

ENFORCER



January 2009

News from the Office of Safety and Security at Meharry Medical College

In Memory of Howard K. Clery, Jr.

By Lt. Theresa McKinnon
Professional Accountability Unit

It is hard to believe that one year ago this January, campus safety advocate Howard K. Clery, Jr., passed away quietly at his Florida home. If you recall, the "Clery Act" is named in memory of Jeanne Clery who was tortured and murdered in her dorm room at Leigh University in April of 1986. Jeanne's parents, Howard and Connie Clery, discovered that students at Leigh University, as well as other colleges, were not notified about violent crimes on or around campus. This is when the Clerys began their crusade to protect college students all over the world and make them aware of potential dangers and threats. Through their hard work and dedication, they established many successful programs and organizations dedicated to the prevention of violent crimes on the campuses of

colleges and universities. According to Connie, they "learned one of America's best kept secrets: that our nation's college campuses were awash in alcohol, other drugs and violence." After a very successful career in business, Howard decided to devote the rest of his life to exposing this secret and making students safe, so no other family would have to experience this tragedy. Over two decades later, more than 30 state and federal laws to this effect have been passed. "Security on Campus" is recognized nationally as a force for social change, running innovative educational programs for students and school officials. This is not only Jeanne's legacy but also Howard's.

Our nation's students are vulnerable targets who must be protected. It seems that we are constantly reminded by

horrible campus shootings such as the tragedies which occurred at Virginia Tech, Northern Illinois University, Louisiana Tech College, and at Auburn University. Sadly, this trend may continue to increase; not to mention, the many other potential dangers that could occur.

Unfortunately, there is no ivory tower or academic oasis that protects our nation's students. However, what truly matters is vigilance, awareness, and a team effort from everyone involved. If this effort is combined with improved safety measures, planning and training the response will be strengthened and risks will be drastically reduced.

The Department of Campus Safety and Security strives to provide a safe and secure environment for our students, faculty, staff, and surrounding community. Additionally, we comply with all requirements and laws set forth by the Jeanne Clery Act.



Howard K. Clery, Jr.
1930-2008

Mr. Clery, along with his wife Connie, set out on a quest to provide a safe and secure environment for college students all over the United States after their daughter (Jeanne) was brutally murdered. They wanted to ensure this terrible tragedy would not happen to another individual or family. The Department of Campus Safety and Security will continue the legacy and mission of Jeanne and Howard here at Meharry Medical College to make our campus safe.

Nationwide Campus Incidents '08

Louisiana Tech College

Homicide-A 23-year-old woman killed two fellow students in a classroom at a vocational college Friday, and then killed herself, police said. The women apparently were shot in their seats in the second-floor classroom at Louisiana Technical College, Baton Rouge, Sgt. Don Kelly said.

Forbes Magazine, 2/08/08

Northern Illinois Univ.

Homicide-A 27-year old male, Steven Kazmierczak, entered a lecture hall at Northern Illinois University on February 14th, armed with a shotgun and two handguns. The shooting killed 5 students and wounded 16 others. He reportedly stopped taking his medication.

The Daily Chronicle, 2/15/08

Auburn University

Homicide- Lauren Burk, an 18-year-old student at Auburn, was found with a gunshot wound alongside a street at 9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2008. Her car was found burning in a parking lot on campus. An Alabama man confessed to robbery, rape, and torching the car.

Atlanta Journal Constitution

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY
911

ON-CAMPUS
EMERGENCY
6666

OFFICE OF SAFETY AND
SECURITY
(ON-CAMPUS)

6254
(OFF-CAMPUS)

615-327-6254
METRO POLICE
NON-EMERGENCY

615-862-8600