THE Incident REPORT

The DEC Page

Steven Stoeger-Moore, President

Covid Denial

A friend of mine, who describes himself as a "recovering mental health professional," describes *Denial* as a wonderful defense mechanism. It allows us to completely avoid unpleasant feelings and/or situations by ignoring their existence. Sometimes this works, but most times it only serves to postpone some unpleasantness.

Currently, based on print and broadcast news as well as personal experience, Covid denial seems widespread. We want to believe the pandemic is over and Covid is no longer a threat that we need to monitor and mitigate. We don't want to think about annual vaccine shots, masks, and other preventative measures. Yet, new strains of Covid are appearing and the incidence is increasing.

New vaccines are coming on the market that will increase our chances of avoiding serious health risks. And the proven mitigation steps (hand washing, thorough cleaning, masking etc.) are still effective – we just need to remember that as Risk Managers, we set the example and provide the leadership for managing contagious diseases like Covid.

As we move into the fall flu season, it will be important to monitor, manage and mitigate the risk of contagious illness and provide the guidance that will help ensure a healthy staff and student population.

Politics

It's like Déjà Vu all over again. I can clearly remember talking about the risks associated with the 2020 Democratic National Convention coming to Milwaukee and the likelihood of public protest and civil disobedience. But, because of Covid, the DNC went virtual, and the threats of violence diminished.

Now, here we are with the Republican National Convention coming to Milwaukee, and the risk of violent protest and civil disobedience has increased because of the political environment, as well as the declaration that Wisconsin is a "battleground state." And you watch your local news, you will probably learn that the risk of political conflict exists far beyond Milwaukee and can be found across the state.

So, what are the steps we can take to mitigate the risk of political misbehavior at our college? Some basic steps include:

1. Paying attention to our environment – practicing situational awareness.
2. Talk with local law enforcement about intelligence information that could impact the college.
3. Talk with colleagues around the state about what they are seeing and how their experience could help your college.
4. Stay in touch with the DMI Campus Security Consultant about trends in risk and risk mitigation.

RMF

The 2024 DMI Risk Mitigation Forum dates are confirmed – April 17, 18 and 19, 2024.

The Forum will return to the Bemis Conference Center at St. Norbert College. Our 2022 experience at St. Norbert was rated very positively by the attendees and we have heard that many of you are looking forward to returning.

We will have an All-Star group of presenters addressing topics of interest for Wisconsin Technical College risk management and we will be releasing more detailed information in the near future.

So, reserve the dates on your calendars and stay tuned for further information.

Steven

> "*Stay away from those people who try to disparage your ambitions. Small minds will always do that, but great minds will give you a feeling that you can become great too.* ~ Mark Twain"

Campus Safety Awareness Month: Empowering College Communities

Lance Klukas, DMI Security Consultant

As September arrives, new students are arriving on our campuses. This is a perfect time to shine a spotlight on the safety and security of our students, employees, and visitors. Campus Safety Awareness Month serves as a reminder for colleges to prioritize the well-being of their students, employees, and visitors. As the academic year kicks off, this month-long initiative aims to empower college communities with the knowledge, tools, and resources needed to create a safe and secure environment for everyone. This is also a great time to send out your Annual Security Report as required by the Clery Act by October 1.

Why Campus Safety Matters

Your college is a dynamic and diverse space where many individuals come together to pursue education and personal growth. Campus safety isn't just about physical security; it encompasses digital and technology safety, mental health support, and promoting a culture of respect and inclusivity.   ***Click here to read more.***

eRiskHub®

Netdiligence, the creators of eRiskHub® have just announced 3 New Cyber Tools for eRiskHub® Users! These features have been carefully developed to empower users with cutting-edge knowledge and insights and are being provided to all College members through the DMI provided e-RiskHub® portal. Login to the eRiskHub® today and click "Cyber Tools" in the main menu to access these and other cyber tools available to you.

- **Data Privacy Law Map & Reference Guide** - Stay informed about U.S. data privacy regulations with the new Data Privacy Law Map from Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete, LLP*. This interactive tool provides a comprehensive overview of data privacy laws across different states, thus making it easier than ever to understand the legal requirements governing data handling and compliance in various regions!
- **Complimentary Code Red Alerts** - eRiskHub® users can activate Code Red Alerts from DarkWeb IQ. These alerts act as an early warning alert system in the event they are targeted by ransomware criminals. DarkWeb IQ is a public-private partnership with exclusive visibility into ransomware gang targeting.
- **Self-Guided AI Risk Review** -There are many questions about the cyber risks associated with using artificial intelligence (AI) technology. The new AI Risk Review tool from Future Point of View offers insights and guidance to help users assess and mitigate AI-related cyber risk by completing a short, self-guided survey about their organization's current relationship with AI.

DMI Presents...Topical Snapshots

"Safe Return"

presented by Willie Henning, DMI Environmental Health & Safety Consultant

This month's topic, "Safe Return", is available for viewing. "Safe Return", is a brief discussion on steps the Colleges can take to prepare for a safe return of students, staff, and visitors for the fall semester.

To view the video click here.

9 Ways to Improve Safety on an Open Campus

Protecting open campuses can be challenging but there are solutions and technologies available to help improve safety and security.

By Lt. Joseph Pangaro, CPM

The recent tragedy at Michigan State University where a deranged killer simply walked onto campus and into several school buildings and attacked innocent people is an example of the danger of the "open campus."

This type of campus is popular at many universities, private schools, and some public schools. It offers the students and staff a feeling of freedom that lends itself to learning and personal expression. It also makes a statement that says, "This is a safe place."

I have conducted threat assessments for many schools, both public and private, and I have marveled at this open campus concept in this day and age — a time when active shooter/active killer attacks are on the rise across the nation. Attacks increased from 21 in 2019 to 61 in 2022.

The open campus concept certainly implies the campus is not

Click here to read more.

Reminder of Upcoming Events:

DMI Quarterly In-Person Meetings
at Moraine Park Technical College
October 24, 2023 - 9:00 am, Room O109A
DMI Board of Directors Meeting
October 25, 2023 - 9:00 am, Room A112
Joint Meeting of Risk/Campus Security/EH&S Managers

If you are planning on reserving a room at the Hotel Retlaw, book your room before the **September 23rd cut-off date.**

Help us plan meals and meeting room accommodations by confirming/RSVP your attendance either through the emailed calendar invitation or by calling or sending an email to Suzette Harrell (suzette@districtsmutualinsurance.com) no later than October 10, 2023