



## Clery Crime Alert

### Drugging-Related Incident / Aggravated Assault

Columbia University Public Safety has recently been notified of a drugging-related incident that occurred on the evening of September 6, 2025, at East Campus. According to a Columbia University student, who required medical attention, a communal drink at a party may have been spiked with fentanyl, a powerful synthetic opioid. This incident is being classified as an aggravated assault under the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act guidelines and has been reported to the NYPD.

At this time, no suspect information is available. The investigation is ongoing, and the NYPD has been informed of the situation.

If you believe you may have been affected by this incident or have information that could assist in the investigation, we strongly encourage that you contact Columbia Public Safety at 212-854-2797 or respond directly to this email.

#### What is Fentanyl?

Fentanyl is a highly potent synthetic opioid, and even a small amount can lead to overdose. It acts rapidly, often slowing or stopping breathing within minutes. Because it's frequently mixed with other substances, people may unknowingly consume it. Fentanyl has no taste or smell and can only be detected in drinks or pills through testing.

Symptoms of a fentanyl (opioid) overdose include unconsciousness, inability to wake up, slow or shallow breathing, and bluish lips or fingernails (cyanosis). If you see someone experiencing these symptoms, administer naloxone if it is available and seek medical help immediately. On campus, you can call (212) 854-5555 to reach CUEMS and Public Safety.

#### Harm Reduction Strategies

- If you see someone experiencing opioid overdose symptoms, administer naloxone if it is available and seek medical help immediately. On campus, you can call (212) 854-5555 to reach CUEMS and Public Safety. Naloxone can temporarily reverse opioid effects, including those from fentanyl, until emergency medical care is provided.
- Our Public Safety Officers are trained in the administration of naloxone and Public Safety has them available if needed.
- Do not add fentanyl or other substances to food or beverages.
- Do not consume drinks that were not prepared in front of you.
- Do not leave your drinks unattended and avoid communal drinks.
- If you or a friend feel unexpectedly or rapidly intoxicated or unwell, get away from the situation and seek medical attention. On campus, you can call (212) 854-5555 to reach CUEMS and Public Safety.

#### Get Trained

Columbia offers training and no-cost access to Naloxone (opioid overdose reversal agent) and Fentanyl Test Strips. [Learn more about the resources](#) and [sign up for a training](#).

**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.

To see this and other Clery Crime Alerts please visit our [Public Safety website](#). For more information about Columbia University's Clery Act compliance efforts, please contact the Department's Clery Act Compliance Director, Roberto A. Pineda Sanchez at [ps-compliance@columbia.edu](mailto:ps-compliance@columbia.edu).