

**Formstack Submission For: [Campus Issues Form](#)**

Submitted at 05/19/22 10:05 AM

**Committee or Individual:** Campus Safety Commiittee

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**Issue/Concern:** Police hiring impacting sense of safety on campus

**Describe the issue/concern::**

LRPD is experiencing an extreme staffing shortage. As of May 15, 2020, only 4 of 20 full-time sworn officer positions are currently filled across the district. The recruitment and retention challenges for LRPD significantly impacts the department's ability to staff the four main campuses and eight outreach centers that are spread across Sacramento, El Dorado, and Yolo Counties. Further, adequate officer staffing is critical to effective emergency and non-emergency response capabilities. This acute reduction in police staffing comes at a time when many of our staff and faculty are reporting that they are feeling less safe on campus, particularly during the evening hours., and this issue is making the return to on-ground operations even more tenuous.

**What do you recommend or suggest solving this issue/concern? :**

Some suggestions for addressing these concerns include: There should be an emphasis on conducting environmental scans to ensure LRPD remains competitive with the salaries and benefits of other local police agencies. Explore options for increasing safety patrols/escorts (non-police) from buildings to parking lots after dark. For SCC Outreach Centers, consider partnerships with neighboring agencies such as UCD Police and/or Aggie Hosts and the West Sacramento Police Department to increase patrol coverage and response. Community Education/Crisis intervention training to align with stated goals of reducing police engagement. The Safety Committee recognizes that the presence of police and policing in general is a contentious and sensitive issue. With that in mind, we also recommend:

On-going community-building between LRPD and student, staff and faculty constituencies. Due to the shortage in officers, it has been difficult for LRPD to conduct community outreach and attend events and meetings on a regular basis, which is essential in building positive rapport between police and the campus community.

**How will this recommendation support the success of SCC students and benefit the campus community?:**

Having a well-staffed police department will support student success and community well-being by promoting a safe learning and working environment. campus safety Hiring additional police officers can help our students, staff and faculty build a safer campus community. Services such as increased escorts on campus, in addition to facilitating the partnership between SCC and \*name of mental health agency\* who have been addressing the needs of unhoused individuals. Additional police will also allow for on-going training for officers proposed by Chief Savidge in 2020, as well as allowing for representatives of the PD to participate in events, meetings and outreach.