, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft, Arson and Hate Crimes.

Notification Methods

The following methods may be used to notify the campus community of various emergencies that may affect their safety.

1. Phone
2. Email
3. Alertus
4. Everbridge
5. Outdoor warning sirens

6. Official MVNU website
7. WNZR Radio/Television channels
8. Local Media

How to Report a Criminal Offense

To maximize safety on campus, Mount Vernon Nazarene University Campus Safety Department strongly encourages anyone with knowledge of any crime, suspicious activity, or unsafe conditions on campus to make an immediate report to Campus Safety in person or by telephone. By reporting criminal activity you will help officers stop further incidents as well as help them keep the community informed about criminal activity. To report a crime, call 911 for emergencies, and campus extension 8686 or (740) 399-8686 for other non-emergency matters. You can sign up for and download the Alertus app for direct communication to Safety personnel 24/7. Phone calls to the Campus Safety office are automatically transferred to the on-duty campus officer if employees are not at the office. You may also inform Campus Safety of a crime anonymously by calling ext. 8686 on campus or calling (740) 399-8686 off campus.

You may also report a crime to the Director of Residence Life, at (740) 392-6868 ext. 4605.

Call the Campus Safety Department if:

1. You see someone committing a crime.
2. You need to report an old crime.
3. Someone is injured or ill.
4. You see fire or smell smoke.
5. You see anyone or anything suspicious
6. You think you see a drunken driver
7. You have knowledge of a chemical spill

In addition, victims of stalkers or persons with protection orders against another party are strongly encouraged to notify the Campus Safety Department of the threat and to provide a copy of the protection order so that the officers may enforce it.

Additional Options for Reporting Campus Crime

Individuals on campus may also report crimes to a designated campus security authority (CSA). Campus security authorities are staff and faculty of the University who are required to report information they receive about specified crimes.

-  Director of Residential Life
-  Student Activities Director

- 🕒 Athletic Director
- 🕒 Coaches of Men's and Women's Sports
- 🕒 Faculty Advisors to Student Groups
- 🕒 Resident Life (RAs and RDs)
- 🕒 Health Services
- 🕒 Civil Rights/Title IX Office
- 🕒 Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs

It is the policy of Mount Vernon Nazarene University to ensure that victims and witnesses to crimes are aware of their right to report criminal acts to the police, and to report university policy violations to the appropriate office. However, if a student chooses to remain anonymous, that request will be honored to the extent permitted by law.

If you are a victim of a crime and do not want to pursue action with the University System or the criminal justice system, you may still want to consider making a confidential report. With your permission, a Campus Safety Officer or Campus Security Authority can file a report on the details of the incident without revealing your identity. The purpose of a confidential report is to comply with your wish to keep the matter confidential, while taking steps to ensure the future safety of yourself and others.

Confidential Reporting To Pastoral and/or Professional Counselors

Under the law, campus pastoral and professional counselors, when acting as such, are not considered to be a campus security authority and are not required to report crimes for inclusion in the annual disclosure of campus crime statistics. As a matter of policy; however, the Campus Safety Department encourages all parties to inform potential victims, when appropriate, of procedures to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in the annual disclosure of crime statistics.

Definitions of Criminal Offenses

Aggravated assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. It is not necessary that injury result from an aggravated assault when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could or probably would result in a serious potential injury if the crime were successfully completed.

Arson is any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, or personal property of another.

Burglary is the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. For reporting purposes this definition includes: unlawful entry with intent to commit a larceny or a felony; breaking and entering with intent to commit a larceny; housebreaking; safecracking; etc.

Dating Violence is violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and where the existence of such a relationship shall be based on the length of the relationship; the type of relationship.

Domestic Violence is a felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed by a current or former spouse or domestic partner or one who lived as spouse or domestic partner of the victim, a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, parents and children, person related by consanguinity or affinity, or current or former sexual or intimate partners.

