



2026
Safety & Security Annual Report

*Wherein Certain Policies and Procedures of Virginia Beach Theological Seminary Relating to
Campus Safety are Explained and Certain Fire Safety and Campus Security
Statistics for Calendar Years 2023 through 2025 are Disclosed.*

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Welcome to Virginia Beach Theological Seminary

As a Title IV participating school, Virginia Beach Theological Seminary (VBTS) is required to prepare an annual safety and security report and make it available to the public. This report contains some topics covered elsewhere, such as in our Student Handbook, however these are included here to ensure a unified presentation on these topics. We consider VBTS to already be safe environment and it is our hope that the information contained in this report can play a role in enhancing the safety of everyone who sets foot on the campus of VBTS. The safety and security of all faculty, staff, students, and visitors is of utmost concern to the VBTS Administration. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact me at 757-479-3706 ext. 308, via e-mail at tbrazas@vbts.edu or stop by my office on campus.

Respectfully,

Tony Brazas

Director of Operations

PURPOSE OF THE SAFETY AND SECURITY INFORMATION ENCLOSED

- Create and maintain a learning environment that promotes respect for and appreciation of scholarship and academic pursuits.
- Provide information that promotes a safe and secure environment.
- Address issues that impede or disrupt the orderly operation of the academic process.
- Protect Seminary property by initiating police action (enforcement of the law).
- Educate the Seminary community in crime prevention opportunities.
- Mitigate liability and hazards to the school.

ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF SAFETY AND SECURITY STATISTICS

The Seminary prepares this report to comply with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act. This report is prepared in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies surrounding our campus. It is made available by October 1st of each year and the full text of this report may be accessed electronically by any member of the public <https://www.vbts.edu/campus-safety-report/>

The Clery Act further requires the Seminary to disclose whether it uses local police to monitor off-campus student organizations, such as fraternities and sororities, for criminal activity. VBTS does not sponsor any such organizations and, therefore, does not monitor off-campus criminal activity.

The campus crime and fire statistics include those reported (anonymously or not) directly to Seminary personnel and those that are reported by the Virginia Beach Police Department. All new admissions and first year students are provided access to this report at the time of New Student Orientation, and prospective students and other interested members of the public may request a printed copy of this report via by contacting the Seminary Office.

TITLE IX STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

All of the Seminary's education programs and activities are made available equally to all protected classes in accordance with Title IX requirements. The Seminary does not discriminate in any manner for any protected class – except where exempted by Title IX – Special Considerations.

“Title IX exempts from coverage any educational operation of an entity that is controlled by a religious organization only to the extent Title IX would be inconsistent with the religious tenets of the organization” (Excerpted from <https://www.justice.gov/crt/title-ix> Special Considerations Section).

Information on Registered Sex Offenders

The State of Virginia provides an online database of registered sex offenders within the state. Information concerning registered sex offenders is available at <https://www.vspso.com/>. A link to this website can also be found on the Campus Information page of the Seminary's website. Sex offenders required to register by the State of Virginia must also provide notice to each institution of higher learning in the state at which the person is employed, carries a vocation, volunteers, or is admitted/enrolled as a student. Sex Offender Registry information obtained via Megan's Law shall be used for the purposes of the administration of criminal justice, screening of current or prospective employees and volunteers, or otherwise for the protection of the public in general and children in particular. Unlawful use of registry information for purposes of intimidating or harassing another is prohibited and punishable by law.

SECURITY AND CRIME PREVENTION

Although there are policies and standards of conduct in place to promote a safe and healthy environment, the Seminary believes that security is everyone's responsibility – including awareness and reporting. Everyone, including students, faculty, staff and visitors, is encouraged to participate in campus safety by being alert to their surroundings, reporting suspicious activity or other concerns in a timely manner, and taking appropriate action in response to Crime Alert Bulletins delivered through Emergency Campus Notifications (Timely Notice Warnings), which are part of the Seminary's risk reduction strategies to enhance personal safety and property protection.

The Student Handbook has information regarding campus safety and security issues, to include sexual assault and harassment. In addition to the Student Handbook, information may also be provided to students via occasional crime prevention awareness packets, flyers, displays, and electronic signage. Personal responsibility for individual and community safety is a recurring theme in security awareness and crime prevention training.

