2023 Campus Safety & Security Report

Our Annual Security Report as required by the Clery Act

Prepared by the Campus Safety Officer

Updated September 2023
CAMPUS SAFETY & SECURITY AT GORDON-CONWELL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

At Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary (GCTS), all Seminary community members' and guests' safety and welfare are the highest priority for Campus Safety. With the support of other departments, we continuously strive to maintain a safe and secure environment for the seminary to accomplish its educational mission.

Because no campus is immune from crime, Gordon-Conwell has developed a series of policies and procedures to enhance the Seminary community's safety and security. However, we must also enlist the support of the GCTS community if our efforts are to succeed.

The cooperation and active involvement of all students, faculty, and staff members is an absolute necessity if any campus safety and security program succeeds. All Seminary community members must assume responsibility for their safety and the security of their personal belongings by taking simple, common-sense precautions. For example, people walking to campus at night are encouraged to walk with at least one other person. Office doors should be locked when unoccupied and at night. Refrain from propping open office or public entrance doors for the safety and security of the community. Every building exit, exit approach, and exit discharge area must be kept free of all items to ensure full and instant use in an emergency. At all times, lock vehicle doors.

Everyone is strongly encouraged to report any suspicious persons or activities to the Campus Safety Officer. Contact the Campus Safety Officer at extension 1646 from any campus extension telephone or 617-318-1646 from a cell phone or any outside telephone immediately upon suspicion of any criminal activity, vandalism, theft, or public disturbance. To report an emergency, dial 911. Fast action can make a difference. Also, recommendations regarding any situation that may cause unsafe or harmful conditions will be accepted by any Campus Safety Officer.

When the Campus Safety Officer receives a serious crime report or other emergency involving a student, the seminary's 24-hour Student Life Services support network is activated.

We published crime prevention tips in our Student Handbook, posted on our website. Safety and security information published in the Campus Guide to Auto and Public Safety Regulations, distributed to all faculty, staff, and students via the school website.

JEANNE CLERY DISCLOSURE OF CAMPUS SECURITY POLICY and CAMPUS CRIME STATISTICS ACT, ALSO KNOWN AS THE CLERY ACT

The Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act (Public Law 101-542) was signed into law by President Bush in 1990 and went into effect on September 1, 1991. Title II of this Act is known as the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990. This Act amends the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) by adding campus crime statistics and reporting provisions for postsecondary institutions. It requires disclosing crime statistics for the most recent three years and disclosing the institution's current security policies. Institutions are also required to issue timely
warnings when necessary. All public and private Title IV eligible institutions must comply with this Act's requirements, enforced by the U. S. Department of Education (ED).

This law amended when Congress enacted the Campus Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights as part of the Higher Education Amendments of 1992 (Public Law 102-325, Section 486(C)), giving victims of sexual assault on basic campus rights. Besides, institutions must develop and distribute a policy statement concerning their campus sexual assault programs targeting the prevention of sex offenses. This statement must also address the procedures followed if a sex offense occurs.

The most recent version of this law, amended in 2008, was part of the Higher Education Amendments Act of 1998 (Section 486(e) of Public Law 105-244). The official title under this Act is the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (20 U.S.C. 1092(f)). On November 1, 1999, ED issued the final regulations, which affected July 1, 2000. The amendments require ED to collect, analyze, and report to Congress on crime incidences on college campuses. The changes expand the requirements of the Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act of 1990. The amendments require higher education institutions participating in the federal student aid programs must disclose to students, faculty, staff, and, upon request, prospective students, and information regarding the incidence of crimes on campus as part of their campus security report.

The 1998 amendments made several changes to the disclosure requirements that schools must include in the reported statistics. The changes include (two crimes), Arson and Negligent Manslaughter, and (three locations) residence halls, non-campus buildings, or property not geographically contiguous to the campus. Also, on public property adjacent to a facility owned or operated by the institution for education purposes) schools must include the reported statistics. Institutions with campus police or security department are required to maintain a daily crime log available to the public.

The Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act (Section 1601 of Public Law 106-386) further amended the Clery Act in October 2000. The changes went into effect on October 28, 2002. In 2003, a law established that institutions must notify their campus community when they receive information from a state law enforcement agency about registered sex offenders on campus. Subsequent amendments in 2008 added provisions dealing with campus emergency response, missing students, expanded hate crime reporting, and campus emergency notification procedures.

**ANNUAL PREPARATION AND DISCLOSURE OF CRIME STATISTICS**


To connect to our website via the GCTS home page: [http://www.gordonconwell.edu](http://www.gordonconwell.edu)

Campus crime, arrest, and referral statistics include those reported to GCTS and the Campus Security Officer.

The Annual Disclosure of Crime Statistics report is distributed by October 1 of each year and includes the disclosure of crime statistics for the most recent three calendar years. The crime statistics must also be submitted
to the US Department of Education (USDOE) every year in a manner prescribed by the USDOE. The Annual Disclosure of Crime Statistics report is posted on the GCTS website.

A paper copy of the report is available upon request from the Campus Operations Office at the Boston Campus, 90 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119.

**COMPLIANCE WITH CLERY ACT** — under the Clery Act regulations, GCTS has several obligations. These fall into three main categories: 1) policy disclosure, 2) records collection and retention, and 3) information dissemination. GCTS must provide the Seminary campus community and the public with accurate statements of its current policies and practices regarding:

- Procedures for students and others to report criminal actions or other emergencies occurring on the GCTS campus.
- Security of and access to campus facilities; and
- Campus law enforcement.

**Records Collection and Retention**

- GCTS is required to keep some campus records and to request records from law enforcement agencies.
- GCTS and the Campus Safety Officer must keep records of crimes reported to campus security authorities.
- GCTS and the Campus Safety Officer must make a reasonable effort to obtain crime statistics from appropriate law enforcement agencies. The crime statistics form a part of the annual security, and the Web-based reports are sent to the United States Department of Education (ED).
- GCTS and the Campus Safety Officer must keep a daily crime log that must be open to public inspection.

