

# Utah Valley University      Emergency Operation Plan (EOP)

## Demonstration, Disturbance, March, Protest, Riot Plan

There are several reasons why a demonstration or a gathering may occur. The university monitors possible gatherings through Student Affairs, Mar/Comm, and UVU Police. Many groups will reach out and the university works with the groups to make plans to keep all parties safe during the event. Each plan is customized to the event.

Below are scenarios of what can or has happened on campus and the response.

### Peaceful Gathering

1. Avoid provoking or obstructing the demonstrators.
2. If concerned, avoid the area of disturbance to ensure personal safety for all.
3. Continue with normal routine.
4. Preplanned large demonstrations may have been arranged for local law enforcement presence.
5. University employees are not obligated to monitor but may report any signs of vandalism or signs of escalation to UVU Police Department.

### Highly Charged Events (i.e. controversial speaker)

#### Major Event Assessment Committee (MEAC)

Employees or students involved in the planning of a large event meet with the MEAC, a committee on campus that reviews all large events. There are criteria which when met trigger this committee to convene. Part of the review is to assess risks, threats, and hazards of the event. If the risk, threat, or hazard reaches a certain point additional safeguards may be put in place. For example, if a UVU group has invited a speaker that for some is controversial and there is knowledge of protestors or threats of violence, more detailed plans are made to ensure everyone's safety.

Some events are planned by off-campus groups and are not affiliated with any group on campus. For example, space on campus may be rented to hold an event or invite a speaker that reaches past the campus community into the surrounding community. Recent examples would include Utah's Senate Debate, GOP State convention, etc. If there are risks, threats, or hazards with this type of event a campus group will meet and review the risk, threat, or hazard.

At times it may be determined that the office of EM will activate a partial EOC (emergency operations center) to monitor activities during the event. If this occurs an EAP (emergency action plan) will be written in advance of the event, and this plan will be distributed to those involved in the EOC.

See policy 425 (MEAC) for more detailed information.

### **Disruptive behaviors in general – If the disturbance is life-threatening, call 911 and University Police at 801-863-5555**

If a disturbance seems to threaten the occupants inside a building: Report it immediately to university police and take the following actions:

1. If employees/students/visitors feel their safety is at risk evacuate the area and notify the UVU police.
2. Distance yourself from the disturbance.

3. Follow any instructions given by police, fire, or university officials.

### **Classroom/Lecture Disruption:**

1. Remain calm.
2. Request the offending person(s) leave.

### **If they refuse to leave:**

1. Be courteous and do not further provoke the situation.
2. Call the university police or 911.
3. Identify key physical description such as individuals' clothing, physical description, and activity engaged in.

All individuals planning and or participating in a protest, march, or demonstration on any Utah Valley University premises must adhere to:

### **Utah Valley University Policies and Procedures** (last updated June 22, 2017)

*Policy Title:* Freedom of Speech *Policy Number:* 161