February 17, 2009

Dear Colleagues:

Your daily efforts in making Citrus College a safe environment that supports learning is commendable. However, several cars parked in one of the student parking lots were recently vandalized or burglarized. This unprecedented activity, we believe, may be a byproduct of the economic crisis we are experiencing, which is often accompanied by an increase in criminal activity.

As we enter spring semester, please remind your students and staff that a safe college community largely depends on each of its members taking responsibility for their personal and collective safety, and by practicing the following proactive measures.

- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Lock your vehicle; do not leave your valuables and other personal belongings where they can be seen.
- Keep track of your wallet or backpack when you are in class, the library, a lab or other campus areas.
- Keep desks or offices locked when appropriate.
- Walk in well-lighted areas at night, preferably with a friend.
- Tell your family or friends where you are going, what time you will arrive, and what time you will return home.
- Report any illegal or suspicious behavior to the Security Office, 626-914-8611, or extension 8611 if you are calling from a campus phone. If you are calling from a campus pay phone, you can reach Security by pressing *11.

In addition, please assure your students and staff of the Security Office’s 24-hour presence on campus. Their services include vehicle jump-starts, vehicle unlocks, and a security escort. The security escort is available on campus, for safety rather than convenience, from dusk to dawn. Please note that during busy periods, callers may experience a 10-minute delay in the arrival of the officer.
Thank you for your cooperation in this matter and best wishes for a successful spring semester.

Sincerely,

Geraldine M. Perri, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President

GMP:pg