

Subject: Notification of Residence Hall Incident and Request for Information

September 17, 2016

Dear Residence Hall Community Members,

Late in the evening on Friday, September 16, 2016, a student reported to residence hall staff that racially derogatory language was written on a door in Anderson Hall. While this inflammatory language does not appear to be targeted at the occupants of the affected room, it is in violation of our non-discrimination policy. We are empathic, frustrated, and angry that this could occur in our community, as insensitive and intolerant words hurt us individually and collectively.

Reporting Incidents & Information: Housing & Dining Programs staff and Public Safety officers will continue to investigate the incident, but we need to ask for your continued awareness, support, and vigilance in your communities and on your floors. We ask all community members to be vigilant and report suspicious and malicious activity. Please contact a member of our residential staff or the Department of Public Safety at [\(202\) 885-2527](tel:202-885-2527). You can also submit a confidential tip through the Department of Public Safety website at: <http://www.american.edu/finance/publicsafety/tips.cfm>

If you have any information regarding the person or parties responsible for this incident (or any other incidents), we ask that you contact a member of the residence hall staff (Community Director, Resident Assistant or Desk Receptionist) or contact Public Safety. It is our strong desire to identify the responsible individual(s) in hopes of minimizing future harm. This is only possible if we all work together to report what we see, hear, and experience.

Additional Campus Resources: The effects of recent campus incidents may continue to be real for days or weeks to come. We want you to know that the residence hall staff are here to support you, to listen to you, and to help with reporting any issues you bring to our attention. In addition, these resources are a part of a broader campus support network and staff in the Office of the Dean of Students (dos@american.edu; 202-885-3300), Counseling Center (202-885-3500), and the Center for Diversity & Inclusion (cdi@american.edu; 202-885-3651) are here to support you.

Sincerely,

Lisa N. Freeman, Director of Residence Life

Chris Moody, Assistant Vice President-Housing & Dining Programs