

SAFETY PROCEDURES

January 2023

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Washington County Community College does not discriminate as proscribed by federal and/or state law on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, including gender identity or expression, age, genetic information, disability, marital, parental or Vietnam era veteran status in specified programs and activities. Inquiries about the College's compliance with, and policies that prohibit discrimination on, these bases may be directed to:

Tatiana Osmond, Affirmative Action Officer

Washington County Community College One College Drive Calais, ME 04619 Ph: (207) 454-1094 Fax: (207) 454-1026 tosmond@wccc.me.edu

Tyler Stoldt, ADA & Title IX Coordinator

Washington County Community College One College Drive Calais, ME 04619 Ph: (207) 454-1032 Fax: (207) 454-1026 tstoldt@wccc.me.edu

United States Department of Education Office for Civil Rights

33 Arch Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02110 Ph: (617) 289-0111 Fax: (617) 289-0150 TTY/TDD: (617) 289-0063 OCR.Boston@ed.gov and/or

Maine Human Rights Commission (MHRC)

51 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0051 Ph: (207) 624-6050 Fax: (207) 624-6063 TTY/TDD: (207) 624-6064 www.state.me.us and/or

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

475 Government Center Boston, MA 02203 Toll-Free: 1-800-669-4000 Ph: (617) 565-3200 Fax: (617) 565-3196 TTY: (617) 565-3204 or 1.800.669.6820 www.eeoc.gov

Procedures for Emergency Calls

Do the following if a situation involves a fire, personal injury or other emergency that may pose a threat to someone's health or safety. It is important to give clear and concise information. Please use the information below when placing a call to 911. Do not hesitate! Call 911 even if in doubt.

Call 911 then call the WCCC Emergency line at 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from an off-campus phone, if safe to do so.

My name is ______. I am at Washington County Community College. There is an emergency (describe the emergency). The directions to where I am are:

Building: _____

Room Number: _____

My Call Back Phone Number:

Description of how to get to where you are:

Emergency Notification Systems and Timely Warnings

The college uses RAVE Alert and Vigilance Software to provide emergency alerts and timely warnings during active incidents. A variety of items occur when the systems are activated, depending on the type of emergency situation. This may include audio/visual alerts on campus as well as text message, email, and voice calls through RAVE. All WCCC Employees are empowered to activate the emergency notification system through Vigilance to provide immediate alerts during critical incidents. Employees can find training on the Vigilance Notification System on the Safety and Security Tab of the MyWCCC Portal. All WCCC Alert notifications will be labeled as either **Emergency, Critical, or Urgent**. **Emergency messages** are for situations that pose an immediate threat to life, health, and/or property, and require urgent action to respond to, lessen or avert potential impacts. Drill and test messages that simulate an emergency also qualify as emergency messages because of their crucial part in allowing organizations to practice proper response measures. **Critical messages** are for situations that do NOT threaten life, health and/or property at time of sending and do NOT carry sufficient risk to categorize as an emergency. **Urgent messages** are for situations that require attention but are not an emergency or critical. An example of this is class cancellation due to instructor illness.

Procedure for Active Threat/Terrorist or Similar Event

This policy is to provide an emergency response plan to alert students, staff, faculty, and visitors that an active threat appears to be actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people on the campus or in a facility on the campus. All WCCC employees are required to watch the FBI's active shooter video: <u>https://www.fbi.gov/about/partnerships/office-of-partner-engagement/active-shooter-resources/responding-to-an-active-shooter-crisis-situation</u>

Purpose

To outline procedures for when an active threat or terrorist event (i.e. individual with a weapon), has been identified placing students, staff, faculty and visitors in danger. The procedure will call for buildings or areas inside a building not considered under threat to be secured thus preventing any potential violence from spreading to them.

Crisis Response Team

The following outlines the Crisis Response Team members in the event of an active threat. Other team members will be added as needed.

