



Welcome to Western Illinois University and the City of Macomb!



As the interim director of the WIU Office of Public Safety (OPS) and chief of the Macomb Police Department (MPD) (and both WIU alumni as well), it is our privilege to welcome your student as a member of our community. We would like to take this opportunity to share information regarding the services, resources, and assistance available through OPS and MPD.

OPS and Macomb police officers ensure the safety and security of students, faculty, staff, campus visitors and our community's residents, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. We work together, along with the McDonough County Sheriff's Department and Illinois State Police District 14, which are both located in Macomb, to provide a safe environment and to ensure the campus and community remain pleasant and secure.

WIU Public Safety officers patrol campus grounds, residence halls, parking lots and buildings, and the WIU Student Patrol assists with monitoring parking lots and other areas of campus, while the Macomb Police Department works in partnership with OPS to provide law enforcement services and patrol in areas adjacent to campus.

Some of OPS' safety programs and strategies provided to the campus community include a campus-based escort system; Western's Emergency Alert System; emergency callboxes with immediate access to OPS; community police officers stationed in the residence halls; crime victim assistance and advocacy; Western's Emergency Medical Services (WEMS) [non-transport emergency medical service]; and prevention, educational, and awareness programs and presentations.

When an incident is reported to the Office of Public Safety or the Macomb Police Department, the report is thoroughly investigated to ensure the continued security of our campus and Macomb communities. Criminal activity/behavior, misconduct, and violations of the WIU Code of Student Conduct are not tolerated and are handled in an expedient manner to guarantee the safety of University students, faculty, and staff, as well as our overall community.

If you have concerns or questions about campus or community safety, please do not hesitate to contact us at (309) 298-1949 or DJ-Watts@wiu.edu or (309) 833-4505 or cbarker@mpd.com. You can also find additional campus security information at wiu.edu/ops.

We pledge to you we will continue to provide the utmost safety to the WIU and Macomb communities to ensure that crime rates remain low and our communities remain secure. We look forward to meeting you at orientation and to your student becoming a part of the WIU and Macomb family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derek Watts".

Derek Watts
WIU Office of Public Safety

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curt Barker".

Curt Barker
Macomb Police Department