Security and Access

The Seminary building remains locked at all times. All current students, faculty, and staff have 24-hour access to the Education building through personalized key-card access. Visitors must be granted access into the Seminary building by a member of the Seminary staff. The Seminary works in cooperation with Colonial Baptist Church to continually survey the campus for potential safety and security issues such as landscaping, locks, alarms, lighting, and communications. Routine maintenance is brought up monthly, while safety concerns are addressed immediately.

Campus Law Enforcement

Campus Security is manned by representatives of Colonial Baptist Church (CBC) who maintain professional working relationships with local law enforcement agencies and safety authorities. Campus Security representatives and all Seminary employees have authority to ask for identification to determine whether individuals have lawful right to be on campus. Colonial Baptist Church representatives and Seminary employees do not have the authority to arrest anyone on behalf of the Seminary, nor are there any agreements or memoranda of understanding for CBC or VBTS to assume any police role. VBTS does not have any investigative authority for criminal acts. Non-criminal discipline matters are handled in accordance with the Student Handbook. All criminal incidents are referred to local law enforcement agencies.

During evening hours, faculty, staff and students are encouraged to walk in pairs or groups and to accompany one another in the Seminary parking lot.

CAMPUS EMERGENCY RESPONSE

In the event of a potential or actual emergency, the Director of Operations will, without delay, assess situation, and where the circumstances warrant it, will send an Emergency Campus Notification (via text message and email) to all faculty, staff, and students unless, in the professional judgment of responsible authorities, the notification could compromise efforts to address the emergency.

The response to a given emergency will be in three parts.

1. **Achieve situational awareness** — Get the facts (who, what, when, where, how). Understand the context including scope of the incident, current location, natural/man-made, static/dynamic, etc.
2. **Identify appropriate response** — Assemble a readily available task force to determine a course of action that, first – safeguards human life, and second – preserves Seminary assets. Decide whether or not the situation calls for activation of Emergency Campus Notifications to all faculty, staff, and students.
3. **Advise all concerned** — Upon confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health and/or safety of students or employees on the campus, the Seminary will attempt to advise all employees and students via broadcasted email message; telephonic contact (landline and/or mobile systems); and messenger, as the circumstances allow.

Emergency Response Drills

VBTS will conduct an emergency response drill at least once annually. The Seminary, in cooperation with CBC Security representatives, and local authorities, will set a date and time to conduct a drill of the Seminary's emergency and evacuation procedures.

Emergency Drill Planning and Execution

First, during the seven days preceding the drill, the Seminary will notify faculty, staff, students, CBC Security, and residents adjacent to the campus of the date and time of the drill. In conjunction with this process, all concerned will be reminded of their duties. Then, one hour prior, on the date of the drill, the Seminary will notify CBC Security and local authorities of the imminent drill. Finally, the drill will be conducted at the date and time scheduled, all Seminary buildings and rooms will be checked for compliance, and the performance of all parties involved will be monitored and noted and the end of the drill will be officially announced.

Following completion of the drill, the official monitors will convene to debrief the effectiveness of the drill. Results of this feedback will be recorded and recommendations for improvement will be compiled and delivered to the Director of Operations who is responsible for measuring the effectiveness of the Seminary's emergency response readiness.

Timely Warning Policy

If CBC Security representatives, the Seminary Office, or any other Seminary designee determines that a situation exists either on or off campus that constitutes a serious or continuing threat to students and employees, the Seminary will issue a "timely warning" notice to the campus community. These notices are known as an **Emergency Campus Notification** and are typically disseminated at a minimum to students, faculty, and staff *via text and email*. Other means of distribution

include electronic signage, the VBTS website, mailbox flyers, and postings at prominent locations on campus including the entrances to classrooms and dormitories.

Emergency Campus Notification

The following information is included in the Emergency Campus Notification, subject to availability and where there is a reasonable assurance of accuracy.

