

# Welcome Letter to Parents and Families of New Students

July 1, 2020

Dear New Student Parents and Families:

The University Police Department (**UPD**) provides SUNY Maritime College with professional safety, security, and law enforcement services that include incident response, investigation, and follow up of all security related matters that come to our attention. We strive to engage our community via education, information sharing and training programs, as our strongest ally in deterrence and prevention.

The members of this department are dedicated to the Mission of the College and, as stated in our [Mission Statement](#), to the maintenance of a campus environment that supports academic excellence, independent thought, and cultural collaboration.

As a parent or guardian of a new student, we encourage you to have frank conversations with your student about the risks of underage alcohol consumption, sexual assault, hazing and other prohibited activities that can occur on any college campus. SUNY Maritime College takes these issues very seriously, because they involve the safety of our students and that is our greatest concern.

New York State laws pertaining to underage drinking, hazing, and sexual assault are strictly enforced by law enforcement. Our department enforces all college policies and laws of New York State with the safety and success of our students as our greatest priority. We are available to your student 24 hours a day, every day.

New students are often a bit overwhelmed with their first few weeks at the College; encourage them to contact our department for support and services whenever they are unsure of what to do or where to get help. Our staff is much attuned to our students and we value and foster the positive relationship we have with the entire campus community. We want students to know that we are always available to assist them!

We are accessible around the clock at 718-409-7311. The University Police webpage gives access to campus resources and information; allows contact in emergencies; and, if that's preferred, it allows anonymous reporting.

In the event of a catastrophic event occurring on or near campus, the College will alert the campus community via **RaveAlert** (SUNY Maritime's emergency notification system), which is a multimodal system of communications comprised of an outdoor siren and audible speakers, mass email, cellphone (voice and/or text), telephone, and

desktop alerts. Please encourage your student to sign up for **RaveAlert**. They can do all of this via this link: [Get Emergency Notifications](#)

You will often hear that SUNY Maritime is a special place, and it is! Its depth of character, traditions, diversity, commitment to academic excellence, as well as its beautiful natural surroundings contribute to making SUNY Maritime such an exemplary academic environment. We want your student to take full advantage of everything SUNY Maritime offers and, in doing so, we encourage them to take appropriate personal and collective precautions when living, learning, working, and playing at SUNY Maritime.

Lastly, I want to invite you to contact our office if you have any questions or concerns regarding your SUNY Maritime student's experience during the next four years. Please feel free to just stop by our offices to say hello when you visit campus.

We welcome you and your student to the SUNY Maritime community and thank you for helping us make it as safe as possible.

**Myron Pryjmak**

Chief of Police