Drug abuse violations are defined as the violations of state and local laws relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, or manufacture of narcotic drugs.

Hate crimes are committed against a person or property which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias. Bias is a preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their race, gender, gender identity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, or disability.

Liquor law violations are defined as the violation of state or local laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of alcoholic beverages.

Robbery is the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

Sex Offenses are defined as any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent.

⌚ **Rape** is the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ or another person, without the consent of the victim. This definition includes any gender of victim or perpetrator.

⌚ **Fondling** is the touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.

- 🕒 **Incest** is sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- 🕒 **Statutory rape** is sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.
- 🕒 **Stalking** is engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person's safety or the safety of others or to suffer substantial emotional distress.

Weapons violations are defined as the violation of laws or ordinances dealing with weapon offenses, regulatory in nature, such as: manufacture, sale, or possession of deadly weapons; carrying deadly weapons, concealed or openly; furnishing deadly weapons to minors; all attempts to commit any of the aforementioned.

Definitions of Geography

As specified in the Clery Act, the following property descriptions are used to identify the location of crimes on and around MVNU's campus.

On-Campus Buildings or Property

- 🕒 Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area and used by the institution in direct support of or in a manner related to the institution's educational purposes, including residence halls; and
- 🕒 Any building or property that is within or reasonably contiguous to the area identified in the above paragraph, that is owned by the institution but controlled by another person, is frequently used by students and supports institutional purposes (such as a food or retail vendor).

Non-Campus Buildings or Property

Any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution; or Any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of or in relation to the institution's educational purposes, is frequently used by students, and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution.

Public Buildings or Property

All public property, including thoroughfares, streets, sidewalks, and parking facilities, that is within the campus or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus.

Mount Vernon Nazarene University crime statistics do not include crimes that occur in privately owned homes or businesses within or adjacent to the campus boundaries.

Preparation and Disclosure of Crime Statistics

Mount Vernon Nazarene University has a strong commitment to the safety and security of our students, employees, and guests.

Mount Vernon Nazarene University publishes and distributes an annual crime report to all current students, faculty and staff. It is prepared to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. Each year an email notification is made to all enrolled students, faculty and staff that provide the website to access this report. The Annual Fire and Security report is also available on Mount Vernon Nazarene University website. The report is compiled using crime statistics from reports taken by the Campus Safety and surrounding law enforcement agencies.

Security Awareness and Crime Prevention Programs

Security awareness and crime prevention programs encourage students and employees to be aware of their responsibility for their own security and the security of others. Campus Safety in cooperation with other University organizations and departments present security awareness and crime prevention programs to the campus community on an ongoing basis. Orientation programs are provided for new students, and we are developing ongoing awareness campaigns regarding the university's policies and prevention programs related to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Residential life staff is trained on risk factors, warning signs of abusive behavior, as well as risk reduction for sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, as well as how to avoid potential attacks or incidents.

Crime Statistics

This section lists crime statistics for the past three years. The offenses are broken down by location. **On-campus (OC)** refers to all property owned and controlled by the University and used by students (i.e. office and classroom buildings, recreational facilities, dining halls & residence halls). The figure under this heading refers to the total number of occurrences on campus. **(RF)** refers only to **residential facilities**, and this figure indicates *how many of the total OC offenses* occurred in the residence halls. **Public property (PP)** refers to streets, sidewalks and parking areas adjacent to campus.

MVNU – Main Campus

OFFENSE	On-Campus			On-Campus Student Housing Facilities			Non Campus Property			Public Property		
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
CRIMINAL												
MURDER/NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
*SEX OFFENSES, FORCIBLE												
RAPE	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
FONDLING	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
**SEX OFFENSES, NON-FORCIBLE												
INCEST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STATUTORY RAPE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROBBERY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BURGLARY	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ARSON	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VAWA (Violence Against Women Act)												
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DATING VIOLENCE	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STALKING	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ARRESTS AND REFERRALS												
LIQUOR LAW ARRESTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS REFERRALS	4	3	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
DRUG LAW ARRESTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DRUG LAW REFERRALS	4	2	2	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
ILLEGAL WEAPONS ARRESTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ILLEGAL WEAPONS REFERRALS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Hate Crimes

2025: One on-campus Intimidation characterized by race.