- Description of the incident (type of incident, time and date, location, etc.)
- Physical description and name of the offender, if applicable
- Any connection to previously reported incidents
- Description of victim and injuries (if relevant)
- Date and time the bulletin was issued
- Official contact information
- Any other information that would promote campus safety as it relates to the incident

REPORTING CRIMINAL ACTIVITY, EMERGENCIES, OR PERCEIVED DANGERS

All members of the VBTS community are strongly encouraged to immediately report criminal activity or suspicious person(s) or activity. Prompt reporting will assure prompt action to resolve any immediate concern, timely Crime Alert Bulletins on campus and accurate disclosure of crime statistics in this annual report. Report any suspicious activity or persons seen in the parking lots or loitering around vehicles or inside buildings.

The Virginia Beach Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies have jurisdiction over the campus and its surrounding community. The crime statistics reported annually are based on our internal records and would include reports from local police, except that our immediate location is surrounded by property of Colonial Baptist Church and there have had no reported crimes on campus during the current of most recent three years. Crimes, suspicious activity, safety hazards, or campus emergencies (including medical and fire emergencies) occurring on Seminary property should be reported directly to the Seminary Office at 757-479-3706, except when local emergency response is required. In that case, dial 9-1-1.

Off-campus incidents should be reported to the Virginia Beach Police Department directly via 9-1-1 or by dialing (757) 385-5000 for non-emergencies.

Quick Reference for Crime/Emergency Reporting

Seminary Contacts

☐ VBTS Office	757-479-3706 ext. 300
☐ VBTS Director of Operations	757-479-3706 ext. 308
☐ VBTS Admissions Officer	757-479-3706 ext. 301
☐ CBC Facilities Manager	757-479-0755 ext. 205

Other Contacts

☐ Virginia Beach Police (emergency/imminent danger)	DIAL 9-1-1
☐ Virginia Beach Police Department (non-emergency)	757-385-5000
☐ Crime Solvers (anonymous tip reporting)	1-888-LOCK-U-UP
☐ American Red Cross	757-446-7700

Anonymous Crime Reporting

All those aware of a crime or criminal activity or threats to campus safety are encouraged to report this concern. Should the victim of a crime feel uncomfortable contacting the police, not want the police involved, not desire criminal prosecution, or want to remain anonymous, crimes can be reported anonymously to Crime Solvers by phone at 1-888-LOCK-U-UP (562-5887), by texting "VB TIP" to "CRIMES" (274637) or at www.crimesolvers.com.

You may also report campus crime anonymously to the Director of Operations via written notice placed in his mail box in the Seminary office spaces. If notice is made in-person, via phone or e-mail, this notification will, as much as is allowable by law, be kept anonymous. However, it will be a basis for any required actions to ensure the safety of the campus community. This also makes it possible for the Seminary to maintain accurate records of the number of on-campus incidents involving students and to establish where there may be a pattern of crime with regard to location, method, or assailant, and this information allows the Seminary to alert the campus community of potential danger in a timely manner. Note: *Statistics derived from confidential reports are included in the Campus Safety and Security Report.*

PERSONAL SAFETY AND SECURITY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

VBTS is committed to providing a safe and secure campus environment that is free from sexual harassment or violence. We prohibit harassment of any kind, including Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking. Such behavior violates our values, as well as Seminary policy and the law. The Seminary will respond promptly and effectively to all reports of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, and shall take appropriate action to prevent, correct, and when necessary, discipline behavior that violates this policy.

In support of these policies, the Seminary seeks to generate awareness and educate the student community about harassment and sexual violence, including domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking primarily through fact sheets. Counseling options are available through the Seminary Office, and community referral services are identified in the Drug & Alcohol Abuse Prevention PDF made available to all faculty, staff, and students in Populi.

Title IX and VAWA Regulations Policies

The following important information covers Virginia Beach Theological Seminary's policies and procedures relating to Title IX and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) regulations, including sexual harassment, sexual violence, and violence against women. With this information we attempt to inform you and provide tools in the event that you or someone you know experiences sexual harassment, stalking, or sexual, domestic or dating violence. The below definitions, which comply with government standards of reporting, are included to clarify and standardize reporting official reporting. The fact that these definitions include concepts of "consent" or "mutually agreed-upon" within some of these definitions, does not imply concurrence with the moral legitimacy of any act based upon these terms. VBTS position on these issues is stated in the Student and Faculty Staff Handbooks.

