New approaches to campus policing: What might the future hold?
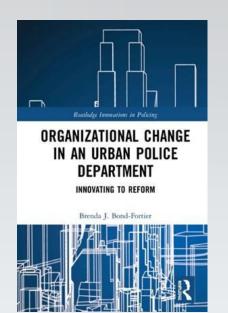
Brenda J. Bond-Fortier, PhD
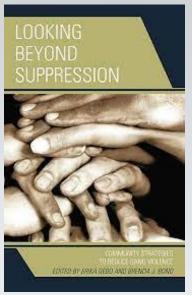

Photo courtesy of Michael J. Clarke, Suffolk University

Brenda J. Bond-Fortier, PhD
Professor, Public Administration
Sawyer Business School
Suffolk University

Consultant
21CP Solutions, Inc.

Today's Talk

❖ Campus police agencies often mirror municipal police agencies

❖ All police face demands and calls for reform

❖ Re-imagining & the future of problem-solving in a campus environment

Do you have any connections to campus police?

You are a campus police, security or safety officer, leader or staff member?	You are a police officer with a campus in your jurisdiction?	You are another public servant with a campus in your jurisdiction?
You have a child or family member that is a campus student (or will be soon)?	You have a child or family member that works on a campus?	You have some other connection to a campus?

There are over 850 campus police agencies situated in urban, suburban, and rural areas across the U.S.

(BJS 2012)

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Statistics

SPECIAL REPORT

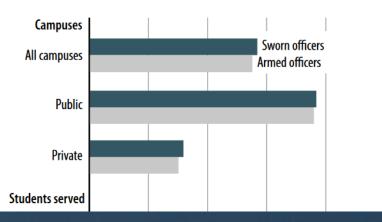# Campus Law Enforcement, 2011–12

Brian A. Reaves, Ph.D., *BJS Statistician*

During the 2011–12 school year, about two-thirds (68%) of the more than 900 U.S. 4-year colleges and universities with 2,500 or more students used sworn police officers to provide law enforcement services on campus (**figure 1**). Sworn police officers have full arrest powers granted by a state or local authority.

The percentage of public institutions (92%) using sworn officers was more than twice that of private institutions (38%). Similar to sworn officers, about two-thirds of campuses were served by armed officers. The percentage of public campuses (91%) using armed officers was also more than double the percentage of private institutions (36%). Among public institutions, nearly all students were enrolled

FIGURE 1

Use of sworn and armed law enforcement officers on 4-year campuses with 2,500 or more students, 2011–12

2021 Survey of Campus Law Enforcement Agencies (SCLEA)
RESEARCH TRIANGLE INSTITUTE
2019-85-CX-K006

Municipal vs Campus Comparison

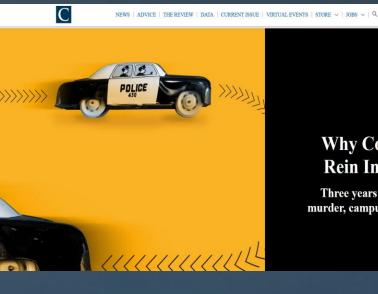| Municipal	Campus
Crime & disorder in neighborhoods & hot spots	Crime, fear of crime on campus, in dorms, and in adjacent areas
Community relationships with residents and businesses	Community relationships with students, staff, faculty & neighbors
Economic & community development	Current & future stakeholder engagement
Reputation impacts perceptions	Reputation impacts perceptions
Resources (staff, training, equip)	Resources (staff, training, equip)
Organizational dimensions	Organizational dimensions
Policies & practices	Policies & practices
Quality of life for those who live, work & visit	Quality of life for those who live, work & visit

Can Colleges Reform Their Police Departments? One Says Yes, and Here's How

By *Nell Gluckman* | SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

POLICE 450

Why Colleges Didn't Rein In Their Police

Three years after George Floyd's murder, campus safety hasn't changed much.

Johns Hopkins U. Paused Its Plans for a Campus Police Force. 2 Years Later, Resistance Is Stronger Than Ever.

By *Kate Hidalgo Bellows* | SEPTEMBER 27, 2022

A Professor Alleged Racial Profiling by a Campus Police Officer. Then Things Escalated.

By *Brianna Hatch* | AUGUST 6, 2022

Why We Should Abolish the Campus Police

Their power, reach, and misplaced interests make them a threat to our communities.

After a Professor's Killing, a University Asked Its Campus About Safety. Here's What People Said.

By Kate Hidalgo Bellows | JULY 13, 2023
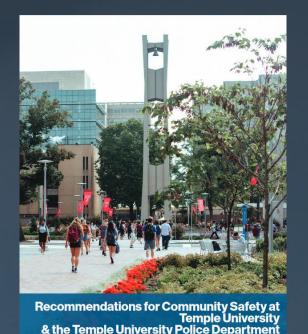
Day of Incident Response

Major confusion on what was happening and what to do.