2024: No Hate Crimes have been reported on the MVNU Main Campus in any of the above crime classifications.

2023: No Hate Crimes have been reported on the MVNU Main Campus in any of the above crime classifications.

* The F.B.I. defines forcible sex offenses as rape, attempted rape, forcible sodomy, forcible fondling, and sexual assault with an object.

** The F.B.I. defines non-forcible sex offenses as incest, corruption of a minor, etc.

Daily Crime Log

The Campus Safety Department maintains a daily log listing all reported crimes. The log lists the date, time reported, time occurred, general location and disposition if this information is known at the time the log is created. Certain information may temporarily be withheld to protect a victim or maintain the integrity of an in-progress criminal investigation. The daily crime log is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Campus Safety office.

Security Procedures

Security procedures are communicated to members of the university community through several on-going efforts. The following list specifies the medium and the audience:

1. The Annual Fire & Security Report - employees, students, prospective students
2. The Student Handbook – students
3. Residence Hall Programs - resident students
4. Personnel Bulletins – employees, students
5. Daily Crime Log -available upon request from the Campus Safety department.
6. Security cameras are installed throughout the university.

Security Considerations

Proper lighting and building security are major factors in reducing crime on campus. The University Maintenance department maintains the University buildings and grounds with a concern for safety and security. Inspections of campus facilities are conducted regularly, and repairs are made as quickly as possible. All members of the campus community are encouraged to report to the Maintenance Department, any safety hazards, such as broken locks and windows, lighting issues, obstacles, and other items that could impede someone's safety on the campus.

Campus Safety Escorts

We encourage all members of the campus community to use common sense and practice good personal safety techniques at all times. Students and employees alike are encouraged to walk in pairs and groups especially during the hours of darkness. However, when this is not possible, please use the campus escort service from dusk to dawn by calling Campus Safety at 740-399-8686. Available 24-hours a day, 7-days a week, a Safety officer will be glad to escort someone to/from class, residence hall or parking lots/facilities.

Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Statement

Mount Vernon Nazarene University prohibits the unlawful or unauthorized manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, use or sale of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, and illegal drugs on campus. The impairment by alcohol or drugs of any student or employee while participating in an academic function, or of employees during normal work hours or other times when required to be at work – is also prohibited. Mount Vernon Nazarene University employees and students are required to abide by all federal and state

laws, local ordinances, and other related requirements regarding the consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, and illegal drugs.

Alcohol Policy

The possession, sale, use, or furnishing of alcohol on the Mount Vernon Nazarene Campuses is governed by the Mount Vernon Nazarene University Alcohol Policy and the State of Ohio. Laws regarding the possession, sale, consumption, or furnishing of alcohol is controlled by the Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Liquor Control and other federal laws. The enforcement of alcohol policies on the MVNU campuses is the responsibility of MVNU Student Life, Campus Safety, and administration. MVNU campuses have been designated “Drug Free”. The possession, sale, manufacture or distribution of any controlled substance is illegal under both state and federal laws. Such laws are enforced by MVNU policy. Violators are subject to Mount Vernon Nazarene University disciplinary action, criminal prosecution, fine, and imprisonment. It is unlawful to sell, furnish or provide alcohol to a person under the age of 21. It is contrary to MVNU policy to consume, sell, furnish or provide alcohol to anyone.

Drug Policy

Mount Vernon Nazarene University campuses have been declared “Drug Free”. The possession, sale, manufacture, use or distribution of any controlled substance is prohibited under MVNU policy and is illegal under both state and federal law. The enforcement of drug policies on the MVNU campuses is the responsibility of MVNU Student Life, Campus Safety, and administration. Violators are subject to Mount Vernon Nazarene University disciplinary action, criminal prosecution, fine, and imprisonment.

