



Policy Source: Gwinnett Tech	Owner: Chief of Police	Effective: 1999
Division: Technology & Operations	Reviewed: 6/2005, 8/2009, 2/2010, 2/2018, 4/2019, 12/2020, 4/2024 Revised: 4/2024	

7.3.4 GT Civil Disturbance or Demonstrations

1. Disruptive Conduct

- a. Most campus demonstrations such as marches, meetings, picketing, and rallies will be peaceful and non-obstructive. A student demonstration should not be disrupted unless one or more of the following conditions exists as a result of the demonstration:
 - Interference with the normal operations of the college.
 - Blocking of access to offices, buildings or other college facilities.
 - Threat of physical harm to persons or damage to college facilities.
 - Failure to vacate a closed college facility.
- b. If any of these conditions exists, the chief of police, 678-226-7377 or 470-701-7952 (cell), should be notified and will be responsible for contacting and informing the President and other officers of the college. Depending on the nature of the demonstration, the appropriate procedures listed below should be followed:

2. Peaceful, Non-Obstructive Demonstrations

- a. Generally, demonstrations of this kind should not be interrupted. Demonstrators should not be obstructed or provoked and efforts should be made to conduct College business as normally as possible.
- b. If demonstrators do not leave by regular facility closing time, either arrangements will be made by the chief of police to monitor the situation during non-business hours, or determination will be made to treat the violation of regular closing hours as a non-violent, disruptive demonstration.

3. Non-Violent, Disruptive Demonstrations

- a. In the event that a demonstration blocks access to College facilities or interferes with the operation of the College, the demonstrators will be asked to terminate the disruptive activity by the vice president, the chief of police, or a campus police officer on scene..

- b. Key college personnel and student leaders may be asked by the vice president to go the area and persuade the demonstrators to desist. Consideration should be given to having a photographer available to document the demonstration for future legal action.
- c. If the demonstrators persist in the disruptive activity, the campus police and the vice president of student affairs will apprise them that failure to discontinue their actions within a specified period of time may result in disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion and possible intervention. Except in extreme emergencies, the president will be consulted before such disciplinary actions are taken.
- d. The vice president and campus police shall maintain or re-establish communications with leadership of the disruptive group for the purpose of discussion and negotiation, aimed at restoring non-disruptive behavior.
- e. If disruption continues and conditions warrant, attempts should be made by the president to secure an injunction against the disruptive group through the aid of staff and the local courts. If obtained, the chief of police should read the injunction to the disruptive group.
- f. Efforts should be made to secure the positive identification of the demonstrators in order to corroborate later testimony. Photographs may be taken if it is deemed advisable.
- g. If determination is made to seek the intervention of the police the demonstrators should be so informed. Upon arrival of the police, the remaining demonstrators will be warned of the intention to arrest.

4. Violent, Disruptive Demonstrations

- a. In the event of a violent, disruptive demonstration, the Campus Police should be notified at once Lawrenceville campus 6678-226-7377 Alpharetta North Fulton 470-282-5440 in order that they may respond and take any and all steps necessary to safeguard persons and property. The President and the Vice President for Student Affairs will be notified as soon as possible.
- b. The Chief of Police or his designee will contact the Gwinnett County Police Department if incident occurs at Lawrenceville campus or Alpharetta Police Department if incident occurs at Alpharetta North Fulton campus and advise them of a potential need for further police force assistance.