

Personal Safety Alert

Date of posting: 09/28/2025

Sexual Assault

On 09/28/2025, University Security received a report of a sexual assault that occurred on 09/28/2025 in one of the campus parking lots. The victim reported having met the suspect on social media. University officials and law enforcement are investigating.

*Anyone with information about the above incident are urged to call University Security at 507-389-2111 or the Mankato Police at 507-304-4863.

Sexual assault is not sex; it is an act of violence. Although some people are assaulted by strangers, many other victims know their assailant.

If you or someone you know is sexually assaulted you can report it to University Security (507-389-2111).

- An advocate will be contacted for free and confidential services anytime.
- To preserve evidence do not bathe, shower, or change your clothes until you have talked to an advocate or the police.

Social Media Safety:

- Avoid sharing personal information.
- Research potential matches and verify the person's identity.
- Trust your instincts and inform a trusted friend or family member of your plans.
- Meet in a public place.
- Stay aware and pay attention to your surroundings.

Sexual assault can happen to anyone. Anyone initiating any kind of sexual contact with another person must seek consent and not engage in sexual contact unless consent is given. The perpetrator, not the survivor, is responsible for any instance of sexual assault. Nothing a survivor does or does not do is an excuse for sexual assault.

According to Minnesota State Colleges and Universities 1B.3 Sexual Misconduct Policy, consent is defined as follows:

Affirmative consent is informed, freely given, and mutually understood willingness to participate in sexual activity that is expressed by clear, unambiguous, and affirmative words or actions. Affirmative consent is subject to the following:

- The person who wants to engage in sexual activity is responsible for ensuring that the other person has consented to the sexual activity.
- Consent must be present throughout the entire sexual activity and can be revoked at any time.
- If coercion, intimidation, threats, and/or physical force are used, there is no consent.
- If the person is mentally or physically incapacitated or impaired so that the complainant cannot understand the fact, nature, or extent of the sexual situation, there is no consent; this includes conditions due to alcohol or drug consumption, or being asleep or unconscious.
- A lack of protest, absence of resistance, or silence alone does not constitute consent, and past consent to sexual activities does not imply ongoing future consent.
- The existence of a dating relationship between the people involved or the existence of a past sexual relationship does not prove the presence of, or otherwise provide the basis for, an assumption of consent.
- Whether an individual has taken advantage of a position of influence over another person may be a factor in determining consent.

For more information on consent, see <http://admin.mnsu.edu/equal-opportunity-title-ix/sexual-violence/>.

As the Sexual Violence Policy makes clear: "Minnesota State Colleges and Universities is committed to eliminating sexual violence in all forms and will take appropriate remedial action against any individual found responsible for acts in violation of this policy."