- 1. OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY: College President or designee
- 2. **DIRECT IMPLEMENTATION**: Director of Facilities and Dean of Enrollment Management and Student Services
- 3. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS RESPONSIBILITY: Dean of Finance and Administration
- 4. **EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS RESPONSIBILTIY:** College President and Director of Human Resources, Communications and Development, or designee

Notification of Threat

Anyone with knowledge of a threatening situation or incident that could affect the safety and security of the College and/or its occupants should activate the Vigilance Campus Alert System, call **911**, then call the WCCC Emergency line at 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from an off-campus phone, when safe to do so. The Campus Alert System will sound with a siren followed by the following messages: "Run, Hide, Fight."

INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL INDIVIDUALS IN THE EVENT OF AN ACTIVE THREAT ON COLLEGE PROPERTY

RUN: When an active threat is in your vicinity

- If there is an escape path, attempt to evacuate—look for doors and windows.
- Evacuate whether others agree to or not.
- Head away from the shooter. Head to one of rally points, if safe to do so.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Help others escape if possible.
- Prevent others from entering the area.
- DO NOT ACTIVATE THE FIRE ALARM—unless there is visible fire, or you smell smoke that threatens an individual's safety.

Call **911**, when safe to do so and then call the WCCC Emergency line at 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from an off-campus phone and let the person know your location—whether on campus or off campus.

If you can't get out safely, you need to **HIDE**.

HIDE: If an evacuation is not possible, find a place to hide:

- Lock and or blockade the door.
- Close and lock the windows.
- Turn off the lights.
- Silence your cell phone.
- Hide behind large objects.
- Remain very quiet.

Your hiding place should:

- Be out of the shooter's view.
- Provide protections if shots are fired in your direction.
- Not trap or restrict your options for movement.

Call **911**, when safe to do so and then call the WCCC Emergency line at 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from an off-campus phone.

If you can't hide or your life is in danger, you need to **FIGHT**.

FIGHT: As a last resort, and only if your life is in danger:

- Attempt to injure or incapacitate the individual causing harm.
- Act with physical aggression.
- Improvise weapons.
- Commit to your plan and take actions.

Call **911**, when safe to do so and then call the WCCC Emergency line at 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from an off-campus phone.

When law enforcement arrives:

- Remain calm and follow instructions.
- Keep your hands visible at all times—do not reach for any items.
- Avoid pointing or yelling.
- EMS is on the way to help those injured. Law Enforcement are not acting as EMS and their first priority is to eliminate the active threat first, not to provide medical care.

Elimination of Threat

When the incident is resolved, law enforcement officials will notify appropriate College personnel, who will give the "**all clear**" signal to the campus community, through the Camps Alert System.

As noted in the WCCC Clery Report, MCCS policy strictly prohibits the use of firearms on campus. The MCCS policy is section 803 and can be found at:

https://mymccs.me.edu/ICS/icsfs/Policy_803.pdf?target=422e6688-764c-4472-aa1d4a4d8ef088b6. Please see appendix E.

Procedure for Campus Lockdown

Certain emergencies, outside of active shooter situations, may require the campus to initiate a lockdown. A lockdown is issued when there is a threat to students and campus staff and faculty members, other than an active shooter. Because there are many different emergency conditions that may require a lockdown, all individuals should follow the instructions provided through RAVE Alert and the campus emergency notification system speakers. These types of situations are fluid and may change rapidly; therefore, monitoring RAVE for any and all updates becomes critical.

College lockdown procedures require the cooperation of the faculty, staff and students. The following are best practices for having an effective lockdown.

Faculty and staff should do the following if a lockdown is ordered:

- Lock all doors and windows immediately. If a door can't be locked, attempt to quickly block the door with heavy items.
- Never open doors or windows unless ordered to do so by a safety or school official. Always ask for documentation from an official to confirm their identity.
- Turn off all lights and close the blinds or curtains.
- Instruct all students to stay low and away from the windows and doors.
- Keep students inside of the classroom or inside of the building, depending on instructions received in the lockdown notice.
- Silence televisions, cell phones and other electronics.
- Clear hallways, bathrooms and any area or room that cannot be thoroughly secured, depending on instructions received in the lockdown notice.
- Account for every student in the room.
- Assist those with special needs.
- Remain indoors and under lockdown until you receive an "all clear" from authorized personnel.

Students should abide by the following rules during a campus lockdown:

- Immediately alert a faculty or staff member if you are aware of any information potentially related to the incident.
- Remain quiet, still, calm and alert.
- Follow all instructions.
- Only use cellular devices if it is an emergency or if instructed to do so.

