



# COLLEGE OF THE DESERT

## Campus Safety Plan

# 2020

**PREPARED BY:**

Public Safety Department &  
Emergency Preparedness  
43-500 Monterey Avenue  
South Annex 16  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
760-341-2111

## Annual California Campus Safety Plan Report

This report is designed to provide you with important information about safety and security at College of the Desert. College of the Desert prepares this report in compliance with California State Education Code, Chapter 16, of the Donahue Higher Education Act, Section 67380. The passage of AB 1433 amended sections of the California Education Code found at Sections 67380 et seq. – the student safety provisions.

California publicly funded educational institutions are required to compile reports of occurrences and arrests for Part I crimes of willful homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault as well as crimes occurring on campus that involve violence, hate violence, theft, destruction of property, illegal drugs, and alcohol intoxication committed on campus the previous calendar year. This report is a separate and distinct report from the Annual Security Report (ASR) required under the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (the Clery Act). Campus safety and security is a shared responsibility. The best protection against campus crime is an aware, informed, alert campus community in partnership with a law enforcement presence. The vast majority of our students, staff, faculty, and visitors do not experience crime at College of the Desert. However, despite our best efforts, crimes sometimes still occur. This information is provided because of our commitment to campus safety and security and in compliance with California State laws.

College of the Desert Public Safety Department is the designated authority established by the Board of Trustees to enforce the Standards of Conduct under the Education Code and Penal Codes of the State of California. The Department of Public Safety is not a police department and department incident reports are not official police reports.

If an official report is required, the appropriate agency should be contacted:

Palm Desert Campus                      Riverside County Sheriff's Office

Mecca Campus                              Riverside County Sherriff's Office

Indio Campus                                Indio Police Department

Desert Hot Spring High School/Wenzlaff    Desert Hot Springs Police Dept.

Palm Springs Campus                      Palm Springs Police Department

Cathedral City High School    Cathedral City Police Department

Palm Springs High School              Palm Springs Police Department

PaCE Program                                Riverside County Sheriff's Office

The COD Public Safety Department is the liaison with local law enforcement agencies, including federal and state law enforcement entities. COD Public Safety is responsible for the safety and security of all members of the college community. Every effort is made to inform students, faculty, administrators, and staff members of criminal activity or other concerns that may be an immediate or ongoing threat to the safety and security of those on campuses. Information on regarding crime prevention is made available to college students, faculty, administrators and staff members through a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, campus memos, emails, presentations, trainings, orientations, social media and the web.

## Availability and Location of COD Public Safety Department and Methods to Summon Assistance

The COD Public Safety Department is committed to the safety and well-being of the campus community. COD Public Safety Officers on duty are available to assist a student, faculty, guest, or staff member. It is the mission of the COD Public Safety Department to provide an environment in which all people feel able to participate in their education, and to maintain a professional workforce that is responsive to the needs of the campus community. In addition, we work closely with the local law enforcement agencies to safeguard each campus. The campus community and guests are encouraged to report all crimes, suspicious activity, and public safety related incidents to the COD Public Safety Department in a timely manner for prompt response by the police. To report a crime or an emergency on the College of the Desert campus dial:

[Palm Desert Campus \(760\) 341-2111 or 2111 Campus Phone \(24/7 365 days a year\)](#)

Administrative office hours are Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. COD Public Safety Officers are available at these numbers 24 hours a day to answer your call, aid and dispatch a Public Safety Officer or the appropriate resource, as needed.

[East Valley Indio Campus \(442\) 666-9438 or 5310 Campus Phone](#)

Officers are available from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm Monday-Friday and Saturdays (if classes are scheduled). These COD Public Safety Officers are available to answer your call, aid and dispatch a Public Safety Officer or the appropriate resource, as needed.

[Mecca Thermal Campus \(760\) 490-8588 or 3027 Campus Phone](#)

Officers are available on campus from 7:00am to 10:00pm Monday—Friday. These COD Public Safety Officers are available to answer your call, aid and dispatch a Public Safety Officer or the appropriate resource, as needed.

[West Valley Palm Springs Campus \(760\) 777-0498 or 7254 Campus Phone](#)

Officers are available on campus from 7:00 am to 12:30 pm Monday—Thursday. These COD Public Safety Officers are available to answer your call, aid and dispatch a Public Safety Officer or the appropriate resource, as needed.

## College of the Desert Public Safety Departments are located:

<b>Palm Desert Campus</b>	43500 Monterey Avenue, So. Annex 16, Palm Desert, California 92260
<b>East Valley Indio Campus</b>	45524 Oasis St, Second floor, Indio, CA 92201
<b>Mecca Thermal Campus</b>	61-120 Buchanan Street, Thermal, CA 92274
<b>West Valley Palm Springs Campus</b>	1300 Baristo Road, Student Commons, Palm Springs, CA 92262

In addition to these contact options you may dial 9-1-1 from any extension and it will automatically alert the COD Public Safety Department.

