

# PUBSAFE

Monthly Newsletter



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# Message from the Director

Hello Oles!

I hope the academic year is off to a great start for everyone! This month's newsletter is PACKED with info!

October is LGBTQIA+ history month, which is very important to me as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community. It is also breast cancer awareness month, which has impacted the families of several PubSafe Officers. This month, in support of these two important causes, Officers were given permission to purchase and wear custom badges, with proceeds going to benefit the National Breast Cancer Foundation and OutFront Minnesota. Officers who belong to the LGBTQIA+ community were also given permission to wear their pride badges year-round, as a small, but hopefully effective way to connect with members of the LGBTQIA+ community while on the job.

For more information on some of the resources and events that support LGBTQIA+ history month, check out the [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion update](#) recently sent out by Dr. Reginald Miles, VP of Equity and Inclusion.

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# Updates on Parking

Derek Kruse

As most of you know, this year a significant amount of changes occurred with parking on campus. As this is the "pilot" year for these changes, based on feedback I have heard so far, I wanted to provide some updates on parking and clarify some confusion.

There is currently a significant wait list for parking permits on campus. To provide some relief for this, I reviewed parking around campus and made some adjustments that will open up 50 more parking spaces for students. The Parking Office will be in touch with students on the wait list in the near future.

I have also created an opportunity for students to apply for overnight parking permits and hardship permits.

Overnight parking permits allow students to park in Lot M from 10PM to 7AM. To qualify for an overnight parking permit you must:

- Currently have a parking permit.
- Work off campus past 10PM.
- Be willing to provide documentation surrounding employment and work schedule.

To apply for an overnight parking permit, please submit an application located [HERE](#).

Hardship permits are meant for students who are experiencing events in their life that make the use of a vehicle a necessity. Hardship permits allow students to park in Lot J.



To qualify for a hardship permit you must:

- Currently be on the parking permit wait list.
- Be willing to provide documentation supporting your need for a hardship permit.

To apply for a hardship permit, please submit an application located [HERE](#).

There is limited availability for both permits. Any applications received will be reviewed by the Citation Appeals Committee, who will determine if a permit will be issued.

I also wanted to clarify a couple of areas of parking that have created some confusion:

- Students with a commuter parking permit can only park in Lot B and Lot H.
- There are 5 parking spots near Porter Hall reserved for athletes (with a current parking permit) from 5PM-10PM.

Please reach out to me if you have any additional questions!

# GIVEAWAY



## Ole Apparel Giveaway

Congratulations Maureen Bowen on winning September's Ole Apparel Giveaway!

To enter this month's giveaway, add us on Instagram ([@stolafpublicsafety](https://www.instagram.com/stolafpublicsafety)) and like our PubSafe Newsletter Post!



# Minnesota's New THC Law

Public Safety has seen a significant increase in the amount of THC on campus. While certain edibles and beverages containing THC were deemed legal this past summer, college policy states, "Students may not possess, distribute, and/or consume illicit drugs, products that contain THC and alcohol on the St. Olaf campus or on land or in vehicles owned by the college." **Not only is possession of THC against college policy, but possession of THC in certain forms (oil/wax/resin) or above 5mg (edibles and beverage) is considered 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance - a felony (if above 0.25g) or gross misdemeanor (if under 0.25g).**

The new law, signed by Gov. Tim Walz in May, went into force Friday, July 1, and allows adults 21 and over to possess and consume hemp-based edibles and beverages that contain up to five milligrams of total combined THC – such as delta-9, delta-8 and delta-10 – per serving, with individual packages limited to 50mg. THC Oil/wax/resin is not considered an edible or beverage by MN law, thus making THC vape pens illegal .

Hemp and CBD products initially became legal in Minnesota in January 2020, provided they contained less than 0.3% delta-9 THC (abundant in marijuana plants but present only in trace amounts in hemp). But the threshold did not apply to delta-8 and other variations of THC, which the **new law addresses by setting volume limits based on weight of total THC.**

PubSafe has come across gummies that contain an illegal amount of THC (15mg) and vape pens with THC that may have previously been legal under the former law as they contain <0.3% THC delta-9. **Those items are now considered illegal.** Certain stores may still be carrying and selling these products, even though they are illegal.

My request is that you educate yourself on this matter and make smart decisions if you plan on consuming products containing THC off campus.

