Community Safety: CAMPUS VEHICLES, UNIFORMS, AND EQUIPMENT (VUE) PROGRESS REPORT

As of March 1, 2023

GUIDANCE FOR COMPLETION

Please complete and submit by March 31, 2023.

You may also email it to the Systemwide Director of Community Safety, jody.stiger@ucop.edu

Recommendation 16 of the Vehicles, Uniforms, and Equipment (VUE) Workgroup Guidelines and Recommendations provided that:

In consultation with the UC community, campuses and medical centers are to develop an implementation plan regarding these guidelines and recommendations by March 31, 2023.

a. These plans must address how each recommendation will be achieved and may prioritize actions based on resource availability and considerations such as vehicle and equipment turnover.

b. All recommendations should be implemented as soon as practically possible

Final reports will be published on the public-facing UC community safety website. Please provide a detailed description of your campus’s implementation of each listed recommendation. Additionally, pictures or photos are highly encouraged.

CAMPUS NAME: UC SAN DIEGO

PROGRESS AND UPDATES

Provide updates on progress.

Recommendation 1 — Distinctiveness of sworn police officers’ VUE

All public safety providers who are not sworn police officers will not have badges, stars, patches, or other overt VUE similarities to those of sworn police officers.

Achieved

Yes

Implementation detail / description of actions taken

All such providers meet this recommendation.
Recommendation 2 — Distinctiveness of sworn police officer titles

Campuses will not call any public safety personnel, other than sworn police officers, “officers.”

Achieved

Implementation detail / description of actions taken

Residential Security Officers title was changed to University Safety Officials. Student Community Service Officer title has not yet been changed because of the institutional history associated with this popular program, the student’s desire to maintain the existing name, and because significant funding was spent on new uniforms just prior to issuance of the VUE recommendations. Uniform changes will be explored as uniforms are worn out and replaced.

Recommendation 3 — VUE of non-sworn public safety personnel

Seeking to decrease the visibility of public safety individuals who look like sworn police officers, no other public safety personnel will look, carry equipment, or drive vehicles substantially similar to those of sworn police officers.

a. Parking enforcement personnel uniforms should consist of a polo-style uniform with an embroidered logo and the words “PARKING” printed across their back. Their vehicles shall be clearly identifiable as parking enforcement.

Achieved

Yes

Implementation detail / description of actions taken

All non-sworn safety personnel look substantially different than police officers and are not issued equipment or drive vehicles that are similar in appearance to police officers. Review of parking officer
uniforms is underway. The recalling of the badges will be completed by 3/31/2023.

**Recommendation 4 — Sworn police roles**

Campuses should evaluate a sworn police role to respond to calls for service that do not require a visibly armed and traditionally uniformed sworn police and to serve in a campus and community affairs-related position. These officers’ uniforms should be distinguishable from those of regular patrol police officers, such that uniforms should be a polo shirt or plain clothes.

*Achieved*

Yes

*Implementation detail / description of actions taken*

Officers assigned to community relations events have the option to wear an “administrative” uniform consisting of a polo shirt. During dignitary protection-type assignments officers are assigned in plain clothes.

**Recommendation 5 — Alternative vehicles for sworn-officer patrols**

Campuses should evaluate and increase the use of alternative vehicles other than traditional patrol car — for example bicycles, e-bikes, electric vehicles, or golf-carts — for sworn-officer patrols.

*Achieved*

Yes

*Implementation detail / description of actions taken*

Service provided by sworn officers have an appropriate mix of distinguishable patrol vehicles, bikes and non-police vehicles bearing university markings.

**Recommendation 6 — Load-bearing vests**

Load-bearing vests will not be issued as standard equipment for new hires of sworn police officers.

a. Understanding the potential needs for load-bearing vests (not limited to ergonomics, officer safety, etc.), such vests will be approved on a case-by-case basis by the Police Chief or designee.

*Achieved*

Yes
Implementation detail / description of actions taken

Concealable vests are issued as standard equipment for new hires. Approval for external vests is evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Recommendation 7 — Less than lethal weapons

In addition to existing required equipment, including firearms, less than lethal weapons shall be required equipment for all sworn police officers and carried on their person as required equipment.

Achieved

Yes

Implementation detail / description of actions taken

All sworn officers have access to a variety of less lethal equipment, carried both on their person and in their vehicles.

Recommendation 8 — UCPD identification

Any marking of “POLICE” must identify that the police officer, equipment, or vehicle is that of the University of California, such that a marking, badge, or insignia shall say “UC POLICE” or “CAMPUS POLICE” or “UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA POLICE”, or similar.

Achieved

Yes

Implementation detail / description of actions taken

All such “POLICE” markings are accompanied by appropriate UC Police insignia.

