

OCHSNER CLINICAL SCHOOL POLICY	Policy #: OCS 100.05
Title: Threat of Violence and Duty to Warn	

PURPOSE

The Xavier University of Louisiana Physician Assistant Program and Ochsner Health System supports the establishment of a proactive warning system to ensure patient, student, visitor and employee safety during and after a threat of violence. It is the responsibility of all students to give appropriate warning when they hear direct or implied threats toward a patient, student, visitor, employee or OCS and OHS property.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all Xavier University of Louisiana Physician Assistant Program students.

POLICY STATEMENTS

The safety and security of our patients, students, visitors and employees are of vital importance. Acts or threats of violence made toward a patient, student, visitor or employee or made while on Ochsner property will not be tolerated from anyone. Any student with knowledge of a threat or potential threat of violence has a duty to warn appropriate Ochsner officials as outlined in this policy.

PROCEDURES/STANDARDS AND ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Any student witnessing or hearing a direct or implied threat of violence is to report it to his/her supervisor, OCS Administration, Ochsner Human Resources or Security department immediately.
- B. Students may also report a direct or implied threat by calling Corporate Safety and Security directly at (504)842-3770.
- C. The Safety and Security Department will assess the information provided and determine if the Corporate Threat of Violence (TOV) Team should be notified. If necessary, the Director of Safety and Security will notify the TOV Team.
- D. If convened, the Corporate TOV team will be responsible for considering the report, determining what action should be taken, and implementing any action or response decided upon.

- E. Students suspected of or implicated in a threat of violence may be immediately suspended from clinical rotation education pending a full investigation.

ENFORCEMENT AND EXCEPTIONS

- A. Direct or implied threats by students as well as fraudulent reports of threats by students are considered major violations of rules which may lead to immediate disciplinary action including legal action if warranted.
- B. Under this policy, decisions and/or actions may be needed to prevent harm to people or property. No existing Ochsner policy or procedure is to be interpreted in a way that would prevent this from taking place.

DEFINITIONS

- A. Threat of Violence – Examples of a threat of violence include, but are not limited to:
1. Threatening physical harm toward any other individual, his/her family, friends, associates or property.
 2. The intentional destruction or threat of destruction of Ochsner property.
 3. Harassing or threatening telephone call, emails or text messages.
 4. Stalking.
 5. Veiled threats of physical harm or other forms of intimidation.
- B. Corporate Threat of Violence Team - The Team will be comprised of persons from:
1. Human Resources
 2. Risk Management
 3. Senior Management
 4. Public Affairs
 5. Security
 6. Psychiatry Department – Ph.D.

Individual facilities may also maintain a local TOV team.