Counseling and Wellness

Counseling services are available to traditional undergraduate students. Students not eligible for counseling services include those enrolled through College Credit Plus (CCP) and Graduate and Professional (GPS) programs. Services include personal, emotional, and relational counseling.

- 🕒 **Personal Counseling:** Personal counseling is offered to both individuals and groups through the Counseling Office. Students may also find help with problems such as eating disorders, homesickness, depression, poor study habits, addictive behavior, interpersonal communication difficulties, etc. All students are counseled in a professional and confidential manner. Both licensed male and female counselors are available. A holistic approach is followed and consideration is given to the areas of adequate physical well-being, time management, and emotional wellness.
- 🕒 **Support Groups:** Support groups are offered on a variety of subjects depending on students' needs.

- 🕒 **Personality Inventory:** The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) is given to all interested students. This instrument can be given, scored, and interpreted in the Counseling office. The MBTI helps people understand themselves and their personality strengths better.
- 🕒 **Resources:** The counseling portion of the Counseling and Career Center Library contains books, audio and video magazines, periodicals, and journals on a variety of subjects including matters of mental health, alcohol and tobacco use, sexual wholeness, marriage, emotional healing, abuse, eating disorders, and counseling theories, among others.
- 🕒 **Confidentiality and Necessary Communication:** Whenever a student exhibits a cognitive/emotional state or behavior indicative of actual or predisposed danger to themselves or others, initial information (e.g., student names, evaluation, recommended intervention and accountability procedure) will be presented directly to the Vice President for Student Life within 24 hours of the assessment. This information may also be discreetly presented to the Director of Resident Life, the appropriate Resident Director(s), Student Health Services Coordinator, and/or Director of Counseling and Wellness when such release is deemed appropriate by knowledgeable individuals. In all instances, communication (written or oral) regarding the health, safety, and emotional condition of any student shall remain confidential and confined to appropriate professionals within the Student Life Division.
- 🕒 **Marriage:** Students desiring to get married are encouraged to seek counseling and advice from the campus pastor or Counseling Center. Pre-marital counseling is recommended and can be scheduled in the Counseling and Career Center. Ideally, this should take place during the semester prior to marriage. If desired, this session should be scheduled no later than three months prior to the projected wedding date.

Policy for Students presenting Medical, Emotional, Psychiatric, or Disciplinary Problems

We want every student on our campus to be medically, emotionally, physically, and mentally healthy. However, complete wellness cannot be assured. While it is not our desire to withhold information from concerned and caring parents, we are obligated by laws and professional licensure requirements to keep certain student information confidential. Any student attending a post-secondary school receiving federal funds is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. Additionally, MVNU's counseling personnel subscribe to the American Counseling Association's Code of Ethics and Standards

of Practice. This means that the student's right to privacy can only be relinquished by the student who, for the purpose of this statute, is considered a self-determining adult.

Any student seeking counseling or medical services for any reason in MVNU's counseling center or Student Health Services office must be assured of a safe and confidential environment. All information obtained in counseling, testing, or medical consultation is confidential. Information regarding medication, hospitalization, or therapy will be withheld unless released according to procedure or exceptions as stated below.

Students wanting their parents or others to know of their work in the counseling setting or medical treatment must sign a specific release form stating that such is their desire, indicating the persons to whom they want to receive this information. For emergency medical purposes, the Medical History form may be referenced for emergency notification.

There are exceptions to the consent policy: MVNU reserves the right, as allowed under FERPA, to disclose, without written consent, to appropriate persons in a health or safety emergency, as long as:

- 🕒 There is a serious threat to the student or others,
- 🕒 The knowledge of the information is necessary to meet the emergency,
- 🕒 Time is of the essence, and
- 🕒 The professionals or family members to whom the information is disclosed are in a position to deal with the emergency.