*A Campus Crime Log of at least the previous one hundred and twenty (120) days is maintained and posted for public review.

Paper copies of previous Campus Crime Logs are available from the Deans/Assistant Dean's office upon request.

All crime reports of incidents on campus are crime reports or experiences are recorded in the Campus Crime Log for review within two business days of the report or incident.

**Information Dissemination**

- To provide Seminary community members with information necessary to make informed decisions about their safety, GCTS must disseminate information in several ways. GCTS must:
- Provide a "timely warning" of any Clery Act crime that might represent an ongoing threat to the safety of students or employees.
- Provide access to GCTS crime log during regular business hours.
- Publish an annual security report and distribute it to all current students and employees and inform prospective students and employees about the content and availability of the report.
- Inform the Seminary community where to obtain information about registered sex offenders; and
- Submit GCTS’s crime statistics to the United States Department of Education (ED) through the Web-based data collection system.
For the Boston campus’ safety and security, the Campus Security Officer operates as a service agency that functions as part of the seminary as a component of services offered under Student Life Services.

Security personnel do not have police powers and rely on municipal, county, or state police to support criminal matters. There is no Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GCTS and the Boston Police Department because the seminary has always enjoyed a favorable and cooperative relationship with the Boston Police Department.

**ALCOHOL & ILLEGAL DRUGS**

GCTS seeks to provide a safe setting and protect public health for all Seminary community members by securing a drug-free environment in compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (Federal law). The law declares that students and employees have the right to study and work in a setting free from the effects of drug or alcohol abuse. The adopted policies comply with the law and the Seminary Community Life Statement (cf. Student Handbook).

GCTS complies with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989 relating to alcohol and drugs illegal use.

GCTS and the Campus Safety Officer work with the Boston Police Department to see laws regulating underage drinking and the use of controlled substances and weapons are enforced. From the Student Handbook, Seminary policy prohibits the following:

The use, possession, manufacture, distribution, or sale of illegal drugs, or alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia, that adversely affects a student's academic performance, or the employee's work performance on Seminary premises, in seminary, supplied vehicles, or at any official function or Seminary activity. The seminary shall use the appropriate policy in the student or staff handbooks against individuals or groups engaging in these acts, up to and including expulsion from the seminary, termination of seminary employment, and termination of contracts/agreements with that person(s) or group(s). Full policy statements are in the Student Handbook, Staff Handbook, and the Faculty Handbook.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT—Higher Education Amendments of 1992**

Sexual assault is one of the most under-reported crimes in the country due to embarrassment, guilt, and stigma. It is a violent crime that results in devastating, long-term consequences for its victims and their families.

The Congress of the United States passed the Higher Education Amendments of 1992 in response to the growing number of sexual assaults being committed. The bill intends to combat this crime by focusing on heightened awareness and education on school campuses.

Gordon-Conwell's Community Life Statement maintains that “we renounce behaviors such as distortion of God’s Word, deception, falsehood, drunkenness, stealing and sexual immorality such as premarital intercourse, adultery, and homosexual behavior.”

**LEAD TITLE IX COORDINATOR FOR GCTS:**
POSSIBLE DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT

Rape and sexual assault are severe crimes. Any person found guilty of committing rape, or sexual assault is subject to arrest and prosecution under applicable criminal laws. A conviction can result in sanctions up to and including imprisonment as well as dismissal from the seminary. Any member of the Seminary community found in violation through the Seminary disciplinary process of attempting to commit or committing a sexual assault will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including possible dismissal from Gordon-Conwell.

PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW IF A SEXUAL ASSAULT OCCURS

Sexual assaults are severe crimes adjudicated through the Massachusetts trial court system. Sexual assaults on campus which have been reported to the Campus Security Officer will be turned over to the Boston Police Department for investigation. The Boston Police Department has jurisdiction in such cases and will lead the investigation. We will follow this procedure for all campus felony investigations. The Campus Safety Officer, Student Life Services, Human Resources Department, Academic Dean's Office, and the Boston Police Department can receive and process sexual assault complaints. A complaint could also be initiated by contacting another seminary administrative personnel. Student Life Services, Human Resources, and Academic Dean's Office have all the necessary materials for filing a sexual assault complaint if the seminary's disciplinary process is utilized. (Also see the Student Handbook regarding sexual harassment).

WHAT TO DO AFTER A SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

- Contact a friend or someone for support.
- Seek medical attention at once. Some injuries may not be readily apparent.
- Do not bathe, douche, change clothing, or rinse your mouth. Do not destroy any physical evidence. Take a clean change of clothing when going to the hospital.
- Do not touch any tangible evidence of a struggle or disturb the scene of the assault.
- While rape is a crime, the decision to report a sexual assault to the police is personal. Reporting the crime to the law is optional. When the decision made to contact the police, keep in mind that a trained rape investigator will conduct the interview.
- A rape counselor, family member, or friend may also be present during the interview. The individual has the option of reporting the crime anonymously and whether to press charges.
- Rape is a crime of violence and is illegal. Since rape is a fact-specific crime, write down what happened, which helps decide to press charges.
- Get help and support. The Student Life Services staff and others can be of assistance.

Victims have the option of reporting the assault to the police. Even though rape and sexual assaults are crimes, the decision to report them to the law is personal. Under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 97D, all departmental reports of rape and sexual assault or attempts to commit such offenses shall not be public reports. Police departments shall maintain it in a manner that will ensure their confidentiality. Upon request, the Campus Safety Officer could notify the Boston Police Department to file a criminal complaint.
PROCEDURES FOR SEMINARY DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

The Pastoral Guidance Committee will process seminary disciplinary proceedings in cases of sexual harassment. First, with as-needed consultation with the Dean's Office. Next, with intervention through the Dean's Office for faculty based on the Pastoral Guidance Committee (and using as-needed consultation with the Student Life Services Department at Hamilton). For staff, interventions required will include the Dean's Office and Human Resources Office. Established sexual harassment and sexual assault procedures followed — the seminary disciplinary procedure published in the employee and student handbooks and the Cleary Act Compliance Policy handbook. All complaints and proceedings will be kept entirely confidential.