If you dial 9-1-1 from your cell phone COD Public Safety will not be alerted, so you will have to notify them. For additional information on the services provided, news and information, please visit the COD Public Safety Department page on the College of the Desert website:

<http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu/students/psd/Pages/default.aspx>



## Availability and Location of Public Safety Department and Methods to Summon Assistance (Cont'd)

Palm Desert Campus	Officers available 24/7
East Valley Indio Campus	Officers available 07:00-11:00 pm*
Mecca Campus	Officers available 07:00-10:00 pm*
West Valley Palm Springs Campus	Officers available 07:00 –12:30 pm*
Desert Hot Spring High School/Wenzlaff	This site provides own security.
Cathedral City High School	This site provides own security.
Palm Springs High School	This site provides own security.
PaCE Program / Westfield Mall	This site provides own security.

\*Schedules may change per academic schedule

## Security Considerations Used in Maintenance

College of the Desert Public Safety Department takes appropriate precautions to provide security during maintenance of facilities. Routine maintenance of facilities is primarily by full-time College of the Desert employees. Maintenance and custodial employees are closely supervised, work routine business hours, and do not enter private rooms without direction. General contractors on campus are responsible for security in the facilities in which they are working. Specific direction and a college liaison/Bond office representative are provided for each contractor/project.

On campus students, staff and faculty should report any facilities maintenance needs, such as inoperative door or window locks, non-functioning lights, broken windows and torn window screens promptly to Maintenance & Operations. You may reach Maintenance & Operations at 760-773-2551 to report any of these maintenance needs.

## Security and Crime Prevention Programs Crime prevention education and awareness

The COD Public Safety Department stresses the importance of crime prevention. Each officer is responsible for problem identification and proper education to the campus community of potential criminal activity and opportunity. The department coordinates and administers several training programs available to members of the campus community. The COD Public Safety Department works closely with students, faculty and staff to provide training and educational information on crime prevention and personal safety techniques throughout the year. The COD Public Safety Department offers crime prevention and awareness presentations to campus organizations, departments, clubs and groups upon request throughout the academic year.



## Actions taken in the last 18 months to increase safety

Many processes and actions that would normally occur during the last 18 months were affected by the national pandemic response and consequent lockdowns and closures. Due to COVID-19 health and safety concerns, participation in the Great Shakeout 2020 did not occur for all staff and faculty. Emergency preparedness training on all levels throughout leadership, staff and faculty continued with online FEMA trainings for pandemics, FERPA, ALICE Training, SB1626 and sexual harassment trainings. Two brand new Ford Fusions were purchased through the PRU process to add to the Department fleet were purchased to provide transportation during patrols and medical transports for the Palm Desert Campus. and medical transports. Patrol units shared with the Public Safety Academy were also employed to assist with normal calls for service, visibility

patrols transportation and traffic enforcement. Review of Emergency Preparedness Readiness by the Safety Committee with recommendations to go forth to the College Planning Committee for review adoption. Public Safety Officers hired to fill vacancies on all District campuses to assist in handling the increase of student population due to pLEDGE program. A dispatcher was hired starting on day shift from 08:00-4:00 pm to dispatch calls for Public Safety Officers throughout the District.



## Changes in safety precautions expected to occur in the next 24 months.

Participation in the Great American Shakeout 2021. Re-enter into MOU's with the Riverside Sheriff's Office, Indio Police Department and Palm Springs Police Department and Desert Hot Springs Police Department to formalize jurisdictional obligations and sharing of information. Review and adoption of new camera standards to include officer worn body cameras. Expansion of both the East Valley Campus and the Mecca Thermal campuses for the new correctional program. Ongoing construction at the Palm Springs Mall to house the new permanent Palm Springs campus.

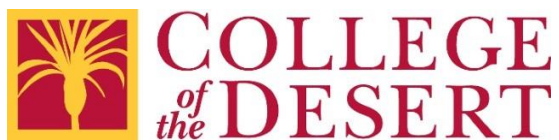
**Crime Statistics can be found in our Annual Security Report online at the College of the Desert website and typing CLERY or annual safety report in the search bar or clicking here: [Public Safety Department and Emergency Preparedness \(collegeofthedesert.edu\)](https://collegeofthedesert.edu)**



## **Desert Community College District Board of Trustees**

Bonnie Stefan, Ed.D., Chair  
Fred E. Jandt, Ph.D., Vice Chair  
Mary Jane Sanchez-Fulton, Clerk  
Aurora Wilson, Member  
Ruben Perez, Member  
Keanna Garcia, Student Trustee

Joel L. Kinnamon Ed.D., Superintendent/President



### **PREPARED BY:**

Public Safety Department &  
Emergency Preparedness  
43-500 Monterey Avenue

South Annex 16  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
760-341-2111