Most information related to disciplinary matters is considered confidential. Such information may only be presented or discussed when the student authorizes communication through a signed Information Release Form available in the office of Counseling and Wellness. This process complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974.

In all situations, MVNU personnel will strongly encourage students experiencing medical or emotional trauma requiring hospitalization to contact their parents and the University chaplain or their pastor. MVNU will make every possible effort (e.g. financial assistance) to facilitate and encourage from a Christian and professional perspective communication between student and parent. Parents are encouraged to maintain a strong and open relationship with their student while recognizing the challenges and difficulties university students sometimes encounter.

Any questions regarding a student's right to privacy may be referred to Dr. Eric Browning, Director of Counseling and Wellness (ext. 4610), Mrs. Jolee Carrier, Student Health Services (ext. 4632), or Mathew Spraker, the Vice President for Student Life (ext. 4601).

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

- 🕒 Tobacco products are not permitted on campus or in student vehicles.
- 🕒 Use, purchase, sale, or possession of tobacco in any form, including tobacco paraphernalia and/or electronic or vaporizing devices/products are strictly prohibited on the Mount Vernon Nazarene University Campus.
- 🕒 First offense:
 - Mandatory counseling
 - Social Probation (minimum 8 weeks)
- 🕒 Second offense:
 - Mandatory counseling
 - Extended Social Probation (13-20 weeks)
 - One to three day academic suspension
- 🕒 Third offense: Dismissal

Preventing and Responding to Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

Mount Vernon Nazarene University (MVNU) will not tolerate domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other forms of sexual misconduct. Offenders may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and/or criminal proceedings. MVNU utilizes procedures that provide prompt, fair, and impartial investigation and resolution in cases involving any type of sexual misconduct. These procedures are carried out by officials who receive specific annual training.

Mount Vernon Nazarene University prohibits retaliation by its officers, employees, students, or agents against a person who exercises his or her rights or responsibilities under any provision federal or state law, including Title IX and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA), or this policy.

Education and Prevention Programs

- 🕒 Orientation programs are provided for new students, and we are developing ongoing awareness campaigns regarding the university's policies and prevention programs related to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
- 🕒 Residential life staff are trained on risk factors, warning signs of abusive behavior, as well as risk reduction for sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, as well as how to avoid potential attacks or incidents.

Risk Reduction Tips

With no intent to victim blame and recognizing that only rapists are responsible for rape, the following are some strategies to reduce one's risk of sexual assault or harassment.

- 🕒 Be aware of your surroundings. Knowing where you are and who is around you ~~may~~ help you to find a way to get out of a bad situation.
- 🕒 Try to avoid isolated areas. It is more difficult to get help if no one is around.
- 🕒 Trust your instincts. If a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable, it probably isn't the best place to be. If you see something or someone suspicious contact law enforcement immediately by calling (740) 397-2222.
- 🕒 Try not to load yourself down with packages or bags as this can make you appear more vulnerable.
- 🕒 Make sure your cell phone is with you and charged.
- 🕒 Don't allow yourself to be isolated with someone you don't know or trust.
- 🕒 Avoid putting music headphones in both ears so that you can be more aware of ~~your~~ surroundings, especially if you are walking alone.
- 🕒 When you go to a social gathering, go with a group of friends. Arrive together, check in with each other throughout the evening, and leave together.

Assistance for Victims

Regardless of whether a victim elects to pursue a criminal report, the university will assist victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. To the extent of the victim's cooperation and consent, university offices, including Campus Safety, Health Services, and the Counseling Center Services will work cooperatively to ensure that the victim's health, physical safety, and academic status are protected, pending the outcome of a formal university investigation of the report. For example, if reasonably available, a victim may be offered changes to academic or living situations in addition to counseling, health services, and assistance in notifying appropriate local law enforcement. Counseling services are available at the Health Services office.

