

PROUD TU SERVE

THE NEWSLETTER OF TEMPLE UNIVERSITY'S DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Chief's Corner

I'm thrilled to share that our Children's Holiday Party was a tremendous success! Thanks to the dedication of our staff, police officers, dispatchers, security officers, campus partners and volunteers, we were able to bring joy and holiday spirit to more than 300 young people and their families in our shared North Philadelphia community. Seeing the smiles, laughter and excitement throughout the event was a great reminder about why we serve: To make a positive impact. I couldn't be prouder of the Temple University Department of Public Safety. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, resources and heart. Together, we made this holiday season brighter for our community's children, and that is something truly special.

-Jennifer Griffin, Chief of Police & Vice President for Public Safety



Spreading holiday cheer beyond the badge: Temple Public Safety's Children's Holiday Party was a huge success thanks to the incredible teamwork of everyone who supported it!

2nd Annual Secret Santa Bicycle Giveaway Big Success

The Temple Public Safety gifted 100 brand-new bicycles to children from four North Philadelphia schools, including Carver, Dunbar, Duckrey and St. Malachy. It's all thanks to a generous secret Santa donor who holds a special admiration for Temple Police. The gifting came just days before Temple Police's 28th annual children's holiday party. Together, these events continue Temple University's commitment of supporting and strengthening the North Philadelphia community. Additionally, students from Carver surprised Temple University Police Officer Leroy Wimberly with a Distinguished Service Award for his dedication to the school.



Temple University Police Officer Leroy Wimberly was presented with a Distinguished Service Award.

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The fair was held on November 18, 2025 inside Mitten Hall.

Employee Health Fair

Temple Public Safety proudly participated in the 2025 Employee Health & Financial Wellbeing Fair, joining colleagues from across campus in support of employee wellness. The event focused on holistic health, such as supporting the mind, body, and financial wellbeing of Temple employees. Public Safety personnel attended to connect with staff, share available safety resources, and reinforce the department's commitment to supporting the Temple community beyond traditional policing.

Public Safety's Free U-Lock Program

Temple University's Department of Public Safety is making the Temple and North Philadelphia communities safer, one bicycle at a time. This year, we have stepped up efforts to hand out free U-locks to students as part of an ongoing effort to prevent bike theft and promote smart safety habits across campus.

Students stopped by information tables staffed by officers and employees who also offered tips on how to properly secure their bikes. The goal is simple: make theft harder and peace of mind easier. "Protecting our community is about prevention," said Deputy Police Chief Gae Salva. "The initiative is part of a broader commitment to safety and visibility in the campus community."



More U-lock giveaways are planned for 2026.

Know someone seeking employment?

Refer your friends to work with us and Public Safety will offer a \$500 referral payment for eligible positions through TERP. The referral payment amount will be paid after the referred employee successfully completes 90 days of employment. Contact Amber James, Associate Director of Administrative Operations, for more information: Aajames@Temple.edu



OEM Minute

Last month, Temple University held its annual Veterans Day service. We were proud to see our own Len Clark, Director of Emergency Management and a proud U.S. veteran, deliver heartfelt remarks. Len's leadership and continued service to the Temple community embody the spirit of dedication we honor on this day. Thank you, Len, and to all veterans for your courage and commitment.



Len Clark is the director of OEM.

Additionally, OEM and Public Safety have been working to keep our community informed & empowered. The semester, OEM and Public Safety have delivered more than 50 safety presentation across campus this semester, including the Fox School of Business (right). Thank you team for your work!



Joshua Nussbaum is the deputy director of OEM.

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Public Safety launches 'Cops in the Classroom'

Trading his badge for a book, Temple University Police Officer Arashdeep Bawa sat down in front of the second grade class at the Paul L. Dunbar School and opened up the picture book, *The Me I Choose To Be* by Natasha Anastasia Tarpley, and began reading aloud. "It's such a great book, because it sparks conversation and creativity among young students," Bawa said. Earlier this academic year, Temple Public Safety launched 'Cops in the Classroom,' a new community engagement initiative that connects Temple Police with neighboring elementary schools in North Philadelphia every week. The goal: to start conversations about reading, safety and kindness. "Cops in the Classroom is about continuing to build bridges between law enforcement and the North Philadelphia community," said Jennifer Griffin, chief of police and vice president for public safety. [Read more.](#)



Police Officer Arashdeep Bawa reads to third-graders.

Building bridges across campus

Temple University Police Captain Enoch McCoy was joined by James Ponce, Temple's Chief Audit Executive, for a ride-along, reinforcing collaboration, transparency and a shared commitment to keeping our community safer.

Students who are interested in law enforcement can connect directly with Temple University's Department of Public Safety through our ride along program.

To sign up, email: ridealongprogram@temple.edu



James Ponce, Temple's Chief Audit Executive with Capt. Enoch McCoy.

Supervisors Retreat

Temple Public Safety hosted a half-day Supervisor Retreat focused on strengthening leadership and wellness. We were grateful to welcome Jennifer Boileau, a mindfulness coach, who shared practical tools such as breathwork techniques. We also heard from Sergeant Gene Reid, Ph.D., of the New Castle County Police Department, who led a powerful discussion on emotional intelligence and its role in effective leadership. Thank you to both speakers, and to everyone who participated, for your continued support, guidance and dedication to our mission.



At the retreat, attendees formed small groups to spark discussions around emotional intelligence.