



Crime Prevention News

January 2007

New Years Message from AVP for Public Safety James F. McShane

I would like to wish each of you a healthy and prosperous New Year and to welcome you back to campus for the Spring Semester. In 2006, New York City again enjoyed a decrease in crime, and continues to be the 'Safest Big City in America.' Like New York City, Columbia University continues to be one of the safest major universities in the country. In a study reported by Harvard University in 2004, Columbia was found to be the safest of participating institutions. Credit for this success can be shared by many. First, the men and women of our Department of Public Safety who work tirelessly to prevent crime on campus and are relentless in investigating any crimes that do occur. Next, credit should go to the N.Y.P.D., particularly the men and women of the 26th and 33rd Precincts. Day in and day out, they are a reassuring presence throughout the Morningside and Washington Heights areas. Finally, credit must also go to you, the members of the Columbia Community.

Since my arrival here three years ago, I have advocated a crime prevention partnership that includes all of us here at Columbia. As we begin a new year, I am pleased to report that you have risen to the challenge. Over the past year, many of you have been instrumental in preventing crime on campus and in identifying suspects when crimes have been committed. It is this willingness to be a part of the solution that has been so critical to our shared success.

As we begin 2007, I would like to ask all of you to recommit yourself to the campus crime fighting team. In particular, I ask you to keep your eyes and ears open and to eliminate opportunities for crimes to occur by keeping a close watch on your property. During the past year, larcenies, particularly larcenies of unattended property, accounted for nearly half of all reported crime on the Morningside Campus. At the Medical Center, this ratio is only slightly lower.

You can help to reduce these numbers! Please don't leave your possessions unattended in libraries or other public spaces. This is an invitation to theft. Also, please let us know whenever you observe suspicious activity. **We can be reached at 854-5555, or 99 on any campus phone at the Morningside Campus & 305-8100 at the Medical Center Campus. I invite all of you to participate in 2007 in making Columbia University, again, the safest of the Ivies!! Have a great Spring.**



The NYPD "Blue Light" (invisible ink) Proven Effective & Available at CU Public Safety

Just added in September 2006 to Public Safety's arsenal of crime prevention programs, the NYPD "Blue Light" (permanent invisible ink) program is designed to assist Law enforcement to recover lost or stolen items. A special light is shined on the property that is found or recovered to determine if the item is registered in the program. An assigned number will appear when the light is shined on the property. Ideal for cell phones, MP3 Players, PDAs, calculators, laptops and more. The NYPD "Blue Light" program is **FREE**. For more information, please call crime prevention at **854-8513**.



*Crime Prevention Coloring Books & Fingerprint Kits for Children are
 Now Available at Public Safety. Please call 854-8513*