Definitions

Sex Discrimination means an adverse action taken against an individual because of gender or sex (including harassment, violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking) as prohibited by Title IX; Title IV; VAWA; Virginia Education Code § 66250 and other applicable laws. Anyone regardless of gender can experience sexual discrimination.

Sexual Harassment is a form of Sex Discrimination. It is unwelcome verbal, nonverbal, or physical conduct of a sexual nature that includes, but is not limited to sexual advances, requests/demands for sexual favors, indecent exposure, sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, where:

- Submission to or rejection of the conduct is explicitly or implicitly used as the basis for any decision affecting a student's academic status or progress, or access to benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the Seminary; or
- Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that its effect, whether or not intended, could be considered by a reasonable person in the shoes of the student, and is in fact considered by the student, as limiting the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities or opportunities offered by the Seminary; or
- Submission to or rejection of the conduct by a Seminary employee is explicitly or implicitly used as the basis for any decision affecting a term or condition of employment, or an employment decision or action; or

- Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that its effect, whether or not intended, could be considered by a reasonable person in the shoes of the Seminary employee or third party as intimidating, hostile or offensive.

Sexual Harassment also includes acts of verbal, non-verbal or physical aggression, intimidation, or hostility based on gender or sex-stereotyping, even if those acts do not involve conduct of a sexual nature.

Sexual Violence is a form of Sexual Harassment that includes physical sexual acts, such as unwelcome sexual touching, Sexual Assault, Forcible Fondling (Sexual Battery), Rape, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking that are perpetrated against an individual against his or her will and without consent of against an individual who is incapable of giving consent due to that individual's use of drugs or alcohol, status as a minor, or Disability.

Sexual Violence may include physical force, violence, threat, or intimidation, ignoring the objections of the other person, causing the other person's intoxication or incapacitation through the provision of drugs or alcohol, or taking advantage of the other person's incapacitation (including voluntary intoxication). Men as well as women can be victims of these forms of Sexual Violence.

Sexual Assault is a form of Sexual Violence and means an offense or attempted offense that meets the definition of rape, forcible fondling (Sexual Battery), incest, or statutory rape as used in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting system. A sex offense is any act directed against another person without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent as previously defined.

Forcible Fondling (Sexual Battery) is a form of Sexual Violence and is the non-consensual touching of the intimate part of another person for the purposes of sexual arousal, sexual gratification, or sexual abuse, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent as previously defined.

Rape is a form of Sexual Violence and is non-consensual penetration of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person. Sexual acts including intercourse are considered non-consensual when a person is incapable of giving consent because he or she is incapacitated from alcohol and/or drugs, is under 18 years of age, or if a mental disorder or developmental or physical disability renders the person incapable of giving consent. The accused's relationship to the person (such as family member, spouse, friend, acquaintance or stranger) is irrelevant (see Consent).

Acquaintance Rape is a form of Sexual Violence committed by an individual known to the victim. This includes a person the victim may have just met (see Rape).

Statutory Rape is non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under statutory age of consent (18 years of age in Virginia).

Incest is non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Consent means an informed, affirmative, conscious decision by each participant to engage in mutually agreed-upon sexually activity.

- Consent must be voluntary, and given without coercion, force, threats, or intimidation. Consent requires positive cooperation in a particular sexual act, or expression of intent to engage in that sexual act through the exercise of free will.
- Consent can be withdrawn or revoked. Consent to one form of sexual activity (or one sexual act) does not constitute consent to other forms of sexual activity (or other sexual acts). Consent given on one occasion does not constitute consent to sexual activity on another occasion. The fact that two people are or were in a dating or sexual relationship does not constitute consent to engage in sexual activity. There must always be mutual and affirmative consent to engage in sexual activity. Consent to a sexual act may be withdrawn or revoked at any time, including after penetration. The victim's request for the perpetrator to use a condom or birth control does not, in and of itself, constitute consent. Once consent is withdrawn or revoked, the sexual activity must stop immediately.
- Consent cannot be given by a person who is incapacitated. For example, a person cannot give consent if he or she is unconscious or coming in and out of consciousness. A person is incapacitated if he or she lacks the physical and/or mental ability to make informed, rational judgments. Examples of incapacitation include unconsciousness, sleep, and blackouts. Whether in an intoxicated person (as a result of using drugs and/or alcohol) depends on the extent to which the drugs/alcohol impact the person's decision-making capacity, awareness of consequences, and ability to make fully informed judgments. A person with a medical or mental disability may also lack the capacity to give consent.
- Being intoxicated by drugs or alcohol does not diminish a person's responsibility to obtain consent from the other party before engaging in sexual activity. Factors to be considered include whether the person knew, or whether a reasonable person in the accused's position should have known, that the victim did not give, or revoked consent; was incapacitated; or was otherwise incapable of giving consent.
- Sexual intercourse with a minor is never consensual when the victim is under 18 years of age, because the victim is considered incapable of giving legal consent due to age.