Please reach out to me if you have any additional questions on this topic.

-Director Kruse

# Everbridge Phone App

by Derek Kruse

St. Olaf has contracted with a company called Everbridge to provide Ole Alert, a text message service to cell phones, as well as email notification, in the event of an emergency. It is designed to provide timely information should campus operations be disrupted by major weather events or crisis and emergency situations.

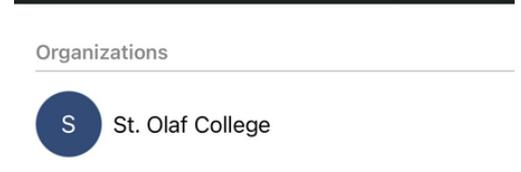
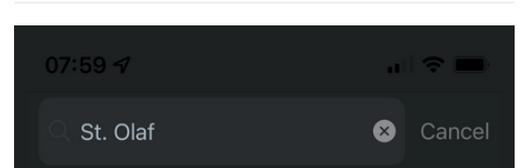
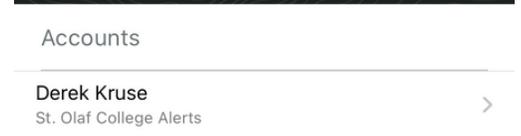
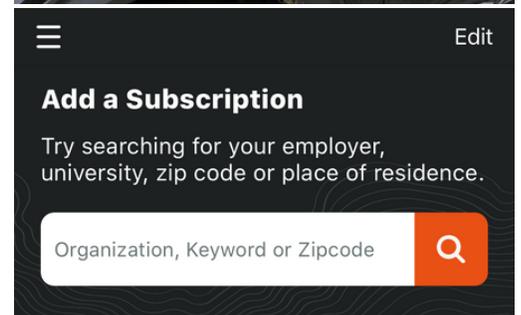
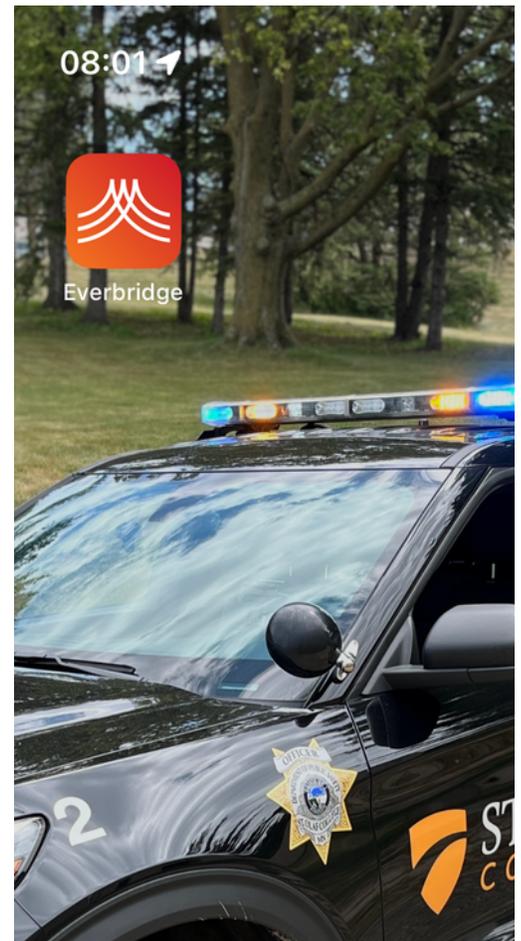
Students are automatically subscribed to Ole Alert unless they opt-out via the Student Information System. We strongly encourage staff and faculty who have texting capabilities to sign up for this service. Faculty and staff wishing to sign up or update their phone number can do so via StoFaces. Once logged in, select My Biographical Information from the menu, enter your phone number where it says Ole Alert Phone Number and click Submit. Your number will be added into the system overnight.

This year, we've added a new feature - the Everbridge App! The Everbridge app allows you to:

- Contact Dispatch or 911 with the touch of a button!
- Easily Check-In that you are safe in the event of an emergency.
- Create your own mobile SafeWalk.
- Activate a SOS in the event of an emergency which does the following:
  - Alerts Public Safety of your location.
  - Activates your phone's video and audio recording to collect evidence of what is occurring.

To access these features:

- Download the Everbridge App
- Once logged in it will ask you to "Add a Subscription". Enter "St. Olaf" into the search bar and select "St. Olaf College".
- It will then take you to a landing page where you are able to access the features!



