It Didn’t Happen Here: False Report of On-Campus Assault Made

Student had told Campus Safety and Police she was assaulted here, but officials determined that wasn’t the case. Safety still a focus.

The report of an on-campus sexual assault of a student triggered a series of reactions — including negative media coverage. But, literally as a TV news crew rolled up, police announced that the alleged attack didn’t take place at Cypress College.

While it is certainly a relief to know that such a terrible act did not happen here, the messages about personal safety distributed in what appeared to be the wake of the incident are still valid.

In fact, they are important to follow so that we can continue to maintain a safe campus. Here are some personal safety tips that are wise to follow at any time:

• Exercise caution when approached by someone you don’t know.
• Guard your identification and personal information.
• Be aware of your surroundings.
• Travel in groups or pairs.
• Campus Safety is located adjacent to the Food for Thought dining room, near the Fine Arts Building. The office can be reached at (714) 484-7387 or via e-mail to ssmith@cypresscollege.edu.
• Escorts to and from your vehicle are available by contacting Campus Safety.

It may also help to know the process followed by the campus.

Immediately after receiving the report, Campus Safety contacted the Cypress Police Department, which responded to the campus to begin an investigation. At the same time, additional Cypress College Campus Safety Officers began expanded patrols of the campus to look for a male matching a description provided to Campus Safety.

Considering the nature of the allegation — and the legal restrictions on distributing information related to assault victims — it took a period of time for details to be OK’d for release to the public.

At no point was there any indication that the campus population was at greater risk of harm than was the case a week ago, or even a month ago.

Firebaugh Speaks on Campus Wednesday

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, former California Assembly member Marco Antonio Firebaugh will be a guest speaker on Wednesday, September 28, from 11 a.m-12:30 p.m., in the Theater. He is a former member of the California State Legislature and has served as the Assembly majority leader.

Firebaugh is the author of the law that allows undocumented high school graduates to attend college. He will talk about his passion for education and what inspired him to author AB 540.
You're Invited

Join Us in Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with Guest Speaker . . .

Marco Antonio Firebaugh

Former California Assembly member
Sponsored AB 540 exemption for Non-resident Tuition
Champion for California's Environment
Protecting California's Working Families
Fighting for Educational Equity
Improving Our Quality of Life

Date: Wednesday, September 28
Time: 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Location: Campus Theater

Sponsored by the Campus Diversity Committee
For further information, contact Gina Marrocco (714) 484-7049
Prop. 76, School Funding Explored

The League of Women Voters of North Orange County and Cal State Fullerton will present a seminar on California's complex school funding regarding Proposition 76 on September 28, from 7 to 9 p.m. The event will take place at the Titan Center, Pavilion B, located on the California State University, Fullerton campus. The program will provide an overview of funding, a Prop. 76 analysis, and a Q-and-A session. The seminar is being funded by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.
Construction Photo Gallery

Click anywhere on this page to see the latest from the college's construction zones.