







Maricopa County, AZ

Pandemic pushes crime down on campuses, center

 Daily Independent 4 days ago

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There were six crimes reported in 2021 — compared to 16 in 2020 and nine in 2019 — at two Mesa Community College campuses and a downtown center in the Maricopa County Community College District, according to a federally mandated campus-security report released in October.

Pandemic restrictions — including closing campuses and moving to online coursework — contributed to the fewer crimes in this latest report, Sgt. Jack McClaren of the Maricopa County Community Colleges Police Department said.





Community policing and partnerships with local law enforcement helped the MCC campuses remain mostly crime-free, McClaren said.


“MCCCPD focuses on community policing on all our campuses. Just yesterday we participated in Coffee with a Cop on the MCC campus. Many students stopped in to ask questions and were given campus safety tips. We also just released our ‘September Campus Safety Awareness Month’ tips to faculty, staff and students,” he said. “We have good partnerships with surrounding police agencies to assist us in keeping our campuses safe.

Outreach is done at campuses and centers on crime prevention and to encourage crime reporting.

“MCCCPD focuses on ongoing community policing — in-person at events and media — on our campuses to get the word out on campus safety and how to report

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students in fall 2020 and 20,351 in fall 2019, according to 45th-day headcounts in each of those years, MCC said.

Statistics must be reported


The Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act of 1990, renamed The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security and Crime Statistics Act, was enacted by Congress and signed into law in November 1990. In 1992, 2000, 2008 and 2013, Congress amended the law via the Higher Education Opportunity and Violence Against Women acts, which expanded the reporting criteria.





in; standards for campus crime reporting
clerycenter.org , the website for the nonp

“The Clery Act requires colleges and univ
seminate a public annual security report
This ASR must include statistics of campu

years, plus details about efforts taken to improve campus safety,” according to the
website.

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Crimes that are required to be listed by the colleges are, according to the report:

- Murder/non-negligent manslaughter;
- Negligent manslaughter;
- Rape;
- Fondling;
- Incest;
- Statutory rape;

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- Motor vehicle theft;
- Arson;
- Domestic violence;
- Dating violence;
- Stalking.

It also includes crimes handled by local police, such as liquor, drug and weapon vio-
lations; and hate crimes.

The MCC report can be downloaded at [mesacc.edu/college-police/policies-crime-
statistics](http://mesacc.edu/college-police/policies-crime-statistics) .




In 2021 there were four motor vehicle thefts on Mesa Community College's main campus according to the report.


In 2020 there were nine motor vehicle thefts on property; and in 2019 there were five motor vehicle theft incidents on campus.


Under arrests and disciplinary referrals, in 2021 there were none; in 2020 there were two alcohol referrals; and in 2019 there was one drug arrest, one drug referral and one alcohol referral.

No crimes were determined to be unfounded and no hate crimes were reported for all three years.

The MCCCCD Police Department office is on the west side of the SC building (building 14), on the southwest side of the campus, according to the Clery report.

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"We had several golf carts stolen (joy riding) and mostly recovered. Those golf carts are Clery reportable," he said. "To stop the thefts (joy riding) of the golf carts, MCC police has directed all staff golf carts to be secured behind a locked gate at the motor pool and/or a locking system attached to the steering wheel of the golf carts when not in use. This added deterrent has drastically reduced golf cart thefts (joy riding)."


Red Mountain campus


In 2021 there were no crimes reported at the Red Mountain Campus, 7110 E. McKellips Road in Mesa.




There were no arrests or disciplinary referrals in the past three years, no crimes were determined to be reported.

The MCCCDCD Police Department office at according to the Clery report.

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Downtown Center

One robbery on non-campus property was reported in 2021 at the Downtown Center, 145 N. Centennial Way in Mesa.

Two aggravated assaults on campus and a motor vehicle theft on nearby public property were reported in 2020; and there were no crimes reported in 2019.

There were no arrests or disciplinary referrals in 2020, 2019 or 2018. Also, in all

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The MCCCDCD Police Department office at the Downtown Center is on the fourth floor, according to the Clery report.

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