# TIMLEY WARNING NOTIFCIATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs):



Under the federal Jeanne Clery Act 1 of 1998, institutions must issue timely warnings to the campus community to inform affected persons of crimes considered to be a threat to students and employees.



#### Why is a Timely Warning issued?

The Clery Act, a federal law, requires Sacramento State to alert the campus community to certain crimes in a manner that is timely and will aid in the prevention of similar crimes. Warnings regarding criminal incident(s) are meant to enable people to protect themselves against serious or continuing threats.

### Why do I get Timely Warnings for some crimes but not others?

The majority of crimes that occur on and around campus will NOT result in a Timely Warning or Emergency Notification. Timely Warnings are only sent for reports of Clery crimes that occur on Clery geography and present a serious or ongoing threat to the campus community. Property crimes won't typically lead to a Timely Warning unless there is a distinct pattern of related incidents. Crimes that occur outside of Clery geography, such as in Sacramento or Sacramento County, typically will not lead to a Timely Warning.



#### What determines if a Timely Warning is issued?

Decisions to issue Timely Warnings are made case by case after consideration of the facts of criminal incidents. These include, but are not limited to, the nature/circumstances of the criminal incident, whether the campus community faces continuing danger, and when a report of the criminal incident originally was made. (See CSU Executive Order 1107 for more detailed information.)

### I want to know more. Why are the details not as extensive as I desire?

The Clery Act regulations do not specify what information should be included in a Timely Warning. However, because the intent of a Timely Warning is to enable members of the campus community to protect themselves, it should include all information that would promote safety and help prevent similar criminal incidents. However, by CSU Executive Order 1107, Timely Warnings must withhold the names and other personally identifiable information of the victim. Timely Warnings also must withhold confidential information and should not include information that might compromise law enforcement efforts.



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## Why do campus police issue a Timely Warning instead making an arrest?

It's important to remember that in higher education crime victims have multiple avenues to report crimes, and that those avenues offer varying resources and options for resolution. It is the victim's right to choose the avenue of resolution. Whether that includes a criminal or administrative investigation, certain processes are protected under confidentiality, FERPA, and/or due process. The institution will conduct matters according to law and policy.



#### Why don't I receive a follow-up email with more information?

First, Timely Warnings are sent only when a reported incident represents a continuing threat to the community, allowing people to take steps to protect themselves. We don't want to send so many communications that people become annoyed and stop reading the emails.

Second, there might not be follow-up information to provide. Often, there is no law enforcement investigation, or Sacramento State police might not be informed of the identity of the offender(s), so there would be no follow-up about an arrest or prosecution. If there is a law enforcement investigation, follow-up information typically is provided on Sacramento State Daily Crime Log.

## Is a Timely Warning the same as an Emergency Notification System (ENS) alert?

No. A Timely Warning notification and Emergency Notification System (ENS) alert have separate and distinct requirements. An ENS alert is issued only if there is an immediate threat to the health and safety of the campus (e.g. flood, fire or, active shooter) and is for on-campus emergencies only. An ENS alert will contain information about the nature of an emergency and immediate actions individuals should take for their safety, such as evacuation or sheltering in place. An updated notification will follow an ENS alert when an emergency stabilizes or ends.

Please contact the Sacramento State Police Department at 916-278-6000 or the Clery director at clery@csus.edu for additional information.

All who may be triggered by a Timely Warning and wish to seek mental health services are encouraged to contact Counseling Services at 916-278-6461.

Individuals empowered by a Timely Warning to report their crime victimization can contact the Sacramento State Police Department at (916) 278-6000, report to a <u>Campus Security Authority</u>, or <u>report the incident online</u>.