- Students, faculty, and staff didn't know what to do. Lockdown or evacuate? Was it safe on campus or not? Need better communication and clearer instructions.
- Have specific training on de-escalation tech... ... ...th ... employees, or community members.
- Give faculty a step-by-step guide about actions they can take when dealing with a harassing student.
- Teach employees how to refer someone... seriously and not ignore them. Faculty knew about UAlerts, just tell... ...ts or call CAPS. but did not tell st...nts for over an hour that an active shooter was on campus.
- Need standard protocols for classrooms during an active shooter. Some faculty evacuated, others barricaded the doors, others ignored the situation.
- Professors/instructors were ill equipped to manage the aftermath of the incident. ...ts reported classes taki...place in the days following the shooting with no ... ...f confusio...

CAMPUS SAFETY

Last Year a U. of Chicago Police Officer Shot a Student Suffering a Mental-Health Crisis. Now Campus Activists Are Reigniting Calls for Change.

By Lauren Fisher | DECEMBER 5, 2019

Recommendations for Community Safety at Temple University & the Temple University Police Department

21CP Solutions   March 2023

'have always found [TUPD] to be highly engaged, intelligent, and empathetic compared to other [police] officers I have worked with." TU Stakeholder

"Nobody likes to hear this, but until Temple makes meaningful amends to the immediate community, there's aways going to be tension, exacerbated by decades or centuries of systemic societal injustices." TU Stakeholder

A parent indicated, "I am worried that PTSD is going to be an unexpected experience, of going to Temple" due to violence, crime, and fears about safety."

("The buildings are not well-secured." "Crimes are happening inside of the campus, and they don't feel safe in their own buildings." TU stakeholder

TUPD staff suggested that, although TUPD has "not done active shooter drills with Philly PD" in the recent past, "it would be mutually beneficial."

"[t]he blue lights and officers on bikes make me feel safer. I think that although I do not know how useful they both are in stopping crime, I think that they are both major components to preventing crime from ever happening in the first place." TU student
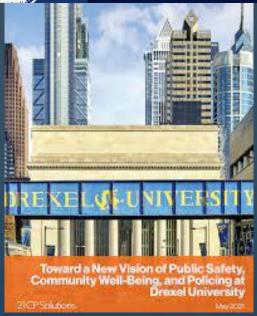
RE-IMAGINING
CAMPUS SAFETY
AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

MARGOLIS HEALY AND ASSOCIATES, LLC,
IN ASSOCIATION WITH BRENDA BOND-FORTIER, PH.D.

Re-Imagining Public Safety:
Recommendations for the
Harvard University Community & Police Department

21CP Solutions

December 2020

Toward a New Vision of Public Safety,
Community Well-Being, and Policing at
Drexel University

21CP Solutions

May 2021

{ What's happening around
campus public safety

10 Trends on Campus Public Safety

1. Reimagining campus safety

2. Behavioral health responses

3. Campus & community engagement

4. Proactive, problem-solving service

5. Relationships with local law enforcement

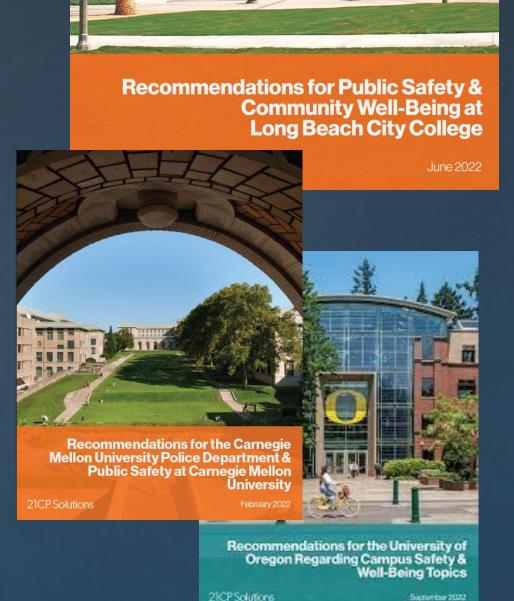6. Organizational change (University & PD levels)

7. Recruitment, hiring, training

8. Data & transparency

9. Oversight

10. Contributions to larger community

Wicked problems:

Topic 1: Workforce

Topic 2: Shifting campus communities & cultures

Topic 3: Striking a balance

Recommendations for Public Safety & Community Well-Being at Long Beach City College

June 2022

Recommendations for the Carnegie Mellon University Police Department & Public Safety at Carnegie Mellon University

21CP Solutions

February 2022

Recommendations for the University of Oregon Regarding Campus Safety & Well-Being Topics

21CP Solutions

September 2022

Questions?

Comments?

https://www.suffolk.edu/academics/faculty/b/o/brenda-bond-fortier

www.linkedin.com/in/brenda-j-bond-fortier-phd-763249b

https://www.21cpsolutions.com/

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Brenda J. Bond-Fortier
email: bbond@suffolk.edu

https://brendabondphd.com/

Twitter @profbrendabond