In alleged sexual assault cases to be handled by seminary disciplinary action, the accuser and the accused have the same opportunities. Such as having others present during the disciplinary proceeding. The accuser and the accused informed of the outcome of any disciplinary procedure brought alleging sexual assault.

Victims of sexual assaults must be informed of their options to notify the proper law enforcement authorities and may need assistance in doing so. Victims have the option of reporting the attack to the police. Even though rape and sexual assaults are crimes, the decision to report them to the law is personal. Under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 97D, all departmental reports of rape and sexual assault or attempts to commit such offenses shall not be public reports. Police departments shall maintain it in a manner that will ensure their confidentiality. The Campus Security Officer will assist in notifying the Boston Police Department to file a criminal complaint.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Statement of Standard for Disciplinary Action

The seminary reaffirms the biblical principles outlined in its Community Life Statement to support students' academic endeavors. The seminary's commitment to its mission statement requires that the student's environment promotes intellectual and spiritual growth. The seminary reserves the right to discipline a student in violation of any aspect of the Community Life Statement or institutional code of conduct that interferes with or limits the student's and the community's ability to fulfill their academic goals.

The purpose of a student disciplinary process is to determine if a student is engaged in misconduct. In cases where the student has been involved in wrongdoing, we will use the procedures below to impose appropriate sanctions to fulfill this purpose.

Procedure for Conducting an Informal Hearing

The Pastoral Guidance Committee will investigate the allegations brought against a student. The investigation will include the following steps:

- Confirm the name of the student in question.
- Gather all material facts.
- Determine alleged infractions as stated in the Community Life Statement or other published institutional code of conduct.
- If necessary, take any appropriate actions, including government or law enforcement agencies.
- Seek legal counsel as deemed appropriate.
• Keep thorough and complete documentation of the investigative process.

The Chair of the Guidance Committee will notify the student in writing of the following:

• The alleged charges against him/her.
• The violation of the seminary policy or code of conduct.
• The purported information supports the allegation.
• The establishment of an informal hearing

The Pastoral Guidance Committee will conduct an informal hearing with the student, using the following guidelines:

• We will inform the student of the date, time, and location of the hearing, in writing, either by personal delivery or certified mail, at least five business days in advance. This information would be available to the person(s) who filed the complaint and would be present at the hearing or invited to be present at the hearing.
• The entire case file and any prospective witnesses’ names will be available for inspection by the accused student during regular business hours in the Student Life Services/Dean’s Office, where non-academic student files are maintained.
• The accused student may choose the assistance of a family member or other individual. Those assisting the accused student would also receive reasonable time to ask relevant questions of any individual appearing at the hearing and present relevant information. The student may also be accompanied by legal counsel, although the role of counsel is limited to providing legal advice to the respective student. It would be in a manner that is not disruptive to the proceedings. A reasonable effort will be made to accommodate the schedule of any representative or advisor allowed to assist the student.
• If present in the hearing, the accuser may also be assisted by an advisor of his/her choosing.
• The accused student will be expected to respond to questions asked by the Committee. Students who refuse to answer on the grounds of the Fifth Amendment privilege could have an adverse reference, which might result in dismissal from the seminary under these standards and procedures.
• The informal hearing could be in the absence of the accused student who fails to appear, following proper notification of the hearing date, time, and location.
• The hearing shall be audio-recorded by the Committee. The seminary maintains the recording(s) with the case file and a copy of the recording file in the Dean’s Office.

4. Immediately following the informal hearing, the Committee will meet for deliberations and render a written decision to the student within five business days after the completion of the informal hearing, except in the case of sexual assault, in which case the accused and the accuser notified within one business day.

5. The Committee has the authority to render any one of the following decisions/sanctions:

• Further investigation for another hearing.
• Admonition. A formal admonition of a standard institutional violation does not become part of a student’s permanent record but could also consider judging any future violation.
• Disciplinary Probation. A more severe admonition was assigned for a definite amount of time, with the probation to continue until the filing of certain conditions stipulated by the Committee. It implies that any
future violation during that time, of whatever kind, may be grounds for suspension, or in especially severe cases, for dismissal from the seminary.

- **Suspension for a Definite Period.** Removal from membership in the seminary community, including all student privileges for a specified period, with the suspension to continue until the Committee fulfills stipulated conditions. A suspension could be on a student's official record for the duration of the suspension.

- **Indefinite Suspension.** Removal from membership in the seminary community, including student privileges for the time specified by suspension until the conditions stipulated by the Committee resolved. After the stipulated time, the Committee will convene to render a final decision. A suspension remains on a student's official record for the duration of the suspension.

- **Dismissal.** Permanent removal from membership in the seminary community, including all student and alumni privileges without the possibility of readmission. A dismissal notice should be on the student's official record.

6. If a student is suspended or dismissed, then a written decision is sent by registered mail or hand-delivery to the student within five business days after the completion of the hearing, except, in the case of sexual assault, a notification sent to the accused and the accuser within one business day. It shall contain a statement of reason resulting in the sanction. In addition, the accused student shall be asked to sign a form for the record, indicating his/her understanding of the disciplinary action taken by the Committee. The accused, as well as the accuser, shall also be advised of the appeal process.

7. A personal copy of the letter to the student(s) filed in the Dean's Office and notification sent to the Registrar's Office of the decision and a copy of the letter placed in the student's record.

8. After completion of the investigation, the Committee shall inform the accuser, and a sanction imposed, except in the case of sexual assault, in which case procedure 6, above, will be followed.

**Procedures for Appeal**

If the response, decision, or action is unacceptable to either party (the accused or the accuser). Then formal complaints could be filed with the President's Office. Exceptions can apply where the Campus Safety Department advises other actions to be taken, as the law requires.

- If either student or accuser so desires, he/she may appeal the Guidance Committee's decision in writing within seven business days, following the notification of sanction, to the President of the Seminary.
- The President will present his/her decision within seven business days to the student (or accuser) unless he/she appoints a review committee of his choosing, in which case, he/she will have ten business days in which to respond.
- The President's decision will be final.