Domestic Violence is a form of Sexual Violence and is abuse committed against someone who is a current or former spouse, current or former cohabitant, someone with whom the abuser has a child, someone with whom the abuser has or had a dating or engagement relationship, or a person similarly situated under Virginia domestic or family violence law. Cohabitant means two unrelated persons living together for a substantial period of time, resulting in some permanency of relationship. Factors that may determine whether persons are cohabiting include, but are not limited to 1) sexual relations between the parties while sharing the same living quarters, 2) sharing of income or expenses, 3) joint use or ownership of property, 4) whether the parties hold themselves out as husband and wife, 5) the continuity of the relationship, and 6) the length of the relationship.

Dating Violence is a form of Sexual Violence and is abuse committed by a person who is or has been in a social or dating relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. This may include someone the victim just met.

Stalking means a repeated course of conduct directed at a specific person that places that person in a reasonable fear for his or her safety, or for the safety of others, or to suffer substantial emotional distress.

Options For Reporting – Know Your Rights

If a person who believes he or she has been – or someone he or she knows has reported to him or her – a victim of sexual harassment or sexual violence, that person electing to report the incident has the following rights to report:

- **Right to report to the Seminary:** To do so, report the incident to the Seminary Office, the Title IX Coordinator, or any campus security representative. The report will generate a prompt, fair and impartial investigation and appropriate resolution-oriented action will be taken up to or including expulsion of a student perpetrator or termination of employment.
- **Right to pursue criminal charges (Sexual Violence, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, etc.) whether or not reporting to the Seminary:** Criminal charges may be pursued by contacting the police directly. If Seminary assistance is desired, contact the Seminary Office, and/or the Director of Operations.
- **Right to Report without Pursuing Charges:** If a victim chooses not to pursue Seminary action or legal charges, they may still have access to assistance at the Seminary. Contact the Director of Operations or the Dean for more information. In addition, the victim may – in the interim – request a “no contact” order on the campus. However, this will not impact off campus movement, and the victim may want to pursue a protective order from the courts that would extend beyond the campus.

If a report is made, VBTS prohibits retaliation against a person who reports Sex Discrimination Sexual Harassment or Sexual Violence, or against someone who assists someone with a report of such conduct, participates in the investigation of a complaint or executes the resolving action based on the outcome of an investigation. A victim of sexual assault can choose to decline to notify authorities.

VBTS will, upon written request, disclose to the alleged victim of a crime of violence (as that term is defined in Section 16 of Title 18, United States Code), or a non-forcible sex offense, the report on the results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by VBTS against a student who is the alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense. If the alleged victim is deceased as a result of such crime or offense, the next of kin of such victim shall be treated as the alleged victim.

Confidentiality

We encourage victims of sexual harassment and/or sexual violence to talk to someone about what happened so they can obtain the support needed, and so that the Seminary can respond appropriately in addressing the issue and protecting others on campus. If the victim would like help in notifying law enforcement, a security representative from CBC or a member of the Seminary office can assist the victim in doing so.

Some people are required by law to maintain near complete confidentiality; talk to them is sometimes called “privileged communication.” Physicians, psychotherapists, professional counselors, sexual assault and domestic violence counselors and advocates will not report information about an incident of sexual violence to anyone else without your consent. The local police will make names and details of the incident a matter of public record unless the victim requests that information to be maintained as confidential.

