



Office of
**Campus Safety
& Security**

General Message—Safety and Security
10/27/10

Columbia College Chicago is located in one of the safest police districts in the City of Chicago. Additionally, we have a robust security force and a strong safety program incorporating community partnerships. However, some unusual recent events, including late night robberies and assaults, serve as a reminder of the inherent risks associated with urban living. As the safety and well-being of our students is always our top priority, we are taking the following immediate actions in response to these events:

- Adding one patrol vehicle and two Segway officers, on duty until 4:00 a.m., to augment the existing 24/7 patrol vehicle (four total)
- Reallocating personnel and adjusting patrol patterns to increase evening security coverage
- Conducting ongoing strategic planning discussions with the Chicago Police Department
- Reviewing security protocols to determine how to most effectively respond to events and shifting crime patterns
- Conducting mandatory residence hall security education meetings and distributing safety guidelines to all residents

We also know that University Center (525 South State Street), the shared residence hall, has enhanced their security program with two additional officers—so a total of six (five additional) security officers have been added to the campus neighborhood in the evening and night hours.

As a reminder, we encourage everyone to take the following precautions for your own personal safety:

- ***If you are confronted:*** Unless your life is in grave danger, **BE SMART—GIVE IT UP.** Do NOT attempt to fight armed offenders.
- Always assume a state of awareness.
- Travel in groups. If you must travel alone--especially between Midnight and 4:00 a.m.--take a cab when possible.
- Avoid using a cell phone or headphones while walking the streets.
- Avoid walking in poorly lit areas, like alleys and construction sites.
- Avoid engaging in conversation with unknown individuals.
- Respect your instincts and immediately report individuals exhibiting suspicious behavior to the Chicago Police at 911 or to Columbia Security Command at (312) 369-1111.

We appreciate everyone's contributions to maintaining our safe and vibrant community. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Campus Safety and Security, 312-369-6988.