



# Campus Security Task Force Findings & Recommendations

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# Campus Security Task Force – Background

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- **Established:** April 2007 in response to the tragedies at Virginia Tech.
- **Purpose:** To comprehensively examine security issues on college campuses and develop recommendations to address those concerns.
- **Composition:** The CSTF is a coalition of over 75 different organizations from the response, mental health, legal, and higher education communities.
- **Structure:** The CSTF was comprised of three sub-committees: response, mental health, and legal.
- **Relevance:** Recent incidents, like University of Central Arkansas, reinforce the importance of continued meeting.

# Campus Security Task Force – Response

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- Interagency and multi-jurisdictional cooperation and communication.
- A strong system of unified command and control.
- All-hazards planning as the standard for emergency preparedness.
- Comprehensive training and exercise of emergency response plans.
- Redundant, multi-modal, internal communication systems.

# Campus Security Task Force – Mental Health

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- Healthy campus culture.
- Prevention.
- Access to an array of timely and appropriate mental health services.
- Planning for additional clinical support services as part of a college or university's Violence Prevention Plan.

# Campus Security Task Force – Legal

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- There are misperceptions of the law that exist among some college and university administrators regarding the ability to share information about potentially dangerous students.
- College and university campuses currently lack a universal protocol for response to potentially dangerous students.
- Not all college and university staffers are aware of emergency response procedures policies on exchange of information regarding potentially dangerous students.

# Campus Security Task Force – Results

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## Campus Security Enhancement Act of 2008 (Public Act 95-0881)

1. An emergency plan to be practiced at least annually.
2. A campus Violence Prevention Plan to be practiced at least annually.
3. Coordinated emergency planning with state and local emergency managers.

# Campus Security Task Force – Results

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## How CSTF Has Already Improved Campus Security

- CSTF and IBHE have coordinated 6 training sessions for almost 100 different higher education institutions and 200 university personnel statewide.
- The CSTF, in coordination with the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) and Motorola, provided over 300 Starcom radios.

# Campus Security Task Force – Next Steps

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- Administrative rules drafted and ready for JCAR.
- Additional training and meetings.
- \$25 million in capital plan for the Campus Security Enhancement Grant Program to fund equipment purchases such as radios and security cameras. House Bill 1 this session is the new capital vehicle.
- Continued Meeting of CSTF: The report specifies that the CSTF continue to meet at least semi-annually; last meeting has held in late October of 2008.