

Santa Fe College Police Department

3000 NW 83rd Street

Gainesville, FL 32606

Re: Florida Crime Prevention Association

Outstanding Crime Prevention Program

Executive Summary: The Santa Fe College Police Department encompasses all programs under the community policing “**Safe Santa Fe**” umbrella. This initiative has key aspects including branding and messaging, community policing partnerships, professional development, technology and education & crime prevention training for the college community. All of these aspects are in-line with excelling in all criteria for the “Outstanding Crime Prevention Organization” award. Most specifically, the Santa Fe College Police Department shows continual improvement of services to the (College) community, strengthening of police relations and promotion of community participation, and development of creative and innovative approaches that raise the quality and effectiveness of law enforcement.

The SF College Safe Santa Fe Initiative:

Safe Santa Fe is the branding term used to describe almost all programs and efforts that are carried out by the SF College Police Department. The **Safe Santa Fe** title is designed to ensure that all students, faculty, staff and visitors at the College are routinely and habitually thinking about safety, appropriately concerned about security and engaging in crime prevention practices in ways that will reduce crime over the years to come.

This agency implemented the "Safe Santa Fe" branding of initiatives as an umbrella for crime prevention and community policing programs. It incorporates educational events, training for students and staff, professional development for all agency members, comprehensive threat assessment, and victim services. Concepts are integrated throughout the agency, the College, and with external partners.

The Safe Santa Fe program has been so effective through 2013 that FBI UCR Part I crime declined 38% 2012 to 2013 & decreased 49% 2013 to 2014.

Additionally, in 2014, the College Resource and Planning Council conducted a college-wide analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats for strategic planning purposes. "Safe campus and police department" was identified as a notable strength and was among the top 10 strengths affirmed by the council. (Notably, no Police Department members serve on this council.)

The **Safe Santa Fe** series of initiatives relies on effective multiple partnerships, innovative and cutting-edge crime prevention and outstanding service.

Safe Santa Fe has key platforms:

1. **Branding and messaging.** The Safe Santa Fe title and logo appears consistently in all programs, presentations, messages and printed materials. The most common aspects of branding and messaging are:
 - “CampusWatch” : A series of staff training conducted to diverse areas of the College on many topics that relate to safety and security. At present, CampusWatch training programs have been presented to over 300 personnel at the College.
 - Signage. Safe Santa Fe “CampusWatch” signs have been placed all over every SF College campus and includes the emergency number, branding, and CampusWatch logo. This signage appears at the SF College’s seven (7) campuses spanning Alachua and Bradford counties.
 - Daily and Weekly messaging. The College prints an electronic newsletter daily to all staff and weekly to all students. The Police Department uses these media for frequent messages. Examples: Safe spring break practices, securing the campus, parking and other rules enforcement, and weapons on campus.
 - Social media. The College website, Facebook, twitter and all forms of traditional print and television media feature SF College and specifically safety messages prominently.
2. **Community policing partnerships.** Critical to leveraging safe practices campus-wide.
 - Internal staff: Some of the most effective internal partners has involved greater awareness of crime detection and reporting by facilities staff, often an overlooked large group of extra “eyes and ears” on campuses. Other formalized partnerships began in 2012 with training to groups such as new employees, adjunct faculty, student affairs, staff on satellite campuses and the displaced homemaker program.
 - Students: The SF College PD has conducted Safe Santa Fe training with students and most notably regularly attends the weekly Student Government meeting. All ranks of personnel attend and it is a formal and informal way to ensure that communication are two-way, timely and direct. Frequent attendance at SG has resulted in very positive feedback. Another example of student partnerships – training to two classes of mentally and physically challenged students entitled “ Adults with disabilities and personal safety.” This vulnerable population had never received this type of training before and will help them keep themselves safe.
 - Apartment complexes: The largest campus of the College is surrounded by three apartment complexes with a high percentage of students and staff. Police Department personnel have contacts with all management and have regularly distributed crime bulletins and obtained information from them. In one case, distribution of a picture of a burglary suspect resulted in management immediately identifying the offender and charges being filed just a few days later.
 - External law enforcement partners: SF College has formal mutual aid agreements with six area law enforcement agencies. The main agencies which have jurisdiction for SF College campuses share police reports on students and staff and crime analysis information. One example of mutual aid – When a well-publicized abduction occurred on the campus, both the Alachua County Sheriff’s Office and University of Florida Police Department provided uniformed law enforcement personnel on SF College properties at

no charge as additional safety, security and reassurance to the SF College community for two weeks. They worked side by side with SF College police officers.