**Procedures for Student Departing the Seminary**

- According to federal policy, tuition may be refunded to the student if suspension or dismissal occurs during the semester.
- A proper notation shall be entered on the student's transcript and placed in his/her permanent file. The Registration office will follow the standard procedure to notify the appropriate offices of the students leaving the seminary.
• If the student resides on campus, he/she may be given up to a 30-day notice to vacate the apartment and no more than seven days to move from the dormitory (date of dismissal will consider the appeal process).
• In the case of an international student (F-1 visa), as per SEVIS (Student Exchange and Visitor Information System) regulations, he/she must vacate immediately (i.e., no visa "grace period"), following the date of dismissal (date of termination will consider the appeal process).

Deviations from Established Procedures

Reasonable deviations from these procedures (*not to include sanctions*) will not invalidate a decision or proceeding unless significant prejudice to the student may result.

COUNSELING AND OTHER SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT or INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

The Student Life Services office will assist rape, sexual assault, and intimate partner violence victims and survivors in notification or referral to counseling and mental health services in the community.

Essential Local Telephone Numbers:

• National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255
• 24/7 Hot Line, Boston Area Rape Crisis Center, 1-800-841-8371
• Samaritans Statewide Helpline: 1-877-870-4673

SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS’ OPTIONS FOR CHANGING ACADEMIC AND LIVING SITUATIONS

The Seminary will assist in changing academic and living arrangements following a sexual offense if requested by the victim and if these changes are reasonably available.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION

GCTS educates the student community about sexual assaults and date rape by making them aware of local programs, such as Rape Aggression Defense (RAD), offered at educational institutions nearby and that are made available to our students. In addition, the Campus Safety Officer provides sexual assault education and information programs to Seminary students and employees upon request. Finally, the literature on date rape education, risk reduction, and response are available through the Campus Safety Officer.

CAMPUS- SEX CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

The Federal Campus Sex Crimes Prevention Act requires Higher Education Institutions to issue a statement advising the campus community to obtain state law information concerning registered sex offenders. The Act requires registered sex offenders to provide appropriate State Officials with Notice of each Institution of Higher Education in that State where the sex offender is employed, carries on a vocation, or is a student.

Members of the seminary community may request sex offenders in Massachusetts at the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board, at (978) 740-6400; http://www.state.ma.us/sorb or the Boston Police Department 617-343-4270.

The information contained in the Sex Offender Registry shall not be used to commit a crime against the offender or engage in illegal discrimination or harassment. Any person who improperly uses Sex Offender Registry information
shall be punished by not more than two and one-half years in a house of correction or by a fine of not more than $1,000.00 or both.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, SEXUAL ASSAULT, PROHIBITED SEXUAL CONTACT, DATING, AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

This statement outlines GCTS’s policy regarding interpersonal or intimate partner violence, including sexual assault, prohibited sexual contact, dating, and domestic violence. *(Also see Policy Statement Addressing Sex Offenses, the Student Handbook, and Staff Handbook)*

Policy Statement

GCTS does not tolerate interpersonal or intimate partner violence, which includes sexual assault, prohibited sexual contact, dating, and domestic violence in any form. Any acts that fall within the definitions of sexual assault prohibited sexual contact, dating, domestic violence prohibited at GCTS and violate seminary policy, and potentially Commonwealth of Massachusetts or Federal Law. In addition, violations of state criminal law for bodily harm related to interpersonal violence shall constitute violations of this policy, as well. This policy, GCTS, extends the traditional prohibitions of sexual assault and domestic violence under the law and seminary policy to other forms of interpersonal violence, including dating and intimate partner violence. This policy applies to all members of the GCTS community and includes, but is not limited to, faculty, staff, students, seminary visitors, volunteers, and vendors. It also applies to alleged acts of sexual assault, prohibited sexual contact, dating, and domestic violence, whether those acts occur on or off-campus.

The seminary may terminate or suspend its relationship and associated privileges with any interpersonal or intimate partner violence perpetrator. This termination includes but is not limited to visitors, volunteers, vendors, and other such guests of the seminary. We would use the appropriate disciplinary actions outlined in the student or staff handbooks against individuals or groups engaging in these acts, up to and including expulsion from the seminary, termination of seminary employment, and termination of contracts/agreements with that person(s) or group(s). GCTS expressly reserves its right to revoke the privilege or permission to be physically present on campus, participate in seminary activities, and use seminary facilities or resources to carry out the intent and purposes of this policy.

The seminary may refer to any alleged perpetrator of interpersonal or intimate partner violence to law enforcement. However, the guideline to determine a policy violation is contingent on the *preponderance of the evidence standard* of the victim of an act of interpersonal or intimate partner violence.

DEFINITION OF TERMS!

**Domestic violence** is physically, sexually, or psychologically abusive behavior against a family member or household member is considered domestic violence. Such action may arise in the form of a directly violent act or indirectly as acts that expressly or implicitly threaten violence. Family or household members include spouses, former spouses, domestic partners, parents, children, stepchildren, and other persons related by blood or by a prior marriage. This definition also includes persons who share or formerly shared residence *(including residence hall roommates)*, persons who have or allegedly have a child, and persons who share or supposedly share a blood relationship through a child.

**Dating Violence** is a form of domestic violence that includes persons who have had a dating relationship. Dating violence occurs when one partner attempts to maintain power and control over the other through one or more
forms of abuse, including sexual, physical, verbal, and emotional abuse. Dating violence affects both females and males and does not discriminate by racial, social, or economic background (Also see Acquaintance Rape).

**Partner Violence** is sexual or psychological harm or threat by a current or former partner to obtain power and control to harm another.

**Abusive behavior:**

Physical violence other than for self-defense, against any person, on or off-campus, includes fighting, assault; battery; use of a knife; gun; or other weapons; physical abuse; restraining or transporting someone against his/her will; or any action that threatens or endangers the physical health or safety of any person or causes reasonable apprehension of such harm. Persistent, severe, or pervasive threats of abuse, intimidation, coercion, bullying, or other conduct threaten or endangers the mental or physical health or safety of any person or cause reasonable apprehension of such harm.

