Delaware State University

University Area(s) Responsible: Office of Occupational Safety and Health; Department of Public Safety; Division of Student Affairs; Office of Human Resources

Policy Number & Name: 7-28: Registered Sex Offender Policy

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Reviewed: 7/26/2013

Related Policies and Procedures: 6-05: Student Conduct Standards and Policies, 6-08: Minors in University Sponsored Programs

1. Purpose

The goal of this Policy is to protect the Delaware State University (DSU) community at large from individuals who have been identified as Registered Sexual Offenders and to comply with the Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act requirements.

2. Policy
The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act provides for the tracking of convicted sex offenders enrolled at or employed by institutions of higher education. It requires colleges and universities to provide the campus community with a source where information concerning registered sex offenders may be obtained and makes the college responsible for providing the name, address, date of birth, place of employment, school attended, and offense to any individual on campus requesting information concerning sex offenders attending or employed by the college.

Federal and state laws require sex offenders to take certain steps upon enrollment in an institution of higher education, regardless of whether their enrollment is full or part time. Pursuant to the Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act, individuals are required to register as a sex offender in the jurisdiction where their residence is located and in the jurisdiction where the college they attend is located. In order to comply with federal and state registration requirements related to college enrollment, a sex offender must register within five days of attendance at a college by reporting in person to the Campus Police Department. Students who fail to register their status as sex offender are in violation of the registration act and face arrest and expulsion from the college.

3. Procedures

Once a registered sex offender is identified as an enrollee of the college, the following procedure will be followed:

3.1 Upon enrollment of a registered sex offender, the VP for Student Affairs or his or her designee will meet with the University’s Police Chief or his or her designee to review the student’s class schedule and determine which restrictions should be put in place.

3.2 After determining the appropriate restrictions for a particular student, the Police department will contact the registered sex offender student for a meeting to discuss the restrictions which will be in place while the student is on the University’s campus.

3.3 During the meeting with the Police Chief (or his/her designee) and the registered sex offender student, the Public Safety Department will provide the student a written letter containing the restrictions the student must abide by while on the University’s campus and will discuss each restriction verbally with the student. During this meeting, the student will also be advised that his or her failure to comply with the restrictions outlined in the letter may result in denial of enrollment, access to campus and/or the decision to initiate police action against them by the University’s Public Safety Department.

3.4 If a sex offender student is enrolled in a College class along with a student who is under the age of 18, the VP for Student Affairs will notify the instructor of the class of the student’s status as a sex offender. He or she will also determine if there are other University staff members who need to be notified of a student’s status as a registered sex offender in order to protect persons under the age of 18 on the University’s campus.

3.5 The Police Chief or his or her designee will notify the Director of the School Lab/Child Care and any other College program solely serving students under the age
18, of all registered sex offenders enrolled in or employed by Delaware State University.

3.6 The University’s Police Department will maintain a database of all registered sex offender students and employees. The database will contain identifier information as outlined in the Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act. This information will be available for review by any person requesting information on registered sex offenders enrolled or employed by the University.

3.7 Registered Sex Offenders and DSU Residential Facilities

In accordance to the “Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act of 2000,” a link is provided to the Delaware Sex Offender Central Registry on the Delaware State Police website. Anyone listed on the above sex offender registry or any other sex offender registry of any state jurisdiction outside of Delaware is prohibited from residing in any traditional residential hall or residential apartment complex located on the DSU campus or off-campus at the DSU Courtyard Apartment Complex. Anyone who previously did not identify himself or herself as a person listed on any state sex offender registry during the DSU residential application process and subsequently obtains DSU residency, such a person upon the discovery of sex offender status will be immediately evicted from the campus residential facility.

Any resident of the traditional residential hall or residential apartment complex located on the DSU campus or off-campus at the DSU Courtyard Apartment Complex that pleads guilty of any sexual offense or is found guilty (including no contest pleas) of any sexual offense by DSU Judicial Affairs or state court authorities shall be immediately evicted from any DSU residential facility.

Any resident considered by the DSU Vice President of Student Affairs to be a threat to the student population as a result of an arrest and charges in connection with any physical or sexual assault incident will be suspended from their campus residency until their case is resolved. If found innocent by either or both DSU Judicial Affairs or the state court of law, they will immediately be allowed to resume residency in their campus residential facility. If found guilty by either or both DSU Judicial Affairs or the state court of law, the offending student will not be allowed to resume-campus residency.

For the application:
Individuals with felony conviction records – including being listed on any state’s sex offender registry list – are not eligible to obtain housing in any DSU residential facility.