

Long Island University

Bias Crime Policy and Procedure

According to Title Y, Hate Crimes Act of 2000, Article 485 of the New York State Penal Law, the New York State legislature has defined a hate crime as one in which the victim is intentionally selected, in whole or in part, because of "race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, religion, religious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation."

The campus recognizes the seriousness of bias crimes and is committed to providing an educational atmosphere free of such incidents. Policies and procedures have been established to inform students about the topic, promote discussion, encourage reporting of incidents of bias related crime, and facilitate prevention of such incidents. Students are advised and updated about security procedures periodically throughout the year through campus e-mails, informational programs, campus correspondence, and publication of related materials.

If you are the victim of a bias related crime, or you are aware of bias related incident(s), you should:

1. Report the incident immediately.
2. Seek medical attention at once if injuries have been sustained.
3. Make every effort to preserve all evidence. Be sure to document the incident to the Department of Public Safety. If possible, take photographs of the scene, obtain identification of witnesses and/or write down incident details. If you are the victim of harassing phone calls, log each call and save any pertinent voice mail messages or correspondence (notes, e-mails, letters) you might receive.

If you feel you are the victim of a bias crime on campus, report the incident so that trained campus staff members can provide prompt and supportive assistance. Public Safety personnel will keep all calls confidential and will:

- Meet with you and treat you and your complaint with courtesy, sensitivity, dignity, understanding and professionalism.
- Ensure that immediate notifications are made and that appropriate investigations are conducted.
- Coordinate and assist with any investigations with local law enforcement agencies and/or any other agencies or university body.

Free and confidential counseling and other support services are provided to victims of bias crime.

Procedures are in place for on-campus disciplinary action in cases of alleged bias crime. Any individual found responsible for a bias crime following an Administrative Hearing is subject to sanctions up to and including expulsion from the campus.

BIAS CRIME PREVENTION

Bias crime prevention is facilitated through educational and awareness programs provided by members of LIU Promise, Division of Student Affairs, and the Department of Public Safety. Additionally, specialized training in diversity, hate crimes, domestic violence and Special Needs Awareness is provided for all Public Safety Officers, Success Coaches, and members of the respective student health office.

NYS LAWS AND PENALTIES REGARDING BIAS CRIMES

NYS PENAL LAW:

Definition of a Hate Crime:

1. A person commits a hate crime when he or she commits a specified offense and either:
 - a) Intentionally selects the person against whom the offense is committed or intended to be committed; or
 - b) Intentionally commits the act or acts constituting the offense; in whole or in substantial part because of a belief or perception regarding the race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, religion, religious practice, age, disability or sexual orientation of a person, regardless of whether the belief or perception is correct.