If a person reports to a university administrator, department head, or faculty member that she or he has been a victim of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking but chooses not to file a formal report at that time, the victim will be promptly notified of available support services on and off campus and alternative remedies. Informal reports to university personnel will be treated confidentially consistent with applicable legal requirements and safety considerations.

VICTIM'S BILL OF RIGHTS

You have the right to...

- 🕒 Be informed of all reporting options.
- 🕒 Be free from pressure to make a criminal report
- 🕒 Have any allegations of sexual assault investigated and adjudicated by the appropriate campus, civil, and criminal authorities.
- 🕒 Be notified of existing campus and community medical, counseling, and mental health services whether or not the crime is reported to campus or civil authorities.
- 🕒 Receive, when required, the full, prompt cooperation of campus personnel when obtaining, securing, and preserving evidence.

Sexual Assault Response Guarantee from Mount Vernon Nazarene University and Campus Safety

Law enforcement services are provided through the University's Campus Safety Department; Safety officers are trained in working with victims of sexual assault and know the requirements for preserving evidence.

What victims can expect:

- 🕒 We will meet with you privately or at a place of your choice to file a report.
- 🕒 We will not release your name to the public or press. Crime statistics and incidents are made public record, but any identifying information will be withheld.
- 🕒 Our officers will not prejudge you, and you will not be blamed for what occurred.
- 🕒 We will treat you and your particular case with courtesy, sensitivity, dignity, understanding, and professionalism.
- 🕒 We will assist you in receiving hospital, medical, counseling, and other support services that are available.
- 🕒 We will, as Responsible Employees, share the report with the Title IX Coordinator/Title IX Office. The Title IX Office will follow the University's Title IX Policy and Procedures related to the handling of this matter. The Title IX Office will inform you of your rights and remedies under Title IX. You will be kept informed of the progress of the investigation. We will handle your case seriously and professionally, regardless of your gender and sexual orientation, and regardless of the gender and sexual orientation of the suspect(s).

What To Do If You Are A Victim

- ⌚ Get to a safe place first. Once you are safe: Call a support person, someone who can provide emotional support, transportation, and assistance. You may choose a counselor, nurse, staff, faculty, Resident Assistant, Student Life Coordinator, or a friend on campus.
- ⌚ Get immediate medical attention. A health professional needs to determine the extent of your injuries and necessary treatment. The University will provide transportation at your request. Expenses associated with your trip to the hospital may be covered under the Ohio Victims of Crime Program.
- ⌚ Do not bathe or douche and save all your clothing. Evidence for a criminal case may be present on your clothes. If you change clothes, save what you were wearing and place it in a Paper Bag. (Not Plastic)
- ⌚ While the University encourages the victim to report a sexual assault incident, (see Contact Information inside front cover for phone numbers) the final decision rests with the victim. One can report the incident and later decide not to prosecute. The longer one waits to report a problem, the more difficult it may be to later prosecute. A Counselor is available if there is a need to discuss the incident with someone.

Investigation Procedures

- ⌚ In the case of sexual assault, the investigation will fall under MVNU's Title IX policy and procedures.
- ⌚ Campus Safety (740-399-8686), the Title IX Coordinator (740-392-6868 ext. 4606), or Director of Student Residence Life (740-392-6868 ext. 4604) should be notified immediately if anyone associated with this matter is under continuing threat.
- ⌚ The following individuals should be informed of the fact that a sexual assault has occurred and that one or both parties are members of the MVNU community. The names of the individuals involved will not be released without their consent unless the release is essential to the health and safety of a student.
 - President
 - Vice President – Student Life
 - Title IX Coordinator
 - Director of Counseling Services
 - Director of Student Residence Life
- ⌚ If an exception is made to this rule, the parties involved will be notified as soon as possible.

Sanctions

In appropriate cases, formal reports will lead to the initiation of disciplinary procedures applicable to the alleged actions of the accused student. University sanctions, up to and including separation from the university, may be imposed upon those determined to have violated this policy. Employees who violate this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment. Sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are criminal acts which also may subject the perpetrator to criminal and civil penalties under federal and state law.

