



# WILLIAM & MARY

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## **DIRECTIVE 703**

**TITLE:** Graffiti and Vandalism Policy

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** February 9, 2016

**REVISION OF:** First Version

### **I. SCOPE:**

The Graffiti and Vandalism Policy applies to all Facilities Management (FM) personnel.

### **II. PURPOSE:**

To provide standard procedures for reporting any graffiti or vandalism on University buildings and grounds, as well as establish procedures for the clean-up and removal of such.

### **III. DEFINITIONS:**

Violence: Acts of violence include: intentionally damaging property

Hate Crimes are defined for Clery Act purposes as certain crimes committed against a person or property when such crimes are motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's (perpetrator's) bias. Bias is defined as a preformed negative opinion toward a group of persons based on their race, gender, religion, ethnic/national origin, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity. These crimes include: destruction/damage/vandalism to property to include graffiti.

### **IV. POLICY:**

#### **Background:**

At William & Mary, vandalism is defined as an "Act of Violence" which must be reported to allow the university to take appropriate action to protect the safety of the

campus community. Graffiti of an offensive nature, which may be considered hate violence, must be investigated by campus police before FM can remove it.

**Procedure:**

When finding graffiti or vandalism of property on the university campus, do **NOT** attempt to clean or remove any writing/drawings or clean up any debris from property destruction. FM staff will contact her/his immediate supervisor (Grounds and Gardens staff members will contact the associate director) immediately and leave the scene as undisturbed as possible to allow for a full and complete investigation by police. If the graffiti possesses any of the following characteristics, the FM supervisor or Associate Director of Grounds and Gardens shall notify campus police (757-221-4596) and removal and remediation postponed until an investigation is complete.

- Threatening, intimidating, or offensive in nature
- Is repetitive or has persistent patterns
- Is highly visible
- Victim is identified
- Perpetrator is identified
- Prompts violence
- Targets particular group(s)

**Examples:** swastikas, epithets in public places or on personal property, hate graffiti clearly aimed at individuals by naming them, being placed on their belongings, etc.

If the graffiti or vandalism does not contain or suggest any of the above, the FM supervisor or Associate Director of Grounds and Gardens may authorize removal and restoration or leaving the graffiti in place (such as chalk writing/drawings on walks).

**Examples:** small graffiti in bathrooms and other public places which is general and vague.

Regardless of the nature of the graffiti of vandalism, a work order shall be created when restoration of areas impacted exceeds routine cleaning and maintenance.

**V. REFERENCES:**

Campus Violence and Threat Management document created by the Committee on Education and Prevention of Violence

**VI. APPROVAL, AMENDMENT, AND GUIDANCE:**

This policy was approved by the Associate Vice President of Facilities Management and

will be reviewed periodically to ensure continued effectiveness.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Van Dobson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Van Dobson, P.E.  
Associate Vice President  
Facilities Management