Most employees of the Seminary are required by law to report all details of an incident (including the identities of both the victim and the alleged perpetrator) to the Director of Operations (Title IX Coordinator). This report generates a legal obligation for the Seminary to investigate the incident and take appropriate steps to address the situation. If requested and to the extent legally permissible, this information will be shared only with individuals responsible for handling the Seminary’s response, unless a imminent threat to others is identified.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Of 1974 (FERPA)

The Clery Act does not require confidential reporting of crimes. Generally, personally identifiable information is precluded from disclosure. However, such information may be released in an emergency situation. Further, the federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act of 2000 (CSCPA) amends the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) to clarify that nothing in the CSCPA prohibits an educational institution from disclosing information provided to the institution concerning registered sex offenders.

What to Do If You or Someone You Know Is a Victim

If you, another student, or someone you know on campus reports experiencing sexual harassment or sexual violence, here are some things you can do for yourself or to assist another.

1. Get to a safe place.
2. Dial **9-1-1** and report to local police.
3. Do not shower, bathe, smoke, eat, drink, brush teeth, gargle, use the toilet (if possible), change, or destroy clothing.
4. Do not clean or straighten up the area where the incident took place.
5. Seek medical attention – even if you are not sure you want to report to police. The nearest hospital to VBTS is Chesapeake Regional Medical Center (736 N Battlefield Blvd.; Chesapeake, VA 23320).
6. Get support for yourself, and consider calling the **Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN)** at **1-800-656-HOPE**. The advocate answering will provide you with options and you will not have to give your name.
7. Seek emotional support from the **County Crisis Center** at **888-272-1767**
8. File a police report, even if you are not sure about reporting the attack, in order to obtain a medical evidentiary examination. You still retain the right to change your mind and not to pursue a criminal complaint, but filing a police report will:
 - Ensure that a victim of sexual assault receives the necessary **medical treatment** and tests, at no expense to the victim.
 - Provide the opportunity for **collection of evidence** helpful in prosecution should it be pursued – this evidence cannot be obtained later.
 - Assure the victim has access to **free confidential counseling** from counselors specifically trained in the area of sexual assault crisis intervention.
 - Aid the victim in obtaining an emergency protective order or restraining order, if appropriate.

If you do not wish to file a police report, you are still encouraged to seek professional medical attention/advice. It is important not to forget the possibility of sexually transmitted diseases and/or pregnancy. Note that all health care providers are legally required to report to the police all cases of suspected sexual or physical assault.

Quick Reference of Helpful Contacts

Complaints of harassment or sexual violence of any kind against the Seminary or against any employee or student of the school may be made in the Seminary Office to the Director of Operations at 757-479-3706 ext. 308. If someone needs to bring the complaint to another party, the complaint may be filed with the chief academic officer at 757-479-3706 ext. 303.

Other agencies that may be helpful to a victim of Sexual Harassment or Sexual Violence include:

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| ☐ Virginia Beach Police Department | 9-1-1 |
| ☐ Virginia Beach Commonwealth Attorney | 757-385-4401 |
| ☐ 24-Hour Countywide Crisis Line | 888-385-4657 |
| ☐ Stalking Hotline | 800-799-SAFE |
| ☐ Rape Abuse Incest National Network | 800-656-4673 |
| ☐ Victims of Crimes Resource Center | 800-842. 8467 |

Institutional Follow-Up with Victim

The Seminary will provide written notification to students and employees about existing counseling, health, mental health, victim advocacy, legal assistance, visa and immigration assistance, student financial aid and other services available for victims, both within the institution and in the community. The Seminary will also provide written notification to victims about options for, available assistance in, and how to request changes to academic, living, transportation and working situations or protective measures. The Seminary will make such accommodations or provide such protective measures if the victim requests them and if they are reasonably available, regardless of whether the victim chooses to report the crime to campus security representatives or local law enforcement.

Risk Reduction

With no intent to blame the victim and recognizing that only perpetrators are responsible for sexual crime including Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking, the following strategies have been taken from Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network (RAINN – www.rainn.org) for consideration.

