

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Student Behavioral Threat Assessment Practices, October 2011

Data gathered by the University of Florida and compiled by the University of Central Florida

Threat assessment is defined as a *process whereby a team*: receives information about a person of concern; investigates; gathers additional information from a wide variety of sources; comes to a consensus regarding whether or not an individual is a threat (nature of threat; degree of threat); implements interventions.

Threat Assessment Areas	Compliance	N/A
Campus Threat Assessment Multidisciplinary Teams		
Comprises a cross-section of campus: conduct, counseling, health, police, faculty, staff, other key partners	100%	
Creates campus-wide systems of communications	100%	
Maximizes possibility of addressing issues before individual becomes a threat	100%	
Arrives at a consensus about the existence of a threat	100%	
Develops orientation and training schedules	90%	
Record-keeping Practices		
Adheres to the FERPA guidelines and federal statutes	100%	
Maintains common databases; files; meeting minutes; summary cases;	100%	
Maintains confidentiality for sensitive information	100%	
Team Functions		
Writes protocols and procedures	82%	
Sustains campus-wide communication systems	100%	
Partnerships and collaborations across campus	100%	
Creates interventions strategies	100%	
Fostering a Culture of Concern for Students		
Community members taught to recognize signs of distress	100%	
Means to communicate information or to assist that person in distress	100%	

NOTES:

1. There are no standard tests, diagnosis or demographics to foretell violence so continuous observation and assessment is necessary.
2. Experts caution against immediate removal of potential threats from campus as this could ‘trigger an event’ that may not have occurred if the situation had been handled in a different manner.
3. Threat assessment is long-term process that could take years in order to complete intervention strategies, monitor compliance, and assess the outcome.

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
Student Behavioral Threat Assessment Practices, October 2011

Data gathered by the University of Florida and compiled by the University of Central Florida

Threat assessment is defined as a *process whereby a team*: receives information about a person of concern; investigates; gathers additional information from a wide variety of sources; comes to a consensus regarding whether or not an individual is a threat (nature of threat; degree of threat); implements interventions.

Intervention strategies (include-but are not limited to):

- a. No-contact orders
- b. Involuntary medical withdrawal
- c. Conduct charges
- d. Interim suspension
- e. Housing relocation or removal
- f. Trespass

Some of the most frequent situations being seen at SUS institutions:

- a. Emotional distress
- b. Suicidal threats
- c. Disruptive conduct
- d. Stalking behaviors
- e. Threats of violence to others

Future recommendations:

1. Annual training opportunities within the state to complement those provided at various national conferences
2. Creation of a Behavioral Intervention/Threat Assessment Team SUS Council or Committee in order to promote the sharing of resources, best practices, professional development opportunities, and resolution of state-wide issues of concern
3. SUS-wide discussions with the SUS General Counsels in order to be consistent with regard to liability and privacy issues
4. Creation of a Florida State repository for information about persons of concern