- RAD: The nationally popular Rape Aggression Defense course is offered several times a year for free and is open to women on and off campus. The Alachua County Sheriff's Office coordinates the very popular course with SF College PD and one other law enforcement agency. This innovative and intense class averages over 15 women per class and empowers women which in turn will reduce their likelihood of crime victimization. See attached "thank you" letter.
 - Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program: SF College PD adopted this nationally recognized program as a way that SF College students could volunteer within the police department and give back to the college community as part of the **Safe Santa Fe** & "CampusWatch" programs. These volunteers are responsible for assisting the PD at large functions on campus as well as being the "eyes and ears" while on campus.
3. **Professional Development.** A college can only be safe and secure if the law enforcement personnel who are a part of that fabric are professionally trained and equipped. Training strengthens relationships with the organizations that provide the development and trust and credibility by others knowing that their police officers and agency personnel are "up to the task."
- Training provided to PD personnel has put SF College on the forefront of crime prevention practices. Currently three (3) members of the SF College Police Department's 15 sworn personnel are certified Crime Prevention through Environmental Design practitioners.
 - Critical incident response: All members of the SF College Police Department have attended CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) training. This training and subsequent certification teaches sworn law enforcement personnel how to react appropriately to situations involving mental illness or developmental disabilities. SF College has a large population of students with mental illness as well as the "adults with disabilities" program. This training has kept the SF College Police Department on the forefront of community outreach regarding crime prevention practices with these individuals.
4. **Technology and hardware**— A tool that Colleges must possess in order to have effective comprehensive crime prevention and crime deterrence.
- Surveillance. Via increased camera systems. The college with partnership from the police department has implemented over 200 cameras around the college's main campus and several cameras at the six other campuses across Alachua and Bradford counties. These cameras offer streaming video capabilities with a recording feature. These cameras have also helped curb crime in certain areas around the college and have educated the college community. The SF College Police Department in the past year has also received the capability of monitoring and recording video surveillance footage located in several traffic intersections within the PD's jurisdiction via the SmartTraffic program, which is partnered with the city of Gainesville.
5. **Safe Santa Fe education & crime prevention for the college community.** The Police Department conducts topics tailored to the needs of the College community.

- “Safe Santa Fe Days” – Annual comprehensive event which is scheduled in the spring and fall semesters. The event has grown every year since. Each day during the week, tabling, brochures, literature and a different student group partner helped emphasize safety and security at the College. College student partners included My Brothers Keeper, Student Government, Student Life and the satellite campuses. The weeklong event encompasses all seven (7) SF College campuses across both Alachua and Bradford counties. This event involves community victim services organizations as well as SF College’s own Counseling Center.
- Bicycle Registration program which was modeled after several university and municipality registration programs. Program is completely online and facilitated by the SF College Police Department’s front desk personnel. Decals are issued to individuals who register their bicycle, with the information stored digitally.
- Alcohol Awareness in the Fall and Spring Break Safety in the Spring – Large scale events coordinated by the SF College Counseling Center and SF College Police Department. Involves multiple law enforcement agencies and resources like K-9, traffic teams, a mounted unit, as well as other community organizations such as a drug coalition and the military.
- Independently developed crime prevention educational materials are disseminated to the College community at student run events, orientations, sporting events, and to the community surrounding the College. A number of these materials were developed by the PD in conjunction with SF College student input.
- Tailored specific crime reduction training programs: Mentioned elsewhere several times in this document. More recent police training to other staff at SF College has included workplace violence, active shooter response, dealing with disruption, relationships, theft prevention, CampusWatch and general safety and security overviews. The PD also offers and facilitates “Front Line Safety/Front Line Service” training to faculty and staff on all SF College campuses. Over 300 SF College faculty and staff are trained annually in general crime prevention practices.

Santa Fe College and the Santa Fe College Police Department takes safety and security seriously. This Police Department is one of only four Florida College System community colleges with a full-time on campus police department out of 28 institutions. SF College was the first public Florida community college with a sworn police force. At 17 fully sworn members and 5 full-time dispatchers, front desk and support personnel, the police department is responsible for a voluminous amount of duties related to the College the PD’s mission to providing a safe and secure campus.

The Safe Santa Fe initiative will continue to be the flagship title of an array of community policing efforts designed to ensure a safe and secure learning environment for all students, faculty, staff and visitors.