Student Alumni Committee on Institutional Security Policy, Inc.

EIN: 20-4620339

Form 1023
Part IV [rev.] **Description of Activities**

The organization was created to respond to the unpublicized ongoing increase in the crime rate around private campuses relative to other areas, and to enhance students' well-being by engaging the entire university community in creating safer and healthier environments in which to live, study, and work.

The organization's work falls into three main categories: research; public education; and development of proactive responses.

Approximately 40% of the organization's resources are devoted to conducting basic research on campus-safety issues. The organization hires students to do statistical and field research on topics such as local crime patterns. Much of its work is based on compiling and maintaining current and accurate statistical information about university campuses throughout the United States. The organization also studies different types of security-guard systems at local universities, their effects on students, and the impact of administrative decisions on how well the guards perform their duties. Two topics being considered for additional research projects include: ways in which alumni could productively help administrations and students; and the efficacy of newly developed test kits for detecting the presence of "date-rape drugs" in drinks.

Approximately 30% of the organization's resources are devoted to distributing accurate information to the campus community, alumni, and the general public. Its findings are published in a variety of formats so that specific information is more readily accessible to those interested.

The organization compiles and edits campus crime logs and makes the information available on the Internet, enabling residents to more easily search for items of potential concern. Volunteers monitor police logs and newspaper reports for accuracy so that the organization can highlight both the good and the bad. In addition, the organization relays community crime alerts and prepares further documentation to help residents protect themselves and to assist them in bringing suspects to the attention of police.

Another ongoing project is the mapping of crime patterns at three major Bostonarea universities so that current and prospective residents can more easily determine where, for instance, it is safest to let their children play, to park their car, or to use an ATM. The organization publishes the information on its website and in local newspapers that students commonly read, and it also distributes fliers and leaflets on campus.

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Approximately 20% of the organization's resources are devoted to projects for maintaining students' physical and mental health and well-being. One of its first projects explored the potential effects of pandemics on the maintenance of adequate support and security infrastructures. Based on its independent evaluations, it generated suggestions and recommendations that could help universities avoid pitfalls in their current systems. It is also studying ventilation patterns in campus buildings and their effects on the spread of airborne diseases including influenza, and distributing educational materials on the benefits of live-virus immunization.

The organization convenes weekly meetings of its volunteer participants and paid research assistants to discuss progress and to coordinate the publication of their findings. Because student participants are actively engaged at their own campuses, they bring topics of current and specific concern on those campuses to the organization's attention. Research assignments are then given to students who demonstrate a commitment to campus safety and a proven ability to conduct research and complete related writing projects in a timely, efficient manner.

The organization now functions on three different campuses in the greater Boston area but it intends to expand to involve colleges throughout the United States. In addition, the organization responds to requests from other groups that are interested in public safety and provides support services as needed. It has, for example, assisted other groups with compiling local crime statistics, publicizing events, and distributing crime-related information from the local news; consulted on safety problems; and supplied funds for public-service projects such the distribution of drink-testing kits.

Approximately 10% of the organization's resources are devoted to coordination of research projects, fundraising, and other administrative tasks. The organization intends to solicit donations from individuals and organizations who support its goals or who may be benefiting from its work. Such groups include, but are not limited to, neighborhood groups, campus-employee unions, alumni associations, women's safety groups, and the parents of current students.