**Prohibited Sexual Contact** at GCTS prohibited sexual contact is a behavior related to sexual activities or sexual contact between at least two individuals, accomplished through force or the threat of force, or when the victim cannot give explicit consent under the circumstances and knowing consent. Prohibited sexual contact includes, but is not limited to, sexual assault and abuse, which is not permitted regardless of sexual orientation, gender, or gender expression of the perpetrator or the victim.

**Force Or Threat of Force:**

The use of force or threat of violence, including but not limited to the following situations:

- When the accused threatens to use force or violence on the victim or any other person, and the victim under the circumstances reasonably believed that the accused could execute that threat; or
- When the accused has overcome the victim by using superior strength or size, physical restraint, or physical confinement.

Consent - *There must be consenting to engage in any sexual behaviors. Consent is hearing the word "yes." When an individual willingly gives permission or agreement to a sexual act, without the threat of harm. It is not the absence of hearing "no."*

Consent is an informed agreement to participate in an act, communicated verbally or physically. This consent is not considered manipulation, intimidation, or coercion or given by one incapable of providing explicit and knowing consent because of age or under the influence of alcohol or drugs. For example, the manner of the victim's dress at the time of the offense does not constitute consent. Individuals under the age of 16 in Massachusetts are incapable of giving consent under any circumstances. Nothing in this provision constitutes a waiver or in any way impairs the application of state law related to the ability of a person to consent.

**Coercion** - is to compel or force one to act based on pressure, harassment, threats, or intimidation.

**A mentally or physically incapable person** is a person who is temporarily or permanently incapable of making decisions for any reason or is otherwise unable to give explicit and knowing consent. This mental or physical incapacity could be a result but is not limited to, administration or use of alcohol or other drugs.
Sexual assault is when a person commits an act of sexual penetration.

- Using force or threat of force, or
- When the accused knew that the victim was unable to understand the nature of the Act or failed to give knowing consent. Rape is a form of sexual assault.

Rape:

A form of sexual assault. Rape is another word for penetration (oral, anal, or vaginal) forced on another person through threats to harm that person or another, intimidation, coercion, or lack of consent.

Acquaintance Rape - is a sex crime committed by someone who knows the victim. The perpetrator could be a friend, classmate, relative, co-worker. As a sex crime, acquaintance rape includes forced, manipulated, or coerced sexual contact.

Sexual abuse - is when a person commits an act of sexual misconduct:

- Using force or threat of force or
- When the accused knew that the victim was unable to understand the nature of the Act and is unable to give knowing consent.

Sexual Harassment - Occurs when sexual behavior or requests for sexual favors could be explicitly or implicitly. As a term or condition of employment or educational performance, or the basis of employment or academic decisions affecting the individual as an employee or a student or have the express purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's work/academic performance or create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working or educational environment.

Process and Disciplinary Actions - the seminary policy is to hold perpetrators of sexual assault, prohibited sexual contact, dating, and domestic violence in any form accountable for their actions through appropriate student conduct or personnel procedures and by working with community agencies and law enforcement, as necessary. (For detailed information regarding the disciplinary process and actions, please see the Policy Statement Addressing Sex Offenses, Student Handbook, and Staff Handbook)

For students:

Appropriate disciplinary actions for substantiated violations of this policy, up to and including dismissal, will be imposed in agreement with the Community Life Statement and Student Handbook.

For faculty and staff:

Appropriate disciplinary actions for substantiated violations of this policy, up to and including termination, will be imposed in agreement with applicable seminary policies and personnel procedures listed in the staff handbook.

For everyone:
Seminary disciplinary procedures are independent of any criminal system and proceedings. However, in all cases, the seminary reserves the right to refer cases to law enforcement for criminal prosecution or pursue disciplinary actions regardless of criminal prosecution. Violations of this policy by a visitor, volunteer, or vendor may also result in the termination of pre-existing or future business relationships.

**Reporting Procedures**

Should there be an immediate risk of imminent harm or disruption to the campus community, any seminary community member will be encouraged to call 9-1-1 immediately or contact the Campus Safety Officer at 617-318-1646.

For purposes of reporting or more information on victims’ or alleged perpetrators’ rights, follow the procedures below:

Victims of sexual assault prohibited sexual contact, dating, and domestic violence on or at any seminary-sponsored event or activity have the option to and are encouraged to contact the Campus Safety Officer. Additionally, victims have the right to access assistance and referral to the following resources available to help in crises.

The option to confidentially report a crime is also available to victims or survivors. *(See Policy Statement for Reporting of Crimes on a Voluntary and Confidential Basis)*.

**If the Alleged Perpetrator Is a Faculty or Staff Member:**

In cases involving a student as the alleged perpetrator, contact Human Resources at 978-646-4052 or 978-646-4053.

**If the Alleged Perpetrator Is a Student:**

In cases involving a student as the alleged perpetrator, contact the Dean's Office at 617-427-7293 or Campus Safety at 617-318-1646.

**If the Alleged Perpetrator Is a Vendor, Visitor, Volunteer, Or Other Non-Faculty, Staff, Or Student individual:**

In cases involving the above-listed individuals, contact the Campus Safety Officer at 617-318-1646. Depending upon the relationship that this individual has with the seminary, additional reporting may need to be added to affected seminary departments and employees.

*NOTE: The process and reporting procedures listed here in no way prohibit the seminary from employing other appropriate mechanisms to address sexual assault, prohibited sexual contact and dating, and domestic violence.*

**STALKING**

Stalking incidents are occurring at an alarming rate on the nation’s college campuses. It is a crime that happens to men and women of all races/ethnicities, religions, ages, abilities, sexual orientations, and sexual identity. It is a crime that can affect every aspect of a victim’s life. Stalking often begins with phone calls, emails, social networking posts or letters, and can sometimes escalate to violence.
Policy Statement

GCTS is determined to provide a campus environment free of violence for all members of the campus community. For this reason, GCTS does not tolerate stalking. GCTS is also committed to supporting victims of talking through the appropriate provision of safety and support services. This policy applies equally to all students, staff, and faculty of the GCTS community.