Bomb Threats

The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe procedure to handle a bomb threat made against this facility. Bomb threats usually come by telephone (but may come by various means), if this should occur, the following procedure should be followed:

Ask who, where, what when, why:

- 1. Who: Ask the caller who they are. FBI case studies show that most callers want you to ask who they are so that they feel empowered.
- 2. Where: Ask where the bomb is located. Listen carefully; note if the caller has a good idea of the campus lay out, if the caller if familiar with terms that are used here.
- 3. What: Ask the caller what the bomb looks like. What will make it explode, what type of bomb?

Get as much detail as possible.

- 4. When: Ask when the bomb is supposed to go off.
- 5. Why: Ask the caller why they are doing this? It might be someone that is known at the College.

Be aware of any distinguishing voice characteristics or background noise. If possible, ask the questions on the Bomb Threat Call Checklist found in **Appendix B.**

Steps to follow after a bomb threat is called in:

- 1. Activate the Bomb Threat Icon on the Vigilance Notification System to immediately notify the Critical Incident Team. You may also call 207-454-1099.
- 2. A Dean or the College President will determine whether to evacuate the campus or individual buildings based on the circumstances of the threat (**DO NOT activate any fire alarms unless there is visible smoke or signs of a fire**, an evacuation may not be the best course of action).
- 3. Notify the person in charge of your present location and all details regarding the call.
- 4. Scan your worksite location for any suspicious items. If suspicious items are found evacuate the area to a safe location. Either inside the building or to a designated rally point.
- 5. If an evacuation is ordered, do not return to the campus building until instructed to do so by until an official all-clear message is received through the RAVE alert system.
- 6. Direct any inquires by the press to the President's Office or Manager of Operations & HR.

Building Evacuation

If a building evacuation is determined to be the best course of action, supervisors must inform all employees of the evacuation plan. In addition, a security sweep of the egress route, rally points used for assembly and surrounding areas should be performed. Employees must be familiar with evacuation plans for the buildings in which you are located or visiting. When entering an office or other environment check for the evacuation directions.

All faculty members are responsible for reviewing the evacuation plan for classrooms and shops with all students at the beginning of each semester.

- 1. Evacuation maps with primary exit routes and designated rally points are posted in classroom, shops, and college areas in the event an evacuation of the building becomes necessary.
- 2. Except for medical emergencies, elevators should not be used for emergency evacuation.
- 3. Special health problems and needs (such as a "handicapped accessible" means of evacuation) need to be addressed in advance by contacting Accessibilities Specialist in order to make proper provisions for these individuals.
- 4. All should follow the procedures outlined below in case it becomes necessary to evacuate the building.
 - a. Remain calm.
 - b. Keep talking and confusion to a minimum.
 - c. Exit in an orderly fashion with no more than two people side-by-side. Walk, do not run to exits.
 - d. Close all doors as you leave.
 - e. Do not jam or crowd exits.
 - f. Use the stairwells for evacuation.
 - g. Assist any persons with disabilities or notify emergency personnel of their location.
 - h. Exit the building and find concealment and cover until an official all-clear message is received through the RAVE alert system. After receiving the all-clear, move to your designated rally point and determine if anyone from your classroom or office space is unaccounted for. Wait at your rally point until a critical response team member checks in with you. You will be notified by proper authorities when it is safe to return to your building.

Fire Emergency

General Information Regarding Fire Emergencies

Maintenance personnel know the location of all alarms, stairs, and extinguishers to use in case
of an emergency. The maintenance personnel will supervise and aid in the evacuation and
assist instructors in conducting a head count at the rally points. Classroom, shop teachers and
staff supervisors are in charge of evacuating their areas with the help of the maintenance
personnel.

Maintenance personnel will check fire extinguishers, EXIT signs and lights in stairwells periodically to ensure equipment is properly functioning. Any concerns found must be reported, immediately, to the Director of Facilities at 1067 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1067 from an off-campus phone.

It is important that the fire doors in the corridors be kept closed at all times. Do not prop them open. It is not only in violation of the fire safety code, but, should a fire occur, closed doors will prevent smoke and flames from spreading more rapidly.

