



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

University of Toronto
Governing Council

Policy with Respect to Workplace Violence

May 13, 2010

To request an official copy of this policy, contact:

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POLICY WITH RESPECT TO WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

The University of Toronto is committed to maintaining a workplace that is free of violence. Any act of workplace violence is unacceptable conduct that will not be tolerated. No one shall subject any employee to workplace violence or allow or create conditions that support workplace violence.

This Policy applies to activities that occur while on University of Toronto premises and to work-related activities or social events occurring off-campus.

If you are the victim of or a witness to a violent incident at work, as soon as safely possible contact:

- campus police at:
 - **416-978-2222** (St. George)
 - **416-287-7333** (UTSC)
 - **905-569-4333** (UTM)

or

- **911 (9-911 from a campus telephone)**

You may also contact the Community Safety Office at 416-978-1485 to discuss safety concerns.

What is workplace violence?

Workplace violence is defined in the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* as follows:

"Workplace violence" means,

- (a) the exercise of physical force by a person against a worker, in a workplace, that causes or could cause physical injury to the worker,
- (b) an attempt to exercise physical force against a worker, in a workplace, that could cause physical injury to the worker,
- (c) a statement or behaviour that it is reasonable for a worker to interpret as a threat to exercise physical force against the worker, in a workplace, that could cause physical injury to the worker.

Penalty

An employee who subjects another employee to workplace violence may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including the termination of his/her employment.

A student who subjects any employee to workplace violence will be subject to penalties under the *Code of Student Conduct*.

Others who subject any employee to workplace harassment will be subject to penalties that are appropriate in view of their relationship to the University.

Program

The University shall develop and maintain a program to implement this Policy.

Related Documents

In applying this Policy, the University is committed to acting conscientiously and in keeping with applicable legislation as well as its own policies and guidelines. These include, for example:

- Ontario *Occupational Health and Safety Act*
- Ontario *Human Rights Code*
- University of Toronto *Code of Student Conduct*
- University of Toronto *Guideline for Employees on Concerns and Complaints Regarding Prohibited Discrimination and Discriminatory Harassment*
- University of Toronto *Human Resources Guideline on Civil Conduct*
- University of Toronto *Policy on Crisis Preparedness and Response*
- University of Toronto *Statement on Human Rights*
- University of Toronto *Statement of Institutional Purpose*
- University of Toronto *Statement on Prohibited Discrimination and Discriminatory Harassment*

May 13, 2010, approved by Governing Council

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