

San Diego State University
Community Safety Notification
Suspect Description Reporting Policy

SDSU places a high priority on the safety of our campus population and the community surrounding campus. The Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act provides specific requirements for issuing *Timely Warnings* when particular crimes occur. Often times these requirements do not apply to crimes that occur off campus, but are in close proximity to campus.

Community Safety Notifications:

SDSU has committed to taking the additional steps of notifying our community members of significant crimes that do not occur on campus, but may still pose a safety concern to students, faculty, staff and community members who live close to campus.

The *Community Safety Notification* was developed as an alternative means of notifying the community of these types of occurrences. The format is different than a Clery Timely Warning and is not issued by the University Police.

Suspect Description Policy for Community Safety Notifications:

Suspect descriptions are to contain sufficient details to promote safety among community members. The Associate Vice President of Administration, Chief of Police, and Clery Director will assess suspect descriptions on a case-by-case basis to determine whether information is deemed appropriate and releasable. Such information should be disseminated as a safety precaution, to aid in a police arrest, or to prevent future crime.

Suspect descriptions will be included in a Community Safety Notification if one of the following criteria is met:

- a.) University Police have obtained all of the following information from at least one witness or victim/survivor.
 - a. Race
 - b. Gender
 - c. Height and/or body frame
 - d. Estimated age
 - e. Description of clothing (at least two articles)

If other unique descriptors are available (tattoos, piercings, unique features), but not all five of the above criteria are provided, University Police will determine on a case-by-case basis if a suspect description will be included in the notification.

b.) University administration and/or police have access to a possible suspect's photo through surveillance video footage. Examples include ATM, convenience store, and traffic camera footage.

c.) University Police have accessed any other type of image provided by a witness or victim/survivor or obtained during the investigation.

d.) University Police are provided an image of the possible suspect from a separate law enforcement agency.

e.) University Police have access to a professional artist sketch of the suspect.