Fire Procedures

Fire alarm pull stations are located throughout the hallways in all buildings on campus. These alarms are connected to the local fire department. Upon the ringing of the fire alarm, the building will be evacuated immediately in an orderly manner utilizing one of the exits located on the emergency exit maps. Each classroom, office, lab, shop area, and main corridor has a map with primary routes of exit. It is your responsibility to know these exits and alternative exits incase the primary exits are blocked by heavy smoke, or fire. Exit the building and find <u>concealment</u> and <u>cover</u> until an official all-clear message is received through the RAVE alert system. <u>After receiving the all-clear</u>, move to your designated rally point and determine if anyone from your classroom or office space is unaccounted for. Wait at your rally point until a critical response team member checks in with you. If you see visible flames or smoke, or you're notified of such—Remain Calm.

- 1. Activate the nearest fire alarm pull station.
- 2. Close all doors and turn off lights as you leave.
- 3. Exit in an orderly fashion (walk) with no more than two people side-by-side. Do not run to exit building.
- 4. Do not jam or crowd exits.
- 5. Use stairwells for evacuation. Do not use the elevator for fire evacuations. If you cannot exit the building via a door, exit via a window, if safe, or call **911** and inform them of your location.
- 6. Persons with physical disabilities or those who are unable to navigate stairs should notify the nearest person and go to designated stairwell; if safe. Call **911** and let them know your location and that you cannot exit the building.
- 7. Should you become caught in heavy smoke, crouch down below smoke levels, take short breaths through your nose and crawl to the stairwell.
- 8. DO NOT re-enter the building until the fire department indicates it is safe.
- 9. Do not attempt to fight the fire unless it appears to be containable and you are trained in the use of an appropriate portable fire extinguisher. When using a fire extinguisher, remember the acronym **PASS: Pull, Aim, Squeeze & Sweep**.

Call the WCCC Emergency line at 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from an off-campus phone, when safe to do so.

Duties of College Personnel in Case of a Fire Emergency

Know the fire regulations, especially ones that affect your designated area. Although maintenance personnel are trained in location of pull stations, extinguishers, etc., it is also the responsibility of faculty

and staff to know these locations. Upon hearing the fire alarm, notify all students and co-workers in your area and evacuate the building.

As you are exiting and when safe to do so:

- 1. Perform a quick check of your area to ensure that everyone is evacuating the area.
- 2. Ensure that any persons with disabilities are receiving necessary assistance to evacuate the building. If you are unable to help someone evacuate; call 911 (in a real emergency) and let them know the person's location and that they cannot exit the building.
- 3. Ensure that all fire doors are closed and lights are turned off.
- 4. Maintenance staff will check the elevator to make sure that no one is trapped inside.

Medical and Personal Injury Emergency

If the emergency involves injury and others are around, call for assistance from another person. Stay with the injured person, and ask the other person to call **911**, when safe to do so and then call the WCCC Emergency line at 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from an off-campus phone. Direct the other person to wait for emergency personnel near a main entrance and direct them to the scene of the accident or illness (if the dispatcher does not require them to remain on the line). If you are alone, do not leave the person alone for longer than is necessary to make the **911** call. Activate the campus Vigilance System, if necessary.

- 1. Be prepared to give the following information to emergency personnel:
 - a. Nature of the emergency
 - b. Location of the emergency
 - c. Your name and contact information
- 2. Be prepared to assist emergency personnel by remaining on the telephone to give necessary information and answer questions.
- 3. Avoid unnecessary movement or action which may cause further injury.
- 4. After the emergency is cleared, the incident should be documented with the Business Manager.

Do not attempt to aid the ill/injured person unless you are trained in emergency first aid. There is a medical kit for minor first aid located in many departments and offices. Ensure that this kit is properly stocked at all times. Notify Facilities Manager if items need replenishing. First Aid kit locations can be found in **Appendix A**. Calais Community Hospital is the local medical facility in Calais – 24 Hospital Lane, 454-7521.