Recommendation 9 — UCPD sworn police patrol cars

Sworn police patrol cars should be distinguishable from local law enforcement authorities, with patrol cars displaying “University of California Police” or the campus name with any marking of police. Campuses and medical centers are encouraged to move from a black and white patrol car to a solid white patrol car to distinguish the vehicle from local law enforcement.

Achieved

Yes
Implementation detail / description of actions taken

All patrol cars have different markings than surrounding agencies and are marked as “University of California” vehicles.

Recommendation 10 — Need for fully-uniformed officer

Campuses and medical centers should develop procedures to determine if a fully-uniformed patrol police officer is needed for specific events and functions. For example, plain-clothed police officers providing security and protection services for visiting dignitaries.

Achieved

Yes

Implementation detail / description of actions taken

Upon requests for such special events, primary consideration is given to providing officers in plain clothes. Additional officers are receiving training in “Protection of Public Officials” courses to be able to provide adequate plain clothes staffing.

Recommendation 11 — Uniforms for medical center non-sworn public safety personnel

Medical centers should reimagine security services by having a public safety ambassador wearing a professional blazer-style uniform and more typical safety or security personnel wearing a utility-style uniform.

Achieved

Yes

Implementation detail / description of actions taken

UC San Diego Health Security department wears a uniforms with patches and badges in compliance with BSIS requirements.
Recommendation 12 — VUE of unarmed security and public safety services personnel

Given the importance of unarmed security and public safety services as part of the UC Community Safety Plan and each location’s tiered response models, campuses and medical centers with personnel in this tier shall adopt the minimum for systemwide consistency:

a. These personnel shall not carry a firearm.

b. Identification: Non-sworn safety personnel with a primary role of ensuring safety and security shall be identified systemwide as “University of California Protective Services”. Campuses will not identify these individuals as officers, but as protective services, community partners, public safety partners, or another similar title.

c. Uniform: Clearly distinguishable from sworn police officers, such as khaki utility pants and a light blue uniform or polo shirt, with insignia that identifies the individual as “University of California Protective Services.”

d. Equipment: Duty belt to hold a radio, flashlight, and a self-defense device, such as pepper spray.

e. Vehicles: Identifiable as part of UC protective services, with no stars or other markings similar to those of sworn police patrol cars.

Achieved

Yes

Implementation detail / description of actions taken

All aspects of this recommendation have been satisfied on the main campus, with the exception of the use of “University of California Protective Services” title. Non-sworn personnel are referred to by titles clearly separating them from sworn police officers.
Recommendation 13 — VUE of mental health and student service professionals

Mental health and student service professionals responding to a known mental health emergency call as part of a campus’ tiered response model must wear professional, clinical, or similar attire.

   a. They must wear a hanging style photograph identification card, which shall indicate that they are mental health, clinical professionals, or another type of safety responder.

   b. The equipment they carry should be directly related to their responsibilities within the campus’ tiered response model.

   c. If they are required by the campus to carry equipment on their person, a smock-type vest is recommended with insignia identifying them as mental health professionals.

Achieved

Yes

Implementation detail / description of actions taken

Members of Triton CORE (Compassionate Response) team meet these recommendations:

Recommendation 14 — VUE of student safety partners

Student Safety Partners should highlight their role as student-peers trained to provide safety escorts to fellow students and staff. Their uniforms should consist of polo-style shirts with no stars, badges, police department patches, or logos. The campus mascot and campus colors should be utilized as a part of the uniform.

   a. Campuses that use the word officer in the identification of these personnel should reimage these positions as student safety partners.

   b. When providing safety escorts, a hanging style photograph identification card must be visible indicating that they are students.
c. Their uniforms should have reflective or other high-visibility elements for night-time safety.

**Achieved**

Yes

**Implementation detail / description of actions taken**

Most student safety partners do not wear a uniform but are in possession of a displayed ID card. All safety escort providers are readily identified with uniforms in accordance with this recommendation to include a hanging style or lanyard-worn ID card.

**Recommendation 15 — Changes to VUE**

Any changes to VUE for public safety personnel shall be made in consultation with the campus’ responsible administration officer and with the systemwide director of community safety.

**Achieved**

Yes

**Implementation detail / description of actions taken**

Appropriate changes and decisions have been made in accordance with this recommendation.

**Recommendation 16 — VUE implementation plan**

In consultation with the UC community, campuses and medical centers are to develop an implementation plan regarding these guidelines and recommendations by March 31, 2023.

a. These plans must address how each recommendation will be achieved and may prioritize actions based on resource availability and considerations such as vehicle and equipment turnover.

b. All recommendations should be implemented as soon as practically possible

**Achieved**

Yes

**Implementation detail / description of actions taken**

We have held numerous listening and review sessions across the campus advising of the changes and their implementation. We have presented to a diverse student population with the former interim and current Chiefs and VC Administration participation in several town hall meetings and sessions with concerned student leaders arranged by Student Affairs and EDI leadership over the past several years.
Other updates