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NEWS RELEASE: Liberty University to Pay \$14,000,000 Fine and Participate in 2-Year Post-Review Monitoring Program for Clery Act Violations

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Today, the U.S. Department of Education [announced](#) that Liberty University entered into a [Settlement Agreement](#) with the U.S. Department of Education to resolve issues arising out of the Department's Campus Crime Program Review. Under the terms of the settlement, Liberty University agreed to pay a \$14,000,000 fine, which is the largest fine imposed to date for violations of the Clery Act. The University also agreed to spend an additional \$2,000,000 over the next two years on additional safety improvements and compliance enhancements, which will supplement the various initiatives the University has already implemented in the last few years (many of which are detailed in Appendix I of the Settlement Agreement). Under the terms of the settlement, the University will participate in a two-year Post-Review Monitoring program.

The program review began in 2022 following numerous complaints received by the Department. A 106-page [Final Program Review Determination \(FPRD\)](#) issued today detailed numerous and substantive findings of noncompliance, including:

- Finding 1: Lack of administrative capability
- Finding 2: Inaccurate and incomplete informational disclosures
- Finding 3: Failure to comply with *Violence Against Women Act* (VAWA) requirements
- Finding 4: Failure to identify and notify campus security authorities and to establish an adequate system for collecting crime statistics from all required sources
- Finding 5: Failure to properly classify and disclose crime statistics
- Finding 6: Failure to issue emergency notifications in accordance with federal regulations
- Finding 7: Failure to issue timely warnings in accordance with federal regulations
- Finding 8: Failure to maintain an accurate and complete daily crime log
- Finding 9: Failure to define *Clery* geography in accordance with federal regulations
- Finding 10: Failure to comply with *Title IV* record retention
- Finding 11: Failure to publish and distribute Annual Security Report in accordance with federal regulations

In an appendix that outlined conditions of Post-Review Monitoring, the Department noted that "The Parties are committed to fully addressing the violations and other areas of concern. The Department commits to assisting the University's efforts and will provide appropriate advice and oversight."

NACCOP will offer a 2-hour webinar to breakdown the major findings and lessons learned from the Liberty University program review. The webinar will occur on Tuesday March 26, 2024, from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm ET. More information, including a link to register, can be found [here](#).

About NACCOP

The National Association of Clery Compliance Officers and Professionals (NACCOP) provides a professional association for Clery Compliance Officers and Professionals to collaborate with each other, share resources and best practices. Members are also offered opportunities to participate in professional development engagements which support colleges and universities in their efforts to comply with the Clery Act. NACCOP delivers members with resources to enhance their knowledge of the Clery Act by offering education and training opportunities for the employees who are acting as Clery Compliance Officers on college and university campuses as well as information about Clery related news and legislative updates. For more information, or to join NACCOP, visit www.naccop.org.