Power Failure

In the event of a power failure, notify the Director of Facilities at **1067** from a campus phone or **454-1067** from an off-campus phone or **214-4806**. If the failure occurs after 4:30 pm, call **(207) 214-3391**. If a power failure should occur, the building fire alarm system, exit signs, and stairwell lights will be powered by an emergency source. While in most cases evacuation of a building will not be necessary, you will be informed by the College if power cannot be restored and if the situation could lead to unsafe conditions. Facilities Management employees will verify that no other emergency accompanies the power failure and should also check to ensure that no one is trapped in an elevator. If a power failure is associated with a fire emergency, all procedures for evacuation of the building should be followed.

Suspicious Package & Objects

CHARACTERISTICS OF A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE

This procedure provides basic information relating to suspicious packages or items. It can be used for any type of package or object, including those with unknown contents. Characteristics of a suspicious package may include rigid or bulky; lopsided of uneven; wrapping in string; badly written or misspelled labels, generic or incorrect titles; excessive postage, no postage, foreign writing, postage, or return address; missing, nonsensical, our unknown return address; leaks, stains, powders, or protruding materials; and ticking, vibration, or other sound.

IF YOU ARE HOLDING A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE / OBJECT:

- Gently set the item down on a solid surface or on the floor. If there is powder or liquid, try to set the item down in a container like a trash can or bucket.
- Evacuate others from the immediate area.
- Leave the immediate area and proceed to the next set of directions.
- If delivered by a private citizen, complete "Suspicious Description Form" located in **Appendix D** or the Student Services Office. Dial 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from a non-campus phone and provide the package location and description.

IF YOU LOCATE A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE / OBJECT:

- DO NOT activate the fire alarm system.
- DO NOT touch or move the object.
- Call campus officials at 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from a non- campus phone and provide the package location and description. Activate the Vigilance System, if possible.
- Notify a Dean or the President of the College.

• If delivered by a private citizen, complete the "Suspicious Description Form" in **Appendix D** or the Student Services Office. Request other witnesses to remain nearby to speak with emergency personnel. Remain available to assist first responders.

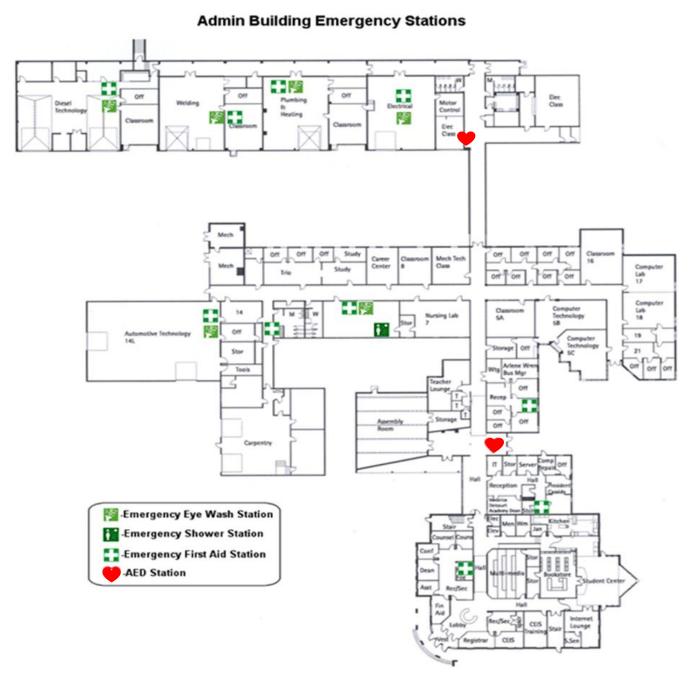
Violence in the Workplace

Washington County Community College recognizes that a workplace must be free of threats and violence. WCCC does not tolerate threats, harassment, or violence in the workplace. If an employee or student verbalizes potential threats or violent behavior, please contact the nearest dean or if you cannot reach either of these people, please call the WCCC Emergency line at 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454-1099 from an off-campus phone. WCCC will work with impacted employees and students to provide information regarding services—see **Appendix C**. Employees should read and understand Maine Community College System policies 202 Sexual Harassment, Sexual Assault and Consensual Relationships, policies 201.1/202.1 College Procedures for Discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Affirmative Action and 501.1 Guidelines for Sexual Misconduct and Assault and 501.2 Guidelines for Sexual Assault First Responders.