Stalking is a crime in Massachusetts and is subject to criminal prosecution. Students, staff, or faculty perpetrating such acts of violence will be subject to disciplinary action. The policy outlined in the GCTS student or staff handbooks. This crime may include disciplinary action from GCTS or law enforcement involvement simultaneously.

Definition of Stalking

Stalking is a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear. The description for the sequence of behavior is "a pattern of actions composed of more than one act over some time, however short, evidencing a continuity of conduct."

The term "stalking" (from 42 USC ss 13925) means engaging during conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to —

- Fear for his or her safety or the safety of others; or
- Suffer substantial emotional distress.

In Massachusetts, such conduct is felonies. GL c. 265 § 43 (Stalking). Stalking includes a willful and malicious pattern of behavior or acts over time directed at a specific person.

This pattern of behavior could alarm or annoy the person to cause suffering, emotional distress, or threat with the intent of fear, death, or bodily injury. Stalking can be by mail, telephone, electronic mail, internet communications, and facsimile. Conduct, which does not include a threat of death or bodily injury, is also illegal and considered harassment by the seminary and Massachusetts law. MGL c. 265 § 43A (Criminal Harassment).

Stalking Behaviors

Stalking includes any behaviors or activities occurring on more than one occasion that collectively instill fear in a victim or threaten her or his safety, mental health, or physical health. Such behaviors and activities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Non-consensual communication, including face-to-face communication, telephone calls, voice messages, emails, written letters, gifts, or any other communications that place another person in fear.
2. Use of online, electronic, or digital technologies, including:
   - Posting of pictures or information in chat rooms or on Websites
   - Sending unwanted/unsolicited email or talk requests.
   - Posting private or public messages on Internet sites, social networking sites, and school bulletin boards
   - Installing spyware on a victim's computer
   - Using Global Positioning Systems (GPS) to monitor a victim.
• Pursuing, following, waiting, or showing up uninvited at or near a residence, workplace, classroom, or other places frequented by the victim.
• Surveillance or different types of observation, including staring or "peeping."
• Trespassing
• Vandalism
• Non-consensual touching
• Direct verbal or physical threats
• Gathering information about an individual from friends, family, or co-workers
• Threats to harm self or others
• Defamation – lying to others about the victim.

Reporting Stalking

GCTS encourages reporting all incidents of stalking to law enforcement authorities and respects that whether to report to the police is a decision that the victim needs to make. Campus Safety, Pastoral Guidance Committee, Student Life Services, Dean's Office, and Human Resources (for staff) are available to inform victims of the reporting procedures and offer appropriate referrals. In addition, GCTS provides services to victims even if they choose not to report the incidents. Pastoral Guidance Committee, Student Life Services, Dean's Office, and Human Resources (for staff) provide services and information for victims in a safe, supportive, and confidential setting. In some circumstances, a victim may wish to seek an order of protection from a court of appropriate jurisdiction against the alleged perpetrator. Victims may also request the restriction of access to GCTS by non-students or non-employees in certain circumstances.

TO REPORT STALKING

• Call Boston Police – 9-1-1 or 617-343-4270
• Call Campus Safety – 617-318-1646 or ext. 1646
• Dean's office – 617-427-7293
• Call Student Life Services – 978-646-4060
• Call Human Resources (for staff) – 978-646-4052 or 978-646-4053

In certain instances, GCTS may need to report an incident to law enforcement authorities. Such circumstances include any incidents that warrant the undertaking of additional safety and security measures to protect the victim and the campus community or other situations in which there is a clear and imminent danger and when a weapon may be involved. However, it is crucial in these circumstances to consult with Campus Safety, Student Life Services, Dean's Office, or Human Resources (for staff) since reporting may compromise the victim's safety. In addition, personal safety concerns are often significant for stalking victims. Therefore, crisis intervention and victim safety concerns will take precedence.

Safety for Victims of Stalking

GCTS is committed to supporting victims of stalking by providing the necessary safety and support services. Student victims of stalking are entitled to reasonable accommodation, if possible. Due to the complex nature of this problem, the student victim may need additional assistance in obtaining one or more of the following: No-contact order.
• Change in an academic schedule.
• The imposition of an interim suspension on the accused
• The provision of resources for medical or psychological support.

For assistance obtaining these safety accommodations, please contact the Dean's Office at 617-427-7293.

If safety is an immediate concern, encourage the victim to contact law enforcement or Campus Safety at 617-318-1646 for assistance.

POLICY ADDRESSING COUNSELORS

Reporting Procedure:

Student Life Services serves as a supporting resource to students who may need assistance in locating counseling services for themselves and their families on such issues as personal development, spiritual concerns, relational adjustments, and marital concerns. Students Life Students act as a crisis intervention and referral source. In most cases, health insurance provides mental health coverage; students are encouraged to obtain adequate protection in selecting an insurance policy. Individuals who demonstrate financial need beyond insurance coverage may be eligible to receive a subsidy from the seminary for necessary counseling through the Student Life Services office. Students who desire help in issues not requiring the credentials of a trained counselor are encouraged to talk to the Pastoral Counselor, their faculty advisor, the Dean's Office, or their pastor.

CLERY ACT note regarding campus counselors:

As a result of the negotiated rulemaking process, which followed the signing into law, the 1998 amendments to 20 USC, section 1092 (f), clarification was given to those considered to be campus security authorities. Accordingly, campus "Pastoral Counselors" and Campus "Professional Counselors" *, when acting as such, are not considered campus security authority, and are not required to report crimes for inclusion into the annual disclosure of crime statistics. However, as a matter of policy, they are encouraged, when they deem it appropriate, to inform persons being counseled of the procedures to report crimes voluntarily for inclusion into the annual crime statistics.

WEAPONS

The possession, use, or sale of firearms, ammunition, and other weapons are prohibited by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 269, and Section 10 are forbidden on campus and subject to Seminary disciplinary action and possible criminal prosecution.

