



CITY OF BETHLEHEM

10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018-6025

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

www.bethlehem-pa.gov

Lehigh Students,

August 2017

Welcome to the City of Bethlehem. Congratulations on selecting the fine institution of Lehigh University for your education. The Bethlehem Police Department has a long-standing history of cooperation with Lehigh University, the Lehigh University Police Department and Lehigh's various student organizations.

Over the past 10-15 years, the Bethlehem Police Department and the Lehigh University Police Department have worked together forming a cooperative partnership by jointly policing the neighborhoods around campus to enhance safety and quality of life for students, citizens and business owners. Our departments will continue to work together to make sure your stay here in Bethlehem is a safe and memorable one.

In order to keep all of our residents better informed, and to aid in our communication, the Bethlehem Police Department maintains a website and a Facebook page. Please consider using one or all of these methods to become better informed about your community and events in the City.

The Bethlehem Police Department is tasked with maintaining the peace and assuring the safety of all our residents. The first way to accomplish this is to educate the residents in ways to reduce their chances of being victimized. When you leave your house, always ensure that your doors and windows are locked. Do not store valuable items in a location that can easily be seen from the street. The overwhelming majority of burglaries that occur around Lehigh's campus are committed without the use of force. The victim's cars or houses are left unlocked, or the windows are left open, and they become an easy target. Locking your valuables will help us reduce crime in your neighborhood.

The second method to help ensure your personal safety is to be aware of your surroundings when walking the streets. Make efforts to walk in groups, utilize Lehigh's TRACS & Escort Service and pay attention. Walking alone at night, wearing a personal media player and not being aware of your surroundings can be dangerous. Be smart and plan ahead. There are many services available to ensure your personal safety.

If you are a victim of Theft, Burglary or any other crime, or saw something suspicious, please report the crime or what you saw to the Bethlehem Police Department or the Lehigh University Police Department. By reporting the crime or what you saw or know, you may be assisting the Police in apprehending an individual who not only victimized you, but many others. Your information can make a difference. Please report it immediately. Don't wait until hours later to report something suspicious or to report a crime.

Another way for us to improve safety is to address quality of life issues that may arise in our neighborhoods. In order to have a better relationship between the Lehigh University students and the neighboring community, we have prepared a “Be A Good Neighbor” reference guide to the Pennsylvania State Laws and Bethlehem City Ordinances that we feel are applicable to you as students. A full listing of Pennsylvania laws, both criminal and motor vehicle statutes, can also be found on line.

Every year dozens of college age students are severely injured or die due to excessive drinking and/or Underage Drinking. The legal drinking age in Pennsylvania is 21 years of age; and yes it does apply here in Bethlehem. If you are under 21 years of age and caught with an alcoholic beverage, you will receive a summons. You will have to appear in Court. You will lose your driver’s license and pay a fine and Court costs in the hundreds of dollars. Underage Drinking is not worth your health or your life.

If you are living off campus, please remember to be respectful and considerate of your neighbors when having parties. Failing to do so can result in being arrested for having a Disorderly House, Littering, Underage Drinking and Public Drunkenness, Furnishing Alcohol to Minors and other charges. Please remember, the decisions you make now, may affect you much later in life.

We are asking for your cooperation in being a good neighbor and having consideration for your fellow residents. We are also providing crime prevention information for your safety and awareness. Our social media outlets are all designed to enhance our communication with the residents of Bethlehem. I encourage you to check them out and learn what is going on in your community.

For All Police, Fire, EMS Emergencies, DIAL 911

For all Police, Fire, EMS Non-Emergencies DIAL phone # (610) 865-7187

Thank you for your cooperation and have a great year.

Mark A. DiLuzio
Chief of Police
City of Bethlehem