



**MURRAY**  

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**STATE COLLEGE**

**Expressive Speech Annual Report**

**December 31, 2023**

Pursuant to 70 O.S. §2120, Murray State College submits the following to demonstrate its course of action for compliance with the requirements of this statute.

### **Barriers or Disruptions of Free Expression for 2023**

Murray State College experienced no barriers or disruptions of free speech during the calendar year ending December 31, 2023.

This report can be found at: <https://www.mscol.edu/about-msc/consumer-information>

### **MSC Campus Expression Policy**

<https://www.mscol.edu/administration/human-resources/policies-procedures>

### **Professional Development for Students and Employees**

Murray State College communicates policy and expectations to students and employees through educational programming provided to the faculty, staff, and students, as well as publication of policies in their respective handbooks and on the College website. The College may also choose to communicate new policy and/or updates through electronic communication.

### **Copy of Professional Development Training Information Sheet**

The following professional development information was provided to the campus community via email to faculty, staff, and students and will be provided each semester. The information is also located on bulletin boards in each building, campus Police Department, and the office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

#### **First Amendment, Expressive Speech, §70-2120**

#### **Murray State College Professional Development**

##### **Part 1: State Law**

- Passed in the 2019 Oklahoma Legislature, signed by the Governor, effective August 30, 2019. Available at §70-2120.
- In brief, the law requires that on public college and university campuses in Oklahoma the campus community and the public may **use unrestricted accessible outdoor green spaces for non-commercial expressive activities** because this space is now by statute considered a traditional public forum, which can be used unless it materially and substantially disrupts the College subject to **reasonable time, place, and manner restrictions**.

- This law is consistent with historical federal guidance regarding 1st Amendment protected events on this issue, but also requires:
  - New College policy
  - New training for faculty, staff, and students
  - Annual report to the Governor and Legislature
  - Posted on College webpage (<3 links) <https://www.msco.edu/administration/human-resources/policies-procedures>
  - Notification of lawsuits

## **Part 2: College Policy**

- In accordance with the state law, MSC developed a policy, which addresses the bolded key terms above. The policy is available at <https://www.msco.edu/administration/human-resources/policies-procedures>
- Take some time to review the time, place, and manner restrictions.

## **Part 3: Expectations**

- Guide outdoor visitors to the right resources on the website.
- Campus police can greet outdoor expressive speech visitors with a Visitor Information Card.

## **Part 4: Frequently Asked Questions**

- The College designates the following indoor facilities as unavailable for Expressive Activity: administrative offices, laboratories, and classrooms.
- The public may reserve these indoor campus facilities: Requests should be made to the director of each venue.
- The public and MSC employees may reserve outdoor space by contacting the Vice President for Student Affairs office at 580-387-7131 or by emailing [studentaffairs@msco.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@msco.edu).
- MSC students may reserve both indoor and outdoor space by contacting the Vice President for Student Affairs office at 580-387-7131 or by emailing [studentaffairs@msco.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@msco.edu).
- The campus community and the public may use generally accessible outdoor areas for non-commercial expressive activities on a first come, first served basis without giving prior notice if the activity does not materially and substantially disrupt the function of the College, as defined by state law.
- Time, place, and manner restrictions are in effect. Please read the policy in its entirety. Examples include:
  - No items may be attached in any manner to trees, bushes, benches, light poles, buildings, vehicles, or permanent signs.
  - Non-commercial pamphlets, handbills, fliers, and other written materials may be distributed on a person-to-person basis in open areas outside of building if done in a way to avoid substantial littering on the campus.
  - Complaints about free speech may be made using the institutional issue/complaint form.

## Copy of Visitor Information Card



To review our campus expressive activity policy visit:  
<https://www.msco.edu/administration/human-resources/policies-procedures>

**For emergencies:**  
Contact the MSC Campus Police at 580-371-0007

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Murray State College is committed to providing an environment where issues can be openly discussed and explored. The freedom to exchange views is essential to the mission of the college.

MSC has an expressive activity policy in place to provide a community environment where open discussion can occur without disrupting the academic mission or daily functions of the college, subject to constitutional time, place, and manner limitations, and without unconstitutionally interfering with the rights of other members of the college community.

MSC does not have "free speech zones" - any publicly accessible outdoor area on the college's campus is open for use as public forums, as long as the said area is not reserved by another member of the campus community for an event or activity. Any acts that are disruptive to the normal operations of the college, including classes and college business, or that invade the rights of others will not be tolerated.

### Our Mission

We provide opportunities for student learning, personal growth, professional success and community enhancement.

### Our Vision

We strive to be a vibrant and progressive student-centered community in which pathways to success are varied, all are valued and educational opportunities abound.