Sex Offender Registry and Access to Related Information

The Federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act requires institutions of higher education to advise the campus community where information regarding registered sex offenders may be obtained. This information is available by logging onto http://www.sheriffalerts.com/cap_main.php?office=55185.

Fire Safety

Mount Vernon Nazarene University Safety Department takes fire safety very seriously. All of Mount Vernon Nazarene University resident halls are equipped with fire alarm systems. Housing Staff Members are present in each dorm to supplement fire and safety monitoring. All dormitory rooms in the residence halls are subject to health and safety inspections twice annually. Fire drills are conducted each year. Facilities are inspected by the State Fire Marshall's Office, and the Mount Vernon Fire Department at will. Open flames, smoking, and some electrical appliances are prohibited in the residence halls for the safety of our students. A complete list of prohibited items can be found in the Student Handbook. All resident students are trained in evacuation procedures annually. For comprehensive evacuation procedures persons can review the safety manual and emergency operation plans in print in the Campus Safety office Monday through Friday during business hours. All fires should immediately be reported by first dialing 9-911 on a campus extension or 911 by cell phone; furthermore, fires should be reported immediately to Campus Safety at 8686 on a campus extension, or 740-399-8686. Residence assistants and student life coordinators within the residence hall in which a fire is reported should also be notified.

Fire Safety Systems for Each On-Campus Housing Facility

2025

RESIDENCE HALL OR ON-CAMPUS BUILDINGS CONTAINING STUDENT RESIDENCES LOCATED AT 800 MARTINSBURG RD	STUDENT SLEEPING ROOMS	CENTRAL ALARM MONITORING BY MVNU AND 3 RD PARTY	AUDIBLE FIRE ALARM	SMOKE DETECTOR IN COMMON AND SLEEPING AREAS	FULL AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM	FIRE EXTINGUISHERS INSTALLED	EVACUATION PLACARDS	NUMBER OF EVACUATION/ FIRE DRILLS EACH YEAR
CEDAR APT. A	9	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
CEDAR APT. B	18	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
CEDAR APT. C	15	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
BIRCH APT. D	15	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
BIRCH APT. E	18	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
BIRCH APT. F	18	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
SPRUCE APT. G	15	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
SPRUCE APT. H	18	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
ROSEWOOD APT. I	15	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
ROSEWOOD APT. J	18	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
ROSEWOOD APT. K	18	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
CPRESS APT. L	11	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
CYPRESS APT. M	18	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
MAPLEWOOD APT. 1	15	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
MAPLEWOOD APT.2	18	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
MAPLEWOOD APT. 3	15	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
ELMWOOD APT. 1	15	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
ELMWOOD APT. 2	18	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
ELMWOOD APT. 3	15	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
REDWOOD DORMITORY	32	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
OAKWOOD DORMITORY	75	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
PIONEER DORMITORY	77	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2
GALLOWAY DORMITORY	75	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2

Fire Statistics for Each On-Campus Housing Facility

2025

RESIDENCE HALL OR ON-CAMPUS BUILDINGS CONTAINING STUDENT RESIDENCES LOCATED AT 800 MARTINSBURG ROAD	TOTAL FIRES IN EACH BUILDING	FIRE NUMBER	CAUSE OF FIRE	NUMBER OF INJURIES THAT REQUIRED TREATMENT AT A MEDICAL FACILITY	NUMBER OF DEATHS RELATED TO FIRE	VALUE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE CAUSED BY FIRE
CEDAR APT. A	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CEDAR APT. B	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CEDAR APT. C	0	0	NA	0	0	0
BIRCH APT. D	0	0	NA	0	0	0
BIRCH APT. E	0	0	NA	0	0	0
BIRCH APT. F	0	0	NA	0	0	0
SPRUCE APT. G	0	0	NA	0	0	0
SPRUCE APT. H	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ROSEWOOD APT. I	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ROSEWOOD APT. J	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ROSEWOOD APT. K	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CPRESS APT. L	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CYPRESS APT. M	0	0	NA	0	0	0
MAPLEWOOD APT. 1	0	0	NA	0	0	0
MAPLEWOOD APT.2	0	0	NA	0	0	0
MAPLEWOOD APT. 3	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ELMWOOD APT. 1	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ELMWOOD APT. 2	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ELMWOOD APT. 3	0	0	NA	0	0	0
REDWOOD DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0
OAKWOOD DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0
PIONEER DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0
GALLOWAY DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0

