WE thought we would take a look back over the past year and reflect on all that has occurred with regards to the University of Montana’s Clery program. Just some of the highlights in this issue include having a person dedicated to our compliance efforts for Clery, publishing two Annual Security Reports within 10 months of each other, and having more institutional buy in with creating a larger committee to keep Clery in the front of our minds. Sit back and hope you enjoy reflecting back on the last year with us.
HIRED CLERY COMPLIANCE PROFESSIONAL

We have to step back a little more than a year ago to get a better view of some of our accomplishments. In October 2020 the University of Montana hired a Clery Compliance Professional. This person would have full time and attention on our Clery program and help keep the overall institutions efforts at the forefront as much as possible. For UM this is huge because not only are we the first and only ones in the state of Montana to hire this position, but we are also ahead of the curve with many institutions across the nation in taking our Clery compliance to the next level.

Our Clery Compliance Professional has received a variety of trainings prior to being hired but has also achieved their Clery Compliance Officer certification from NACCOP, National Association of Clery Compliance Officers and Professionals. This certification required completing 10 courses, a researched writing assignment and a 3 hour online certification exam. There are approximately 150 CCOs across the nation, and the University of Montana has one of those.

PUBLISHED TWO ANNUAL SECURITY AND FIRE SAFETY REPORTS IN THE LAST 10 MONTHS

Due to the Pandemic, the Department of Education extended the 2020 deadline for institutions to get their annual report published to their campus community by December 31, 2020. The University of Montana took that opportunity to get all the needed information together from the multitude of offices across campus and published the 2020 report on December 23, 2020.

Beginning of 2021 the work began again in compiling crime stats, collecting any policy or process changes in regard to Clery, and also compiling all the educational programming that took place for prevention and awareness in regard to VAWA (Violence Against Women Act). This work also involved weekly, monthly or quarterly meetings with offices who have received reports of crime and being able to classify those crimes for Clery. This was a collaborative effort for many offices across campus. With everyone’s efforts being so timely we were able to get our 2021 Annual report out to the campus community by our October 1st deadline. Thank you!
PASSING GRADE

In late Fall 2021, the Department of Education requested to do a Level 1 review of our Clery program with emphasis on how reports can be made by Campus Security Authorities, the training Campus Security Authorities receive and how UMPD reports crime on our daily crime log. We were informed that our Clery program at UM is satisfactorily meeting compliance for Clery. There were some suggestions for our annual report and we have made those edits and republished our Annual report by the end of 2021.

IN CONCLUSION

Overall 2021 has been a good year for UM and our Clery compliance. We always have room for improvement but overall we are working with the goal to take care of each other and help make campus safer for everyone!