

#### WORKPLACE VIOLENCE: What is it? Identifying Precursors, Situational Awareness, Reporting and Environmental Awareness

# WORKPLACE VIOLENCE: THE LAW

- AB 1299 enacted April 1, 2017.
  - CCR Title 8, Section 3342
- Designed to track violence against healthcare staff.
- CalOSHA oversees the reporting of violence.
- Healthcare facilities must have:
  - Violent Incident Log
  - Recordkeeping
  - Workplace Violence Prevention Plan Know where yours is kept!
  - Annual Review of the Workplace Violence Prevention Plan
  - Mechanism to report workplace violence
  - Provide training

# **DEFINITION OF WORKPLACE VIOLENCE**

• Policy and Procedure 1616 defines workplace violence as:

Any act of violence, or threat of violence, that occurs against an employee at the worksite.

**NOTE:** violations of P&P 1649 (incivility) do not qualify as workplace violence, but can still be reported in RL Solutions using the Professional Conduct icon.



# WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION PLAN

- Each unit has a copy of the UC Davis Facility Plan (know where it is located)
- Plan is reviewed and update annually
- The Campus Safety Advisory and Executive Committees are charged with discussing and implementing modifications to the Plan.
- Changes to the plan stem from incidents, hazard assessments, and employee feedback.

#### **TYPES OF WORKPLACE VIOLENCE**

- **Type 1:** Violence committed by an individual with no legitimate business at the facility
- **Type 2:** Violence committed by a patient and/or guest upon a healthcare staff member.
- **Type 3:** Violence committed by healthcare staff member upon another healthcare staff member
- **Type 4:** Violence committed by an individual who is not a healthcare worker but has or knows a healthcare worker

# **PRECURSORS OF VIOLENCE: PATIENTS**

- Known psychiatric issues
- Known drug or alcohol issues
- Agitated state/yelling
- Verbal cues
- Clenching of jaw/fists
- Increased respirations
- Erratic movements
- Hiding objects

- Intense staring/fixated
- Stance/Body language
- Delayed response
- Personal space violation
- Attempts to isolate

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS: PATIENTS**

- Family members/Guests
- Objects within the room
  - Bed pans
  - Cups
  - Furniture
  - Medical Equipment
  - Makeshift weapons
- Stethoscope
- Transportation



#### SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

- Lighting
- Escape routes
- Physical Barriers
- Obstacles to accessing alarm systems
- Storage of high-value items



# **PRECURSORS OF VIOLENCE: CO-WORKERS**

- Change in behavior patterns
- Disruptive behavior
- History of threats or violent actions
- Verbal abuse or harassment
- Increased agitation
- Hypersensitive to criticism
- Drug/alcohol issues
- Financial issues
- Displacement of blame

- High degree of emotional stress
- Erratic or impulsive behavior
- Holds grudges
- Complaints of unfair treatment
- Low tolerance of frustration
- Fascination with weapons
- Homicidal or suicidal ideations
- Any behavior, or collective behaviors, that instill fear

# WHAT TO REPORT TO THE WPV UNIT

- Physical Battery or Attempted Physical Battery.
  - Punching, pushing, kicking, spitting, shoving, slapping, grabbing, etc...
  - Attempts to punch, push, kick, spit on, shove, slap, grab, etc...
  - Includes sexual assault and battery or attempted sexual assault and batery
- Threatening Behavior.
  - Verbal threats: "I'm going to kick your ass when I get out of bed." When reporting, be as specific as possible in the narrative.
  - Physical posturing: bladed fighting stance; fists clenched
- Verbal Abuse
  - Discriminatory or Harassing statements, insults, name-calling, etc...

# HOW TO REPORT AN INCIDENT

- All incidents of Workplace Violence will be reported using RL Solutions.
- Open RL Solutions and click on the Safety/Security/Workplace Violence icon:
- Complete the form with detailed information, especially the brief summary section. All sections with a green are required.

\*Remember for emergencies, contact UC Davis Police by dialing 911 from a hospital phone or 916-734-2555

#### WHAT HAPPENS AFTER IT IS SUBMITTED?

- Once your incident is submitted, a Workplace Violence Investigator will review the incident. If it qualifies to be reported to CalOSHA, the investigator will complete the necessary notifications.
- If it does not qualify to be reported to CalOSHA, the investigator will maintain the incident as an internal file.
- The affected employee will go through a de-briefing process with a Supervisor or Manager and complete the necessary paperwork.
- The affected employee may be contacted by the Workplace Violence Unit for additional information not contained within the original submittal.

#### UCDAVIS HEALTH WORKPLACE VIOLENCE REPORTING FLOWCHART



#### WHAT PREVENTS REPORTING?

- A perception that violence is "just part of the job."
- Being unaware of the procedure for reporting incidents
- Not wanting to get the other person in trouble
- Not wanting to be seen as a troublemaker.
- Fear of retribution



# IF YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE IN THE WORKPLACE

UC Davis Academic and Staff Assistance (ASAP) is a confidential resource available to staff if needed. ASAP offers counseling and other services.

Contact ASAP:

Ticon III - 2730 Stockton Blvd, Room 2100 Sacramento CA 95817

Main Phone: 916-734-2727

#### WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

- Environmental awareness
  - Good for both work environments and your home environment
- Color Codes
  - WHITE: Unaware and unprepared
  - YELLOW: Relaxed, prepared, aware
  - ORANGE: Perceived threat; mental preparation
  - RED: In conflict
  - BLACK: Frozen state of panic





Adam Burkholder, MA WPV Investigator aburkholder@ucdavis.edu 916-734-7557



# WORK PLACE VIOLENCE UNIT

Glenn Glasgow, MA WPV Investigator gglasgow@ucdavis.edu 916-734-3242

Michael Lillie WPV Investigations Manager <u>mlillie@ucdavis.edu</u> 916-734-7711