

# Statement of Enforcement Authority

## Introduction

Belmont Abbey College is an institution of higher education, which seeks to help its students become mature, well informed and responsible persons. It is an academic community in which students, faculty and staff live, study and work. An essential part of this environment is the existence of an atmosphere of well-being, security and safety.

## Mission Statement

The mission of the Belmont Abbey College Campus Safety and Police Department is to assure that all persons may participate in the life and property of Belmont Abbey College, to assure safe and orderly movement about the campus, to deter criminal activity and to service the continually changing needs of the community to the best of our abilities.

The Department's public safety role ensures that members of the community enjoy a high degree of protection from personal harm and a high degree of security for their property. This protection is manifested in round-the-clock patrol of the College campus, crime prevention, personal safety awareness programs and constant attention to the correction of potentially hazardous conditions.

## Jurisdictional Authority

Campus Police officers are empowered with full law enforcement/arrest powers under North Carolina General Statute 74g. Their jurisdiction includes all property owned or controlled by Belmont Abbey College and all state-owned or maintained roadways that bisect or run adjacent to campus property. Belmont Abbey Campus Police officers are charged with the apprehension of criminal offenders, criminal investigation, traffic enforcement/accident investigation, enforcement of all local, state, and federal laws, parking and traffic management and enforcement, community service, security of people and property, public safety, and serving warrants and summons on campus property. Belmont Abbey Campus Police officers are responsible for deterring crime, maintaining the peace, and protecting lives and property within the "campus" community which has a high density of population. Methods employed by campus police officers to make the campus safe include high visibility patrol, intervention in criminal acts in progress, investigation of criminal violations and mediation of disputes before they result in crimes.

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## Objectives

The Campus Police Department is a service-oriented law enforcement agency responsible for providing a full range of law enforcement and security services to the campus of Belmont Abbey College. We are also responsible for administering the campus parking and traffic programs. Our goals are:

1. to provide an environment where the effects of crime, disruption, and disorder are minimized allowing the academic climate of the College to flourish...an environment where members of our community and visitors feel safe;
2. to protect and promote respect for the Constitutional and Statutory rights of all individuals;
3. to provide assistance and support to those who are victimized by criminal activity;
4. to teach members of our community to protect themselves from crime and criminal activity;
5. to teach members of our community about their responsibility for living within societal standards for behavior related to their Constitutional freedoms;
6. to promote civility in personal interactions in our community; and
7. to ensure the maximum protection for all facilities and property belonging to the College.

## Mutual Aid Agreements

The Belmont Abbey Campus Police Department currently has two (2) mutual aid agreements with other law enforcement agencies. The first being with the City of Belmont Police Department and the second being a regional mutual aid agreement comprised of many law enforcement agencies in Gaston, Mecklenburg and surrounding counties in the southern piedmont region of North Carolina.

These mutual aid agreements allow Belmont Abbey Campus Police to call upon personnel and equipment from any of the participating agencies in the event of an emergency to assist in stabilizing a situation. These agreements also allow any of the participating agencies to call upon personnel and equipment from the Belmont Abbey Campus Police Department for the same purposes.