

From: [DeRionne Pollard, Montgomery College President](#)
To: [MC Communications!](#)
Subject: Tragedy at Umpqua Community College
Date: Monday, October 05, 2015 9:36:47 AM

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE
Office of the President

October 5, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: Montgomery College Colleagues
From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President
Subject: Tragedy at Umpqua Community College

My heart is heavy following a weekend of mourning for the victims of another mass shooting, this time at a community college in Oregon. The tragedy at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon last Thursday touches our community in a special way. The deceased students were, much like MC students, seeking a better life through education. The deceased faculty member, just like our faculty, was dedicated to making a difference in his community. I pray for the dead and their families who bear unimaginable sorrow. And I pray for the survivors, that they may find the courage to come together as a community, stronger than ever.

This tragedy reminds us, once again, that no campus can be entirely protected against violence. However, the Board of Trustees and I consider campus safety to be an essential part of our community fabric—one that deserves the attention of the state, the County, and campus communities. I am meeting with my Senior Administrative Leadership Team to review and assess our current safety and security protocols and recommend possible enhancement. I have asked my Vice President for Administration and Fiscal Services Janet Wormack to communicate the College's security plans' most relevant details to you. Please read them carefully in order to protect yourself.

Individual awareness can thwart scenarios that can evolve into dangerous situations. By being attentive and responsive to your surroundings, you can help our professional security staff investigate any potential problems before they escalate. I ask you to remain vigilant both on campus and in adjacent areas. Let's work with our fellow students and colleagues to make MC as secure as possible.

The Umpqua Community College tragedy reminds me of how precious each of you is to me. I am grateful every day to work and learn with such dedicated and caring individuals.