- BE AWARE of your surroundings; know where you are and who is around you.
- AVOID ISOLATION where it is more difficult to get help if needed.
- WALK PURPOSEFULLY even if you are not sure where you are going.
- TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS if a situation or location feels unsafe or uncomfortable.
- DO NOT OVERLOAD yourself with packages or other items – this may make you less able to react and defend.
- CEL PHONE readiness may be important, so keep your phone charged and handy.
- DO NOT BE ALONE with someone you do not know or do not trust.
- HAVE A DURESS CODE WORD with someone you trust who is either with you, or who you can reach by phone.
- EARBUDS/HEADPHONES should be worn in only one ear when walking alone.
- SAY NO if you are not comfortable or unsure.
- IDENTIFY an escape route – note the location of egress options.
- GO WITH YOUR GUT if something looks or feels suspicious – call police.

Alcohol, Drugs and Weapons Policies

Virginia Beach Theological Seminary is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy environment, and complies with the federal Higher Education Act (section 120a) and with the Virginia Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988, both of which regulate the use of alcoholic beverages and underage drinking. All Seminary students, faculty members, staff members, and administrators are subject to the Seminary's policies, and local, state and federal laws regarding the possession, distribution, or use of alcohol and illegal or illegally obtained drugs.

The possession, sale, manufacture, distribution, or use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or illegally obtained drugs by anyone of any age is strictly prohibited on campus or at any Seminary sponsored activity. Violators are subject to Seminary disciplinary action up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution and, to the extent allowable by law, criminal prosecution, fine and imprisonment.

Faculty, staff, students, and visitors are expected to abide by state laws on the concealed and open carry of weapons and firearms.

Alcohol and Substance Abuse Education Program

VBTS is committed to providing a safe and secure campus environment that is free from alcohol and drug use and abuse. Abuse of drugs and alcohol is a serious health problem that can lead to medical and mental health issues. VBTS educates the student community about drug and alcohol abuse primarily through fact sheets. Counseling is available from the leadership of CBC and/or the academic dean, and referral services are identified in the Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention PDF available to all faculty, staff, and students in Populi.

Fire Prevention and Response

VBTS takes fire prevention and response seriously and as such offers prevention rules, an annual response drill and safety response equipment.

Fire Reporting and Annual Fire Drills

Fires, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, must be reported to the Seminary Office as soon as reasonably possible in person or via telephone at 757-479-3706. In case of fire, immediately pull the alarm, then evacuate to the Primary Assembly Point.

Fire Prevention Policy and Rules

Fire safety training is on-going and takes place at new student orientation, staff meetings, and Faculty meetings. The Director of Operations is responsible for the assessment of fire prevention efforts at the Seminary in conjunction with the CBC Facilities Manager and for the identification and implementation of changes/improvements as needed. The following rules apply to all residents and guests.

- Virginia Beach Theological Seminary is designated as a smoke-free campus and therefore the use of smoking products is prohibited.
- Open flame for any purpose is strictly prohibited.
- Removal of batteries or tampering with/dismantling of smoke detectors is a direct violation of the local fire code and may result in endangerment of faculty, staff, students, and visitors. Tampering with these safety devices may result in disciplinary action and/or action by law enforcement authorities.
- Due to the intense heat generated halogen lamps/bulbs in any form are prohibited, except in projectors.
- The use of multiple extension cords to extend their length is prohibited.
- The use of power strips is allowed for use directly to an electronic device or devices. However daisy chaining (plugging one power strip into another power strip) is strictly prohibited.

Fire Safety Equipment

The seminary building is equipped with the following fire safety equipment. **In case of fire, faculty, staff, students and guests are directed to immediately activate the manual fire alarm (if possible) and evacuate to the Primary Assembly Point.**

- Manually activated fire alarms sound and alert a dedicated off-campus vendor responsible for contacting authorities – **In case of fire, evacuate to the Primary Assembly Point.**

- Heat activated fire alarms that sound and alert a dedicated off campus vendor responsible for contacting authorities – **In case of fire, evacuate to the Primary Assembly Point.**
- Audible smoke detectors – **In case of fire, pull the alarm and evacuate to the Primary Assembly Point.**
- Manually operated fire extinguisher located in the Library behind the service desk.
- Emergency exit signage posted on each floor of the building
- Emergency exit placards located in each individual room

