

Online Harassment Response Resources

Guidance for Emory College Faculty and Staff

September 2024

Emory College of Arts and Sciences is committed to supporting our community members who face online targeting and doxing. Direct threats, cyberbullying, harassment, and abuse of our digital properties (email, social media, websites) from someone within the Emory community (students, faculty, staff, or alumni) is a violation of Emory policy and against our values as a university.

If you or someone close to you is in imminent physical danger or there has been a direct threat of physical harm, it's imperative to take immediate action by calling the Emory Police Department (EPD) at [404.727.6111](tel:404.727.6111) or 911.

Types of online harassment include:

- **Doxing:** This involves searching for and publishing private and personal identifying information about a specific person on the internet, typically with malicious intent to cause reputational harm or further harassment.
- **Cyberbullying:** Deliberately and repeatedly causing harm using cell phones, computers, and other electronic devices.
- **Trolling:** Deliberately following and provoking others online, often with offensive content.

What to Do

Students

Emory Campus Life maintains a website of [online safety and privacy resources for students](#). Much of that guidance is also applicable for faculty and staff.

Faculty and Staff

Faculty should contact their department chair and the Office of Faculty, [Dean of Faculty@emory.edu](mailto:Dean_of_Faculty@emory.edu), if they are experiencing online harassment to help facilitate access to resources and support they may need to protect their personal safety and reputation.

Staff should also contact their department chair and [College HR support representative](#) to report the harassment and receive support.

Faculty and Staff are also advised to take the following steps:

- Call the Emory Police Department (EPD) at [404.727.6111](tel:404.727.6111) or 911 if you feel you are in immediate danger. You may also report the harassment via the non-emergency number, 404-727-8005 or police@emory.edu.
- Immediately make private or pause all personal social media accounts.

- Request that your personal information be removed from university websites and directories. Contact your [College HR support representative](#) for assistance.
- Be sure to document what is happening online and preserve the evidence in screenshots. Retain any emails, voicemails, or text messages you may receive.
- Submit a written request to the organization or account to remove or correct false statements.
- Submit a takedown request to a platform to remove abusive, harassing or threatening posts/web content.
- Seek legal consultation to consider options of filing a cease-and-desist letter or if you qualify to file a complaint of online harassment.
- Scrub your online data to remove as much personal or identifying online information as possible.
- Online harassment can cause immense distress. The [Faculty-Staff Assistance Program](#) can provide you with confidential, ongoing support.