TO: College Community

DATE: Oct. 5, 2015

SUBJECT: Public Safety Announcement

The tragic shooting in Oregon serves as a sobering reminder that safety and security is both our individual and collective responsibility, and each of us contributes in important ways.

Over the weekend, the FBI and ATF (Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms) notified all area colleges and universities of social media posts directing threats of violence at an institution of higher learning near Philadelphia on Monday, October 5. While there is no threat against a specific college or university, the advisory reminds us we must vigorously monitor our surroundings and work together to keep the city safe.

The College’s Department of Safety and Security has increased security and is working with the Philadelphia Police Department to increase patrols on the College’s Main Campus and the West, Northwest and Northeast Regional Centers.

Please report suspicious activity to security at (215)751-8111 or call extension 5555 from a College phone. Call 911 to report any active threat to law enforcement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The College’s new state-of the art emergency alert system, Send Word Now, is a leader in public safety notifications and incident management. Should a weather emergency or incident occur, it will provide real-time updates as well as instructions on where to go, what to do, whom to contact, and other important information. If you are a current student or staff member, you were enrolled automatically in this public safety program.

Send Word Now will send an email message and/or a text message to the email accounts, landlines or cell phone numbers you previously provided us. To update your cell phone number or add additional devices, students must log into MyCCP. On the left hand side of the page, locate the Student Tab under the Enrollment Services channel, and click on Update Contact Information. Staff log into MyCCP. Staff must log into MyCCP, locate the Employee Tab under the Administrative Forms and Links channel, and click on Update Contact Information. If you need assistance, please contact 4ITSupport at x6000 or 4ITSupport@ccp.edu.
Safety Tips:

- Wear your college IDs during operating hours. Since the start of the current academic semester, all College personnel and students have been asked to show their student or staff IDs to enter buildings at the Main Campus and the West, Northwest and Northeast Regional Centers. Security officers stationed at checkpoints near building doorways and entryways will request the IDs as you enter. After 5 p.m., IDs are required to gain entry to our buildings and facilities.
- Participate in fire drills and other training activities that prepare the College community to respond in a manner that facilitates the work of first responders and minimizes damages and loss of life.
- If you see suspicious activity, report it immediately to security. The in-house emergency extension is 5555, and is always answered immediately by the College’s 24-hour Security staff. If calling from a cell phone or outside the College, dial 215.751.8111. For your own peace of mind, we recommend that you program this number into your cell phone. Also program an ICE (In Case of Emergency) contact into your cell phone.
- Whenever possible, keep your cell phone on vibrate while at school or work so you receive urgent public safety notifications.
- Take a few moments to identify the nearest exits in your classrooms and work spaces. Plan your exit strategy in advance to address any barriers or issues you may encounter.
- Visit the emergency response web page to review protocols and learn best practices.
- If you see something, speak up. Contact a security officer to report suspicious packages or activity. Security officers now wear new uniforms that are easily recognizable to staff or students in need of assistance. The officers also can be identified quickly by their bright yellow security vests.
- Follow us on Twitter.com/CCPedu and Facebook where you find safety tips and the latest information on College schedule changes and weather closings.

Randy Merced, a former instructor at the College, has assumed the Director of Safety and Security position. This year, the College will have security managers available during day and evening shifts. This strengthens our response during emergencies and facilitates timely communications.

As the new academic year begins, students, faculty and staff will find enhanced security measures to fortify safety and bring additional peace of mind. Please take time this week to review the safety tips and resources online and posted in the buildings.