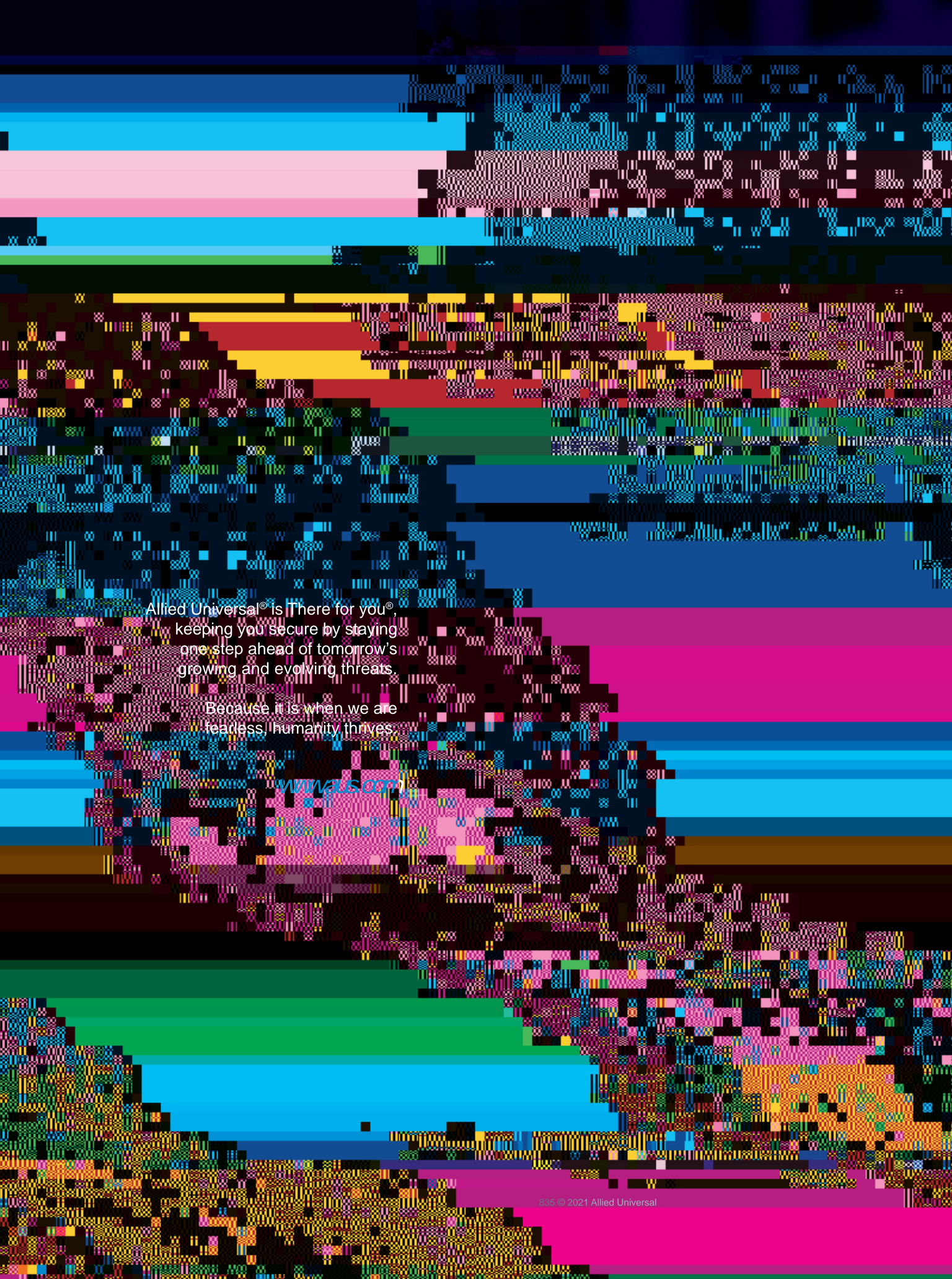


# Campus Security & Life Safety



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**C**urrent campus safety concerns include threats of terrorism, mass shootings, the pandemic, stalking, student mental health, assault and more. Schools have to remain diligent in order to keep students and faculty members safe. The responsibilities of campus security officials have always been substantial but they are even more distinct in the modern era. As campus safety continues to be a major concern moving forward, new technologies are being developed and upgraded that help security professionals effectively support and safeguard campus communities.

In the 1980s, anxiety grew about crime and security at the nation's postsecondary institutions. Higher education institutions traditionally had been considered to be safe havens where students could focus on their studies. However, a number of high-profile violent crimes on college campuses changed that perception. Such concerns led Congress to pass legislation regarding campus security and crime reporting at postsecondary institutions.

### Clery Act Evolves and Protects

When Jeanne Clery was raped and murdered in her dorm room in 1986, access control in the residence halls was primitive at best. Prior to Clery's death, there were reports that her residence hall had 181 situations of auto-locking doors being propped open by residents. The murderer likely gained access to Clery's room through a propped door, as well as her own room door having been left unlocked for her roommate, who forgot her key.

The Clery Act, named after Jeanne Clery, was championed by her parents, Connie and Howard Clery, in her memory. The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) is a federal law established in 1990 that requires colleges and universities to report crimes that occur on campus and establish school safety policies. The Clery Act also requires schools to send timely warnings to the school community when there are known risks to public safety on or nearby campus. It is enforced by the United States Department of Education, and institutions that fail to comply could face a fine of \$59,017 per violation.

This information is also available each year in an Annual Security Report (ASR)—and the associated Fire Safety Report—which can generally be found on the institution's website. Every college and university that receives any federal funding, including financial aid for students, must be transparent about all crimes committed on campus. Through Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) amendments including the Campus SaVE Act, reportable crimes also include stalking, intimidation, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and hate crimes.

The ASR, submitted in October of each year, documents three years of specific crime statistics for each specified crime at all applicable geographical locations and include procedures and information pertaining to crime victims' rights. Also included in the report are education awareness programs for students and employees and emergency response systems and procedures. Institutions must make the ASR available to all current and prospective students and institutional employees.



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### Avoiding the Spread of an Incident's Impact

Instant, multi-modal communication to students and faculty during an emergency situation keeps the campus community as safe as possible. Timely warnings of significant specific crimes—and emergency notifications of ongoing or impending hazards—that threaten a campus are mandated through the Clery Act. These warnings need to include credible information that can be used to prompt immediate student and employee action in response to the event. Promulgating these warnings and informative directions to large populations on a campus remains a challenge and requires many different simultaneous methods including sirens, loudspeakers, email, text messaging, social networking tools and word of mouth.

These multi-modal communication tools aid in minimizing tragedies and are used to provide up-to-the-minute instructions to students, faculty and staff for campus lockdowns and associated response postures. Emergency notification systems are also proving to be lifesavers in the case of significant natural and man-made disasters.

### Evolution of Access Control

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out to ensure protection of these facilities and the safety of their students, faculty, staff and visitors to those locations.

### Remote Security Management

Some academic institutions are transitioning to cloud and mobile-based security systems which simplify site management without the dependency on local servers or on-site personnel. With pandemic security at heightened importance, having a system that can be managed remotely offers enhanced control and flexibility. Remote security manage-