POLICY:

A. Rights. Stockton University recognizes a member of the University community to be no less a citizen than any other member of the American society. As citizens, members of the campus community enjoy the same basic rights and are bound by the same responsibilities to respect the rights of others, as are all citizens. Among the basic rights are freedom to learn, freedom of speech, freedom of peaceful assembly, association, and protest, freedom of political beliefs, and freedom from personal force, violence, abuse, or threats of the same.

As a citizen, each member of the campus community also has the right to organize his own personal life and behavior, so long as it does not violate the law or agreements voluntarily entered into, and does not interfere with the rights of others or the educational process. The University is not a sanctuary from the law and the University does not stand in loco parentis for its members.

Stockton exists for the transmission of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, the development of students, and the general well-being of society. The rules, regulations, and procedures enumerated in this section are designed to establish standards of civil and considerate behavior fundamental to a realization of these goals. The responsibility to respect and uphold these regulations must be shared by all members of Stockton University community. All persons are held responsible for being fully informed of these regulations.
B. Campus Code, Civil Law, and Civil Authorities. The regulations herein shall govern the conduct of all staff, students, employees, visitors, and other licensees and invitees while such persons are on the University campus or in University-owned or University-controlled facilities. These regulations shall not preclude resort to applicable federal, state, and local laws or ordinances. All persons who violate the law must expect to pay the penalties of the law.

When there is an imminent danger to persons or property on the University and/or when the University’s resources are not adequate to sustain normal operation of the University, the University president may request assistance from civil law enforcement officers.

It should be stressed that off-campus law enforcement officers have legal access to the campus at all times. When federal, state, or local law enforcement officers have reason to believe the law is being violated on the campus, they may proceed to take appropriate action on their own initiative, without the request or approval of the University to do so.

C. Statutes. The pertinent New Jersey Statutes on conduct at educational institutions follow:

1. 2A.149A-1. - Entry into Educational Premises to Commit Indictable Offense.
   Any person who enters any building, structure, or place, used for any educational purpose with intent of committing therein any indictable offense shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or a fine of not more than $10,000 or both.

2. 2A.149A-2. - Entry into Educational Premises to Disrupt Classes.
   Any person, other than a bona fide student therein or parent or legal guardian of such student or a teacher, administrator, or other school employee while in the performance of his duties, who enters any building, structure, or place used for any educational purpose with the intent of disrupting classes or of otherwise interfering with the peace and good order of the place shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

3. 2A.149A-3. - Interference with Students, Teachers, Others.
   Any person who obstructs, interferes with, assaults, or threatens bodily harm to any student, teacher, administrator, school employee, or parent, legal guardian, of any student, or any other person lawfully seeking to enter a school building or any other building, structure, or place used for any educational purpose shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for not more than 5 years, or a fine of not more than $10,000 or both.
4. 2A:151-41.1. - Firearms Prohibited.

Any person other than those enumerated in section 2A:151-43 of the New Jersey Statutes, who carries, holds, or possesses on or about his clothes or person, or who keeps otherwise in his possession or control while on the premises of any public school, college or university, any firearm as defined in Section 2A:151-1 of the New Jersey Statutes is guilty of a high misdemeanor.

It shall be no defense to a violation of Section 1 of this act that the defendant possessed a valid permit to carry a pistol or revolver or a valid firearms purchaser identification card, unless the holder of such permit or card was in the employ of the school, college, or university as a security guard.

Approval History:

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