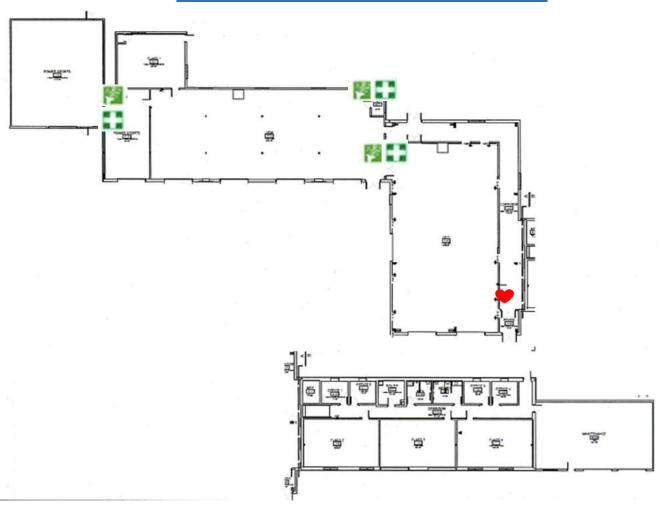
APPENDICES

- A. FIRST AID, AED, EYE WASH/SHOWER LOCATIONS
- B. BOMB THREAT CHECKLIST
- C. LISTING OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES AND OTHER RESOURCES
- D. SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE
- E. MCCS POLIC 803 FIREARMS

APPENDIX A FIRST AID / AED LOCATIONS—RIVERVIEW HALL



APPENDIX A FIRST AID / AED LOCATIONS—HOWLAND HALL

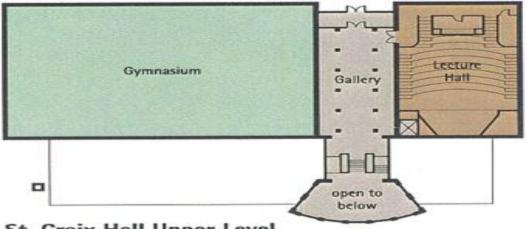




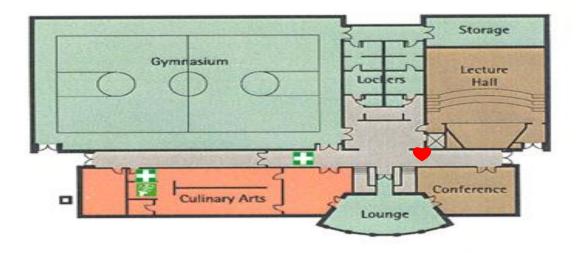
AED Station

APPENDIX A FIRST AID / AED LOCATION—ST. CROIX HALL

St. Croix Hall Emergency Stations



St. Croix Hall Upper Level (2,000 sf)





Emergency Eye Wash Station Emergency Shower Station Emergency First Aid Station AED Station

APPENDIX B BOMB THREAT CHECKLIST

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOMB THREAT CHECKLIST

If you receive a call regarding a possible bomb threat, remain calm. Your goal is to try and keep the caller on the line as long as possible and get as much information about the incident as possible.

QUESTIONS TO ASK:	CALLER'S VOICE:
1. When is the bomb going to explode?	Calm Nasal
2. Where is the bomb right now?	Stutter Loud
3. What does the bomb look like?	Laughter Slow
4. What kind of bomb is it?	Rasp Crying Rapid Deep
5. What will cause the bomb to explode?	Normal Distinct Slurred Whispered Surred Surred
6. Did you place the bomb?	Ragged Clearing Throat Deep Breathing Cracking Voice
7. Why?	Disguised Accent
8. What is address?	Familiar (If voice is familiar, who did it sound like?)
9. What is your name?	BACKGROUND SOUNDS:
10. What is the number indicated by the caller-ID?	Street noises Factory machinery Voices Animal noises Crockery Clear
Exact wording of Bomb Threat:	PA System Static Music Long distance Motor Booth Other (Please specify)
	BOMB THREAT LANGUAGE:
Male Female	Taped Incoherent Message read by threat maker Irrational
Approximate Age:	
Time call received:A.M. P.M.	REMARKS:
Date Call received:	
Your Name:	
Your Position:	_
Your Telephone Number:	
Date Checklist completed:	

