

How PVCC Safe Strives for Safety

Isaac Rowlingson, staff writer

“See something? Say something.” This slogan has been seen throughout the halls on fliers recently and is a sign of an ongoing attempt for student safety on college campuses throughout the country. PVCC Safe is part of student services and gives students access to various precautions designed to aid the safety of both the individual student and the collective community.

Some of these can serve as guides to raise awareness and protect against sexual misconduct, assault, harassment, stalking, and mental health crisis. They list the number of the Suicide Hotline and also have an Alcohol and Substance Abuse section “(Coming Soon).”

It goes without saying PVCC wants to diminish these issues as much as they can. PVCC’s “Title IX Safe Act Policy” is a very comprehensive deliberation on their position and compliance to current laws regarding safety. They

also have a selection of videos in which “All new students are required to view” entitled “NOT ANYMORE.” “Never hesitate to report a concern.” This is standard policy in any community that strives for student safety. They have an Incident Reporting Form people can fill out if need be. PVCC Safe says, “After receiving your report, a group of trained professionals from across campus will review your report and determine what needs to be done.”

The top of their Incident Reporting Form states, “IF THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE RISK OF DANGER TO LIFE OR PROPERTY IMMEDIATELY CALL 911 OR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CAMPUS POLICE AT 434.981.6362.”

PVCC Safe says, “Public safety officers are on campus 24/7, augmented by closed-circuit cameras in strategically placed locations.” When viewing their Clery Act Crime Statistics one can see that there is absolutely none shown.

Campus Police and Public Safety Office

Grace Kinsman, staff writer

The public safety office and campus police are the men and women to thank for PVCC’s safe campus.

In the last four years, there have been no crime reports on campus. According to these statistics found on the PVCC website, it seems that the public safety office and campus police are doing a great job of keeping students and faculty safe.

The public safety office is easily accessible and is in the main building as soon as you walk in through the west entrance. The officers wear uniforms and are easily identifiable.

The public safety office at PVCC has many responsibilities. Their mission statement, as written on the PVCC website, “is to provide for the safety and security of students, faculty, and staff, and the general public while on or in any property or facility owned or operated by the college.”

Tavares Gray, public safety office employee, elaborated and said, “The job is making sure students are safe, monitoring parking, and making

sure we are opening all the doors in the morning.” The public safety office is also where students would go if they needed a student identification card.

Walking from a class to the parking lot at the end of a night class can sometimes be nerve-racking. The public safety office and campus police offer an escort program 24 hours a day to assist students wherever they need to go on campus.

The office also lists a security officer’s phone number on their website for emergencies. The number is 434-961-5319.

The campus police officers are all employed by PVCC to protect the campus and surrounding areas.

The PVCC website has brief biographies of three of the officers that are employed by Piedmont Virginia Community College. Joe Hood, Kyle Wax, and Chris Wyatt all bring at least 15 years of experience to PVCC’s police force.

The public safety office and campus police are an essential facet of the college and ensure the safety of the PVCC students and faculty.