Seminary Building Evacuation

Residents are responsible to clearly follow the directions of faculty and staff in charge during an emergency, including the procedures for the orderly evacuation of the seminary building and gathering at the designated assembly point. Faculty, staff, students, and guests should not leave the assembly point until an official announcement has been made. Nobody is permitted to re-enter the building until official notification has been provided that it is safe to do so. If someone present has special skills that might be useful during an emergency response, he or she may inform the response team leader immediately following the roll call at the assembly point. **The Primary Assembly Point is the field directly across from front doors of the Education Building.**

However, any emergency can produce unexpected conditions, and if the primary evacuation route is not available, discretion may be used to determine the best alternative route to achieve safety for all, with the Secondary Assembly Point being the first option to consider. **The Secondary Assembly Point parking lot in the front of the CBC sanctuary building.**

ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF CRIME AND FIRE SAFETY STATISTICS

Virginia Beach Theological Seminary completes the Department of Education Campus Safety and Security Survey annually. The results of this report can be found on Seminary's website at www.vbts.edu/crime-statistics and clicking on the *SAFETY AND SECURITY ANNUAL REPORT* link.

Campus crime, arrest, and referral statistics include those reported to designated campus security and local law enforcement agencies. The Seminary notifies prospective students, current students, faculty, and staff of where and when the Safety and Security Annual Report is available. Prospective employees are either directed to the web site link or given a copy of this report during the pre-hire process. Additionally, printed copies of the *SAFETY AND SECURITY ANNUAL REPORT* may be requested by phone at 757-479-3706.

Notice of Availability

The following text will be sent via email to all Seminary employees and currently enrolled students when the 2026 *SAFETY AND SECURITY ANNUAL REPORT* is made available on the Seminary's website.

"The Virginia Beach Theological Seminary 2026 SAFETY AND SECURITY ANNUAL REPORT is now available. This report includes institutional policies and statistics concerning campus safety and security. You may obtain a copy of this report by visiting <https://www.vbts.edu/campus-safety-report/> and clicking on the 2026 SAFETY AND SECURITY ANNUAL REPORT link."

Annual Safety and Security Statistics

The data for the 2026 Safety and Security Annual Report provided below is derived from events occurring during calendar years 2023 through 2025.

- **Table 1** provides statistics on all reported crimes, with Table 1.1 reporting a subset of Table 1 of reported hate crimes, and Table 1.2 reporting a subset of Table 1 of reported domestic violence, dating violence and stalking crimes.
- **Table 2** reports all violations relating to liquor laws, drug laws, and weapons laws.
- **Table 3** reports all disciplinary actions relating to liquor, drug and weapons laws that did not result in arrest.
- **Table 4** reports building fires, injuries and deaths.

Table 1	All Reported Criminal Activity								
	ON CAMPUS			PUBLIC PROPERTY			TOTAL		
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
Murder Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Sex Offense (all)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
Sodomy	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
Sexual Assault with an Object	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
Fondling	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
Non-Forcible Sex Offense (all)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
Statutory Rape	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Simple Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intimidation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vandalism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 1.1	Hate Crimes, as a Subset of All Reported Criminal Activity								
	ON CAMPUS			PUBLIC PROPERTY			TOTAL		
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
Murder Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Sex Offense (all)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sodomy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault with an Object	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Forcible Sex Offense (all)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Simple Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intimidation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vandalism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 1.2	Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking, as a Subset of All Reported Criminal Activity								
	ON CAMPUS			PUBLIC PROPERTY			TOTAL		
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
Murder Non-negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Sex Offense (all)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sodomy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault with an Object	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fondling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Forcible Sex Offense (all)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Incest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Simple Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Larceny	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intimidation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vandalism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 2	All Arrests relating to Liquor, Drug, and Weapons Laws								
	ON CAMPUS			PUBLIC PROPERTY			TOTAL		
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
Liquor Laws	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 3	All Disciplinary Action for Liquor, Drug, and Weapons Infractions (no arrest)								
	ON CAMPUS			PUBLIC PROPERTY			TOTAL		
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
Liquor Laws	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapons Violations	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 4	All Fire, Injury and Death Incidents								
	ON CAMPUS			PUBLIC PROPERTY			TOTAL		
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
Fires	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Injuries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

END REPORT