POLICY:

Ocean County College will issue campus emergency notifications to inform the College community about emergency or dangerous incidents in and around the campus.

ADOPTED: August 24, 2017

PROCEDURE

The College Safety and Security Office is authorized to send emergency notifications through the selected contracted vendor to the OCC community if it is determined that there is an emergency or dangerous situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of some or all of its members. Situations that may warrant an emergency notification include, but are not limited to:

- An emergency incident in progress: active shooter, bomb threat, civil unrest, and evacuation
- Potential impending emergency incidents, such as tornado warnings and other serious weather events
- Safety messages regarding suspicious persons, area or school closures, and crimes against persons where the suspect is not apprehended
- Status messages, including termination of a threat, updates, or re-opening of the campus or buildings

The College Safety and Security Office shall, without delay and taking into account the safety of the College community, determine the content of the notification and initiate the notification system, unless issuing a notification that will, in the judgment of the first responders (including, but not limited to, the Toms River or Stafford Township Police Departments and/or Fire Departments) compromise the efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency. Before sending a message, the incident must be confirmed through one or more of the following methods:

1. Confirmation of an emergency in progress is subject to:

   a. Confirmation of the incident by an emergency responder in the area
   b. Visual confirmation via CCTV systems
   c. Audible confirmation either in person or via telephone systems
   d. Three unique reports of the incident from members of the public or College community

2. Confirmation of an impending emergency is subject to verification of the incident by an emergency responder or relevant agency

The notification system will be tested during the Fall and Spring semesters. Users opt in to receive text messages, but all OCC community members will receive the notification via email. OCC community members can sign up to receive messages through Viking Alert.   For   additional   information,   visit: https://ocean.sendwordnow.com/LicensePage.aspx.

ADOPTED: August 24, 2017