APPENDIX C SEXUAL MISCONDUCT RESPONSE AGENCIES AND OTHER RESOURCES

AMHC Sexual Assault Services

Aroostook, Hancock & Washington Counties (207)-498-6431 www.amhc.org

The Next Step – Domestic Violence Project

Hotline: 1-888-604-8692 Phone: 1-207-255-4785 http://www.nextstepdvproject.org/

Downeast Sexual Assault Services Hotline: 1-800-228-2470 TTY: 1-888-458-5599 http://www.downeasthealth.org/sex_assault.html

Employee Assistance Program

Toll Free: 1-800-451-1834

Student Counseling Program

WCCC Administration Building Dean of Enrollment Management and Student Services – (207) 454-1032 (work) or 904-5652 (cell) Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Retention – (207) 454-1012 (work) or 214-3760 (cell)

Office of Human Resources

WCCC Administration Building Phone: 454-1002 (work) or (207) 214-3401

APPENDIX D SUSPICIOUS PACKAGES

Your Name:	Your Phone Number:
Person(s) delivering and description of person(s):	CHARACTERISTICS OF A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE
	This procedure provides basic information relating to suspicious packages or items. It can be used for any type of package or object including those with unknown contents. Characteristics of a suspicious package may include rigid or bulky; lopsided of uneven; wrapping in string; badly written or misspelled labels, generic or incorrect titles; excessive postage, no postage, foreign writing, postage or return address; missing, nonsensical, our
Names of person(s) in the immediate area:	unknown return address; leaks, stains, powders, or protruding materials; and ticking, vibration, or other sound.
	 IF YOU ARE HOLDING A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE / OBJECT: Gently set the item down on a solid surface or on the floor. If there is powder or liquid, try to set the item down in a container like a trash can or bucket.
	Evacuate others from the immediate area.Leave the immediate area and proceed to
Description of mail piece/package (markings, labels, declarations, postage):	 the next set of directions. If delivered by a private citizen, complete "Suspicious Description Form" to the left. Dial 1099 from a campus phone or (207) 454- 1099 from a non-campus phone and provide the package location and description.
	 IF YOU LOCATE A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE / OBJECT: DO NOT activate the fire alarm system. DO NOT touch or move the object. Call campus officials at 1099 from a campus
Description of substance:	 phone or (207) 454-1099 from a non- campus phone and provide the package location and description. Activate the Vigilance System, if possible. Notify a Dean or the President of the College. If delivered by a private citizen, complete the "Suspicious Description Form" to the left. other
	witnesses to remain nearby to speak with emergency personnel. Remain available to assist first responders.

APPENDIX E FIREARMS POLICY

MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

HEALTH AND SAFETY Section 803

SUBJECT: FIREARMS PURPOSE: To regulate the possession on MCCS property

A. Rationale

The Board of Trustees accepts the recommendation of law enforcement that ready access to firearms by a person in distress contributes significantly to the likelihood of violence. The trustees also recognize the dangers posed by the accidental or careless discharge of a firearm on property owned, operated or occupied by the MCCS. This policy shall be enforced in good faith for the purpose of furthering safety on each campus.

B. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following terms have the following meanings:

- "Firearm" means any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive and includes any such weapon commonly referred to as a pistol, revolver, rifle, gun, semi-automatic gun, machine gun, shotgun or any other weapon that can be made into a firearm by inserting a firing pin, or other similar thing, or by repair;
- "Possession" means ownership, care, custody or control whether concealed or in plain view; and
- "Property" means all colleges, campuses, off-campus centers, buildings, parking lots and all other grounds owned, operated or occupied by an entity of the MCCS.

C. Regulation

Pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. §10009, no person other than those specified below may possess a firearm on property owned, operated or occupied by a college and/or the System. This prohibition includes residence halls and motor vehicles parked on such property. This prohibition also includes any concealed weapon because a concealed carry permit does not authorize firearm possession in a location where, as under §10009, possession has been lawfully prohibited pursuant to express statutory authority. Persons who violate this policy may be subject to removal, discipline and/or other lawful remedies.