

Campus Safety

The Department of Public Safety
at Syracuse University



PUBLIC SAFETY IS A PRIORITY AT SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

At the Department of Public Safety, we are proud to serve the Syracuse University and SUNY-ESF communities, focusing our efforts on creating and maintaining a living, learning, and working environment that fosters academic excellence, creativity, and community engagement.

This brochure outlines some of the efforts we are undertaking to foster public safety. We encourage you to utilize the safety and crime prevention guidelines offered and take advantage of our safety programs. We also welcome and encourage feedback in an ongoing discussion with the people we serve. Please visit our website (dps.syr.edu) or find us on social media (@SyracuseDPS) for the latest information on crime prevention on and around campus.

DPS Jurisdiction

The Department of Public Safety (DPS) members may exercise law enforcement authority only while actually on duty and only while acting within the scope of their employment with DPS and only within the Syracuse campus proper and any other properties owned, controlled, or administrated by the University, as well as the streets and sidewalks adjacent to and connecting such properties. Anywhere DPS has jurisdiction inside the City of Syracuse, the Syracuse City Police Department also has jurisdiction. DPS is authorized to assist any law enforcement agency requesting assistance within Onondaga County. Outside the areas of DPS jurisdiction, DPS officers can make arrests for felonies committed in their presence. To see a map of our jurisdiction, visit our website at dps.syr.edu.

The Department of Public Safety has many programs and procedures in place to serve students, faculty, and staff:

- **Over 63 police academy-trained peace officers**, along with non-sworn community service officers and residential community safety officers, providing proactive services through vehicular, bicycle, and foot patrols. DPS responds to more than 77,000 calls for service each year.
- **Orange Watch** provides expanded Department of Public Safety presence in key areas adjacent to campus. At peak hours, DPS can have up to 20 officers on patrol.





- **The DPS Emergency Communications Center** provides our department with state-of-the-art technology for use by our emergency dispatchers and officers, including campus alarm systems, security cameras, and interoperability with other local law enforcement agencies.
- **Orange Alert**, the campus crisis alert notification system, uses various forms of communication—including email, text messaging, social media, cell and landline calls, push notifications and air sirens—to provide rapid notification and instruction in the event of a crisis in progress. To edit your Orange Alert contact information, log in to MySlice, click on your “Personal Profile” tile and then “Orange Alert Contacts.” In order to receive text messages, make sure your cell phone is categorized as a “Mobile Device.”
- A **crime prevention team** builds awareness and educates the community about safety. Crime prevention officers regularly reach out to the community with safety advice.
- **Rape Aggression Defense (RAD)** is a program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women. RAD is a comprehensive, women-only course that begins with awareness, risk reduction, and risk avoidance and progresses into the basics of hands-on defense training. The class is offered once per semester.
- Each fall the DPS publishes its **Annual Security Report**, which documents the last three years’ crime statistics for the campus area and details all of the Department’s safety and security services. An **annual fire safety report** is also included at the end of the document. Postcards and emails are sent to notify campus community members when the report is published online. To request a printed copy of the Annual Security Report, to be mailed within 10 business days of the request, contact Nikki Cooter, Regulatory Compliance Manager, at njcooter@syr.edu or 315.443.5476.

Remember these important safety guidelines:

- Don't walk alone. **Walk in groups of three or more**, take the bus, or contact the Parking and Transportation safety escort service by calling 315.443.RIDE, and you will be guided to the first safe and available transportation option.
- **Report suspicious activities and persons.** If you see someone or something that looks out of place (i.e., someone entering a building through a window or trying to open car doors), immediately contact DPS at 315.443.2224. If you're in a place where you cannot safely make a phone call, use the Rave Guardian app. Use EthicsPoint, our anonymous reporting system, if you wish to remain anonymous.
- **In an emergency, utilize the campus Blue Light System.** Across Main and South campuses, there are more than 145 blue light alarms. When activated, the alarms connect you with DPS. You should also download the Rave Guardian app, which acts as a mobile blue light, connecting you with DPS at the touch of a button.
- **Never leave belongings unattended.** Keep personal items—electronics, purses, wallets, cell phones, laptops—with you at all times, even if you'll only be away for a minute.
- **Use a U-Bolt lock to secure your bicycle**, as cable locks are easy to compromise, and register your bike through the DPS website.
- **Be a good pedestrian.** Stay aware of your surroundings by refraining from texting or listening to music as you walk.
- **Lock doors to residence hall rooms and academic building offices** every time you step out, even if you'll be right back.
- **Know the Run.Hide.Fight. model** used for crisis response, particularly in the event of an active shooter situation.
- **The University will not tolerate** rape, sexual assault, or other forms of nonconsensual sexual activity. For more information, visit the sexual assault awareness section on dps.syr.edu.



Talk to DPS

We always want to hear from our community members. If you want to let us know what we're doing well, or what we could be doing better, there are many ways to make your voice heard:

- Participate in campus crime prevention open forums.
- Our 'Lunch with the Chief' program invites students, faculty, and staff with new ideas about DPS to have lunch with the Chief at the Goldstein Alumni and Faculty Center.
- Keep the conversation going on social media. Find us @SyracuseDPS on Twitter, Instagram, and at [facebook.com/SyracuseDPS](https://www.facebook.com/SyracuseDPS).
- We have a feedback form on our website (dps.syr.edu), listed on the Contact Us page. Let us know of a compliment, complaint, or anything in between.
- Download the Rave Guardian mobile app for free on your Android or iOS phone to connect with the DPS dispatch center at the touch of a button.



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