• Firearm holders should be licensed in Massachusetts to carry firearms before bringing them into the State.
• The Bartley Fox Law mandates a one-year jail sentence for a person convicted of possession or carrying a handgun, rifle, or shotgun without the proper license or Firearm ID card, as applicable.
• The use of any hunting or target bow prohibited on campus.
• It is strictly prohibited to bring firearms or any proscribed weapons onto the campus or into any building (except for authorized law enforcement personnel).
• Any firearms brought onto campus should be surrendered to the Campus Security Officer.

FIREWORKS
Massachusetts State Law prohibits fireworks, firecrackers, and similar explosives. Therefore, fireworks are prohibited on campus.

SECURITY FOR CAMPUS FACILITIES

Most campus buildings and facilities are accessible to members of the Seminary community, guests, and visitors during regular business hours. In addition, the public has access to the campus grounds, the library, academic and administrative facilities, the Book Centre, and Chapel during regular business hours and for most memorable events. All campus buildings are locked overnight for safety and security.

SECURITY & THE FACILITIES

The Assistant Dean's Office addresses issues with the facilities to maintain the buildings and campus. In addition, this Office inspects campus facilities and promptly addresses any issues affecting safety and security. Safety and security hazards may also be reported by telephone or in writing to the Assistant Dean's Office.

REPORTING CRIME

Members of the Seminary community, visitors, and guests are strongly encouraged to report any emergencies and criminal activity to the Campus Safety Officer, or the Boston Police Department. In addition, Student Life Services should also be notified. To report an emergency from any Seminary extension phone or outside phone, dial 911.

- For criminal activities that pose no immediate threat or danger, dial 1646 from any seminary extension or dial (617) 318-1646 from any other phone.

Upon receipt of a call, Campus Safety is dispatched immediately to the location of the complaint. Campus Safety will also prepare and submit incident reports for the Boston Police Department.

Seminary extension phones are located at the reception desk and in the classrooms. These easily accessible phones may be used to report medical emergencies, fires, suspicious or criminal activity, and other emergencies by dialing 911. These phones also provide 24-hour direct dial access to Emergency Medical Services (Beauport Ambulance Service) and the Boston Police and Fire Departments.

The Boston Police Department also operates a 24-hour confidential drug hotline. Simply text the word “TIP” to CRIME (27463) and report a crime anonymously to the Crime Stoppers unit. REPORTING CRIME IS ON A VOLUNTARY AND CONFIDENTIAL BASIS.

The victim of a crime who does not want to pursue action within the GCTS System or the criminal justice system still wants to consider making a confidential report. The victim can grant permission to the Campus Security Officer to file a statement of the incident without revealing the individual's identity. The purpose of a confidential report is to comply with the victim's wish to keep the matter confidential while taking steps to ensure future safety. With such information, the seminary can keep an accurate record of the number of incidents involving students, determine where there is a pattern of crime concerning a location, method, or assailant, and alert the
accompany community to potential danger. Reports filed in this manner are counted and disclosed in the annual crime statistics (Clery Act) for the institution.

ACCRUATE AND PROMPT CRIME REPORTING

Community members, students, faculty, staff, and guests are encouraged to report all crimes and public safety-related incidents to the Campus Safety Officer promptly.

1. To report a crime in progress or an emergency on the Boston campus, call 911 IMMEDIATELY to report the alleged crime.

2. To report a non-emergency security or public safety-related matter, call the Campus Safety Officer at extension 1646 or outside the Gordon-Conwell phone system, (617) 318-1646.

In response to a call, the Campus Safety Officer will take the required action, asking the victim to report to the Campus Safety Office to file an incident report.

All incident reports are forwarded to the Dean's Office for review. The Campus Safety Officer, or Boston Police will investigate an incident when it is necessary, to assist the Boston Police or Fire Department, Campus Safety Officer, contact the appropriate unit. If a sexual assault or rape should occur, staff on the scene, including the Campus Safety Officer, will offer the victim a wide variety of services. GCTS trained personnel to assist a victim 24 hours a day through Student Life Services.

This publication contains information about on-campus and off-campus resources. The data is available to any member of the GCTS community who has become the victim of a crime.

Report Crimes to the Campus Safety Officer to ensure inclusion in the annual crime statistics and aid in providing timely notices to the Seminary community, when appropriate.

MONITORING AND RECORDING OFF-CAMPUS CRIMINAL ACTIVITY THROUGH LOCAL POLICE.

GCTS, Boston Campus, does not monitor and record student off-campus criminal activity through the local police unless informed by the Boston Police Department of a severe incident with a student. Additionally, GCTS, Boston Campus, does not have on or off-campus housing. Therefore, the Boston Campus has no policy concerning monitoring and recording student off-campus criminal activity through local police.

CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Crime Prevention Programs are sponsors of various campus organizations such as personal safety and theft prevention. The Campus Safety Officer will facilitate students, faculty, new student orientations, student, and Seminary community organizations. In addition, program offerings to Residence Life Coordinators and residents provide various educational strategies and tips on protecting themselves from sexual assault, theft, and other crimes.

SECURITY AWARENESS PROGRAMS

Students are informed of services offered by the Campus Safety Officer during fall and spring orientation. These include ways to maintain vehicle safety, personal safety, and residence hall security. Students are informed about
crime on-campus and in surrounding neighborhoods. Similar information is available for new employees. Crime Prevention Programs and Seminars are offered continually.

Periodically during the academic year, the Campus Safety Officer, in cooperation with other departments, present crime prevention awareness sessions on sexual assault (rape and acquaintance rape), on-campus auto rules and regulations, theft, and vandalism, as well as educational sessions on personal safety and residence hall security.

A common theme of all awareness and crime prevention programs is to encourage students and employees to be aware of their responsibility for their security and the security of others.

When time is of the essence, information released to the Seminary community through security alerts posted prominently throughout campus, via email as well as a voice.