# Landing Page

The picture to the left shows you what the landing page looks like. Click on the circle with the shield to open up contact options.

The button labeled "Public Safety Dispatch" will connect you with our 24/7 communications center.

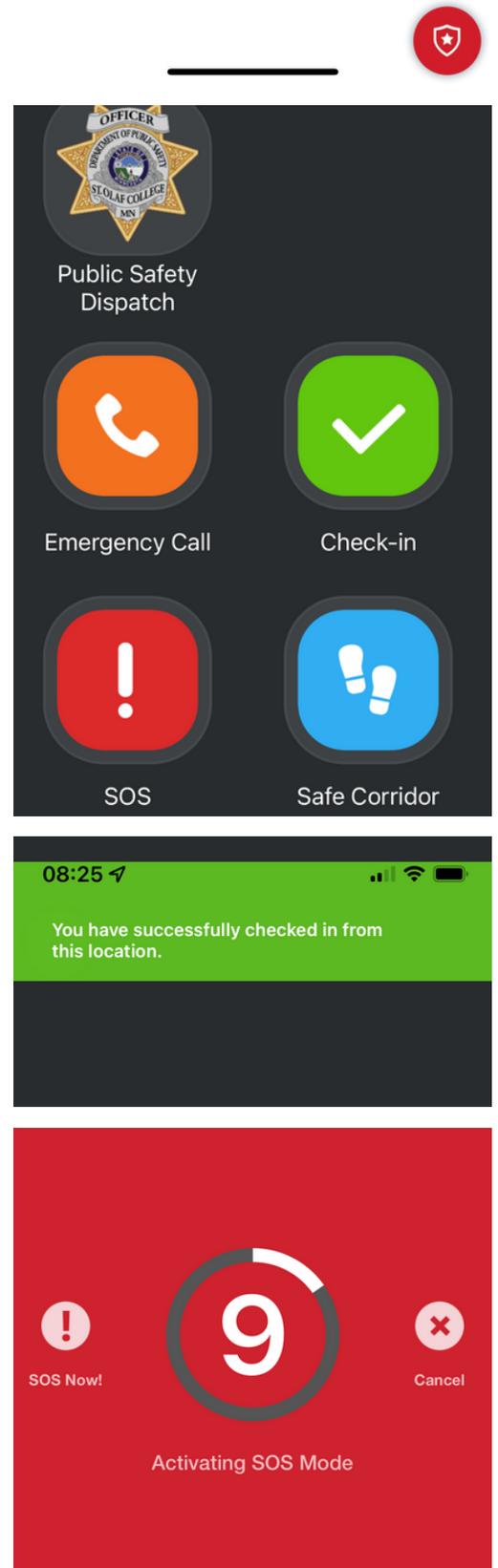
The button labeled "Emergency Call" will dial 911 and connect you with the county emergency communications center.

The button labeled "Check-In" allows you to quickly check-in as safe during an emergency.

The button labeled SOS Alerts Public Safety of your location and activates your phone's video and audio recording to collect evidence of what is occurring.

The button labeled Safe Corridor allows you to create your own "mobile escort" by requiring you to enter a pre-determined PIN to indicate you are safe. If you fail to enter the PIN, the app will automatically activate SOS mode.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to Public Safety if you have any questions regarding this new phone app!





## STOEMT Awards

The St. Olaf College Department of Public Safety believes in the recognition of students, their actions, and outstanding efforts in service to their campus community. In May, 2022, STOEMTs Toni Zheleva, Chloe Green, and Kris Kurtz responded to a serious medical emergency on campus. These STOEMTs provided emergency medical treatment and assisted with stabilizing a student patient until Northfield Hospital Paramedics arrived and transported the student to the hospital. In recognition of their intervention in a life and death situation where their actions contributed directly to the preservation of human life, all three were given the Public Safety Lifesaving Award - the first time this award has ever been given. Thank you Toni, Chloe, and Kris for your dedication to this community.

## PubSafe Employment

- [Public Safety Officer \(Full-Time\)](#)
- [Parking Office Administrative Assistant](#)

## What are your thoughts?

I'd love to hear back from the readers of this newsletter on what you think PubSafe is doing well, what we need to work on, and any suggestions you may have on how we can continue to connect and build relationships with the campus community. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with your thoughts!

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