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Clery Crime Alert

Fondling

Columbia University Public Safety was recently informed of a reported fondling incident that occurred on Wednesday, October 21, 2026 at approximately 8:34 PM at the unaffiliated newsstand located on the sidewalk in front of Alfred Lerner Hall.

The reporting individual stated that they were invited inside the newsstand booth by the person staffing the newsstand, who then allegedly touched their chest and buttocks without consent.

Public Safety has contacted the NYPD and is continuing to investigate. Public Safety is also increasing patrol in the vicinity.

If you have any additional information about this incident, please contact Investigator Torres at 212-854-0377 and reference report number 26-003791.

Harm Reduction Strategies:

- No one is ever responsible for a crime committed against them. The responsibility lies entirely with the perpetrator. If something happens, we encourage you to report it. Reporting helps protect others and ensures you can access support and services. Report the incident to the Department of Public Safety at
  - Morningside: 212-854-5555
  - Manhattanville: 212-853-3333
  - Medical Center: 212-305-7979
- Be mindful of entering private or restricted areas of businesses unless necessary.
- Trust your instincts. If a situation makes you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, leave the area when it is safe to do so.
- Walk in groups whenever you can. There is always safety in numbers.

Disclaimer: Clery Crime Alerts (Timely Warning Notifications) are distributed pursuant to the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act. Columbia University is required to alert the campus community when certain crimes occur in our Clery Act defined campuses that represent a serious or continuous threat to the community. For additional information, please visit our Clery Act website or email ps-compliance@columbia.edu