There were no reported fires in the residences for the reporting year 2024.

Fire Statistics for Each On-Campus Housing Facility

2024

RESIDENCE HALL OR ON-CAMPUS BUILDINGS CONTAINING STUDENT RESIDENCES LOCATED AT 800 MARTINSBURG ROAD	TOTAL FIRES IN EACH BUILDING	FIRE NUMBER	CAUSE OF FIRE	NUMBER OF INJURIES THAT REQUIRED TREATMENT AT A MEDICAL FACILITY	NUMBER OF DEATHS RELATED TO FIRE	VALUE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE CAUSED BY FIRE
CEDAR APT. A	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CEDAR APT. B	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CEDAR APT. C	0	0	NA	0	0	0
BIRCH APT. D	0	0	NA	0	0	0
BIRCH APT. E	0	0	NA	0	0	0
BIRCH APT. F	0	0	NA	0	0	0
SPRUCE APT. G	0	0	NA	0	0	0
SPRUCE APT. H	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ROSEWOOD APT. I	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ROSEWOOD APT. J	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ROSEWOOD APT. K	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CPRESS APT. L	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CYPRESS APT. M	0	0	NA	0	0	0
MAPLEWOOD APT. 1	0	0	NA	0	0	0
MAPLEWOOD APT.2	0	0	NA	0	0	0
MAPLEWOOD APT. 3	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ELMWOOD APT. 1	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ELMWOOD APT. 2	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ELMWOOD APT. 3	0	0	NA	0	0	0
REDWOOD DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0
OAKWOOD DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0
PIONEER DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0
GALLOWAY DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0

There were no reported fires in the residences for the reporting year 2023.

Fire Statistics for Each On-Campus Housing Facility

2023

RESIDENCE HALL OR ON-CAMPUS BUILDINGS CONTAINING STUDENT RESIDENCES LOCATED AT 800 MARTINSBURG ROAD	TOTAL FIRES IN EACH BUILDING	FIRE NUMBER	CAUSE OF FIRE	NUMBER OF INJURIES THAT REQUIRED TREATMENT AT A MEDICAL FACILITY	NUMBER OF DEATHS RELATED TO FIRE	VALUE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE CAUSED BY FIRE
CEDAR APT. A	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CEDAR APT. B	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CEDAR APT. C	0	0	NA	0	0	0
BIRCH APT. D	0	0	NA	0	0	0
BIRCH APT. E	0	0	NA	0	0	0
BIRCH APT. F	0	0	NA	0	0	0
SPRUCE APT. G	0	0	NA	0	0	0
SPRUCE APT. H	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ROSEWOOD APT. I	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ROSEWOOD APT. J	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ROSEWOOD APT. K	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CPRESS APT. L	0	0	NA	0	0	0
CYPRESS APT. M	0	0	NA	0	0	0
MAPLEWOOD APT. 1	0	0	NA	0	0	0
MAPLEWOOD APT.2	0	0	NA	0	0	0
MAPLEWOOD APT. 3	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ELMWOOD APT. 1	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ELMWOOD APT. 2	0	0	NA	0	0	0
ELMWOOD APT. 3	0	0	NA	0	0	0
REDWOOD DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0
OAKWOOD DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0
PIONEER DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0
GALLOWAY DORMITORY	0	0	NA	0	0	0

There were no reported fires in the residences for the reporting year 2022.