TIMELY WARNINGS

If a situation arises, either on or off-campus, that, in the judgment of the Campus Safety Officer, in conjunction with the appropriate administrative personnel, constitutes an ongoing or continuing threat. Then a campus-wide "timely warning" will be issued through the Seminary email system to students, faculty, staff. In addition, depending on the circumstances of the crime, the Campus Safety Officer may also post a notice or notice campus-wide, providing the Seminary community with additional information. In such instances, a copy of the notice is published in each residence hall and apartment residence, at the front door of an academic building on campus, and on the Student Life Services bulletin board. Anyone with information warranting a timely warning should report the circumstances to the Campus Safety Office by phone (617-318-1646) or in person at the Campus Safety office.

CAMPUS EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

GCTS has implemented the Send-Word-Now (SWN) Emergency Alert System to expand and enhance its emergency notification methods. In the event of an emergency, the Send-Word-Now Emergency Alert Notification may be used to provide pertinent information and instructions to GCTS students, faculty, staff, and residents through voice, text messaging, or Email. GCTS uses the Send-Word-Now Emergency Alert Notification Service, a web-based mass notification system that instantly sends emergency messages and registers mobile phones, wireless devices, and Email addresses.

GCTS will, without delay and accounting for the community's safety, determine the content of the notification and initiate the Send-Word-Now Emergency Alert Notification System.

USE OF ELECTRONIC or CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS (AS APPROPRIATE); CAMPUS EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM (SEND WORD NOW)

Any major emergency announcements or notifications will be communicated through the Send-Word-Now Emergency Alert Notification System in addition to any other means available.

The Send-Word-Now Emergency Alert Notification shall be used to immediately notify the campus community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health and safety of students, faculty, or staff occurring on the campus unless issuing a notification will compromise efforts to contain the emergency.
OTHER MEANS OF NOTIFICATION

- Telephones

The campus telephone system will be used to the extent possible. For example, if there is a need to call for emergency services from an outside government agency such as police or fire department, dial 911 on any campus telephone.

- Monitored Systems

All fire alarms result in an automatic response by the Boston Fire Department. In addition, the Campus Safety Officer, and other emergency services respond as well.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EVACUATION PLANS

GCTS’ Boston Campus Emergency Evacuation Plan was created to assist students, faculty, and staff who occupy campus buildings in preparing for building emergencies.

GCTS has the following Emergency Response and Evacuation plans in place for the Boston campus:

- Campus, Emergency Information Areas are located throughout campus.
- Guidebooks, Emergency Response Quick Guides, and Evacuation Assembly Area Maps.
- Campus Emergency Evacuation Plan
- Emergency Response Quick Guides posted in classrooms.
- Campus Short and Long-Term Evacuation Contingency Plan
- Campus Pandemic Flu/Illness Plan
- Campus Fire Safety Right-To-Know
- Safety Coordinators assigned to office, dorm, and apartment buildings.
- Safety Committee

All Emergency Response and Evacuation plans found on the Campus Safety webpage at the following link in the seminary’s website:

http://www.gordonconwell.edu/boston/current/Boston-Emergency-Response-Information.cfm

An email notification is sent annually to the Boston campus community, informing students, faculty, and staff to review the Boston campus Emergency Evacuation Plans.

MISSING STUDENT POLICY

The Boston Campus does not have on- or off-campus housing. Therefore, the Boston Campus has no policy concerning monitoring and recording missing students. The Boston Campus does not monitor and record missing students unless informed by the Boston Police Department of a severe incident with a student.

REPORT CONCERNS ABOUT A MISSING STUDENT ON-CAMPUS.

- Boston Police Department: DIAL 911 or 617-343-4270
CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY and RIGHT-TO-KNOW

GCTS is concerned about the safety of every individual on campus and, therefore, has stringent fire safety regulations.

Fire and life safety programs must receive community-wide support to be effective. Therefore, cooperation from students and residents at fire drills announced and unannounced is expected.

Students who do not observe these regulations jeopardize the safety of others on this campus and, therefore, will be subject to disciplinary action.

GCTS complies with the Campus Fire Safety Right-to-Know Regulations from the Higher Education Act (HR 4137), which recently passed Congress TO REPORT A FIRE ON-CAMPUS

- Fire in Progress: CALL 911 or PULL the nearest Fire Alarm Pull-Station
- To Report a Past Fire (extinguished) that is discovered:
  - CALL 911 or PULL the nearest Fire Alarm Pull-Station or
  - CALL the on-duty Campus Safety Officer at 617-427-7293

CONTACT PERSON ON-CAMPUS RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY RIGHT-TO-KNOW REGULATIONS:

Faculty, staff, and students should report that a fire occurred to the Dean's Office that will update the Campus Safety Office listed below, for purposes of including the fire incident in the statistics in the annual fire safety report:

  Campus Safety Officer  
  90 Warren Street  
  Roxbury, MA 02119  
  Phone: (617) 318-1646

TO ACCESS THE 2023 CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY REPORT (CLERY ACT):

Please go to this web page link:

http://www.gordonconwell.edu/boston/current/Boston-Campus-Safety-Report.cfm

Alternatively, request a paper copy of the 2023 Campus Safety and Security Report, Boston Campus, which may be obtained by contacting the Dean/Assistant Dean's Office at 90 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119.
## 2022 Boston Campus Crime Statistics Report

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, 90 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119

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### 2021 Boston Campus Crime Statistics Report

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, 90 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119

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*With no crimes reported that constituted hate offenses, this category has been condensed into one line. Also, see separate Hate Crimes Statistics Report*
### 2020 Boston Campus Crime Statistics Report

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, 90 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119

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*With no crimes reported that constituted hate offenses, this category has been condensed into one line. Also, see separate Hate Crimes Statistics Report.
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**2020 - 2022 Boston Campus Crime Statistics Report**
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, 90 Warren Street, Roxbury, MA 02119

### Hate Crime Statistics
On-campus hate crimes reported to the Campus Safety Officer according to the category of prejudice.

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<th>GENDER IDENTITY 19</th>
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<th>SEXUAL ORIENTATION 19</th>
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