



Piedmont Virginia Community College

Section XII – Safety and Security Policy

XII – 30.0 Threat Response Policy

Policy #:	XII – 30.0
Effective:	September 2018
Revised:	February 2025
Responsible Dept:	Office of Finance and Administrative Services

1. Purpose

The following policy is designed to outline internal procedures for responding to a threatening incident on campus.

2. Procedures

Notification of Threat

All threats must be immediately reported to the PVCC Department of Public Safety & Campus Police.

All reported threats received by the PVCC Department of Public Safety & Campus Police shall be immediately reported to the PVCC Chief of Police.

Any threat that is a clear and present danger or any threatening person who has the means and access to carry out their threat immediately should be reported to 911 or PVCC Police, whichever call/notification would be the most expedient.

Threat Response

The PVCC Police are empowered to respond with the law enforcement means necessary to protect life and property in response to a threat that is a clear and present danger, or it is known that a threatening person has the means and access to carry out their threat immediately. The PVCC Police shall do so in the absence of the Chief of Police or if communication with the Chief will delay necessary preventative or protective law enforcement or public safety actions.

The Chief of Police investigates, analyzes, and evaluates the threat as Transient or Substantive and, if Substantive, determines if the threat is Serious or Very Serious. The Chief takes the appropriate action to protect life and public and institutional safety by, when possible, preventing or mitigating the threat through law enforcement and institutional college safety means.

The Chief of Police will report findings and actions if any immediate actions are taken. The Chief of Police will then make recommendations to the Monitoring Team (Vice President of Finance & Administrative Services, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Workforce Development, Vice President of Student Affairs) for further considerations and action was not required.

Communication and consultation may be initiated and conducted by the Chief of Police to the Monitoring Team by means of group text, a conference call, or in person.

Such communication from the Chief of Police to the Monitoring Team shall be timely as necessitated by urgency as threats are determined to be Transient, Substantive (or not clear). If Substantive, the Chief of Police will determine if the threats *are Serious* or *Very Serious*.

A. Transient Threat Response

The Monitoring Team, receiving from the Chief of Police a report and recommendation of a Transient threat shall evaluate the threat and refer the case to the appropriate college department for action. The Monitoring Team refers the case to the College Threat Assessment Team (CTAT).

B. Substantive Threat Response

The Monitoring Team, receiving from the Chief of Police a report and recommendations of a Substantive threat, whether *Serious* or *Very Serious*, shall evaluate the threat recommendation and current actions. The Monitoring Team shall determine the need for a timely warning or emergency warning. The Monitoring Team shall cause such timely or emergency warnings to be communicated to the college community and beyond. The Monitoring Team shall recommend or direct further actions and delegate the same to the appropriate college department. The Monitoring Team refers the case to the College Threat Assessment Team (CTAT).

3. Definitions

TRANSIENT THREAT: Oral, gestured, or written threat issued by a person or group that isn't likely NOT to be acted on because the person or group

- Does not have the means or access
- Did not intend physical harm
- Did not make a threat, i.e., false report

SUBSTANTIVE THREAT: Oral, gestured, or written threat issued by a person or group that could likely be acted upon. There are two types of Substantive Threats:

1. Serious Threat: A threat of assault or physical harm
2. Very Serious Threat: A threat to kill, rape or maim; arson or any threat involving weapons.