

Dr. Jose Fierro
President's Message
September 3, 2019

Dear colleagues,

There is no longer a threat to our campus and I want to remind you that the campus is closed for the remainder of the day (September 3). To provide a bit of background on what happened today, at 11:53 am, a suspect walked into one of our classes stating that he had a bomb in his backpack. One of the students in the class alerted the instructor, who immediately dialed 911. The suspect then ran out of the building. Campus Police quickly issued a shelter-in-place alarm over our emergency broadcast system and our social media team began providing updates. Thanks to the swift collaboration by the student and our employees, the suspect was apprehended by the Cerritos College Campus Police Officers without incident. With collaboration from several of our local law enforcement agencies, the campus was cleared by 2:24 p.m.

I am deeply moved by our Cerritos College family today. Many of you did not entirely know the nature of the threat, yet you bravely stepped up to ensure one another's safety. I want to thank you for taking care of our students and each other.

If you feel anxious or afraid about today's incident, do not hesitate to call the Employee Assistance Program Line:

Counselors are available
24 hours a day, 7 days a week at:
800-531-0200 or 800-4435766
inquiries@charlesnechtem.com

We will also be sending information shortly if employees or students would like to meet with a counselor on campus tomorrow.

Our management team convened this afternoon and we will continue to gather feedback on how we can improve the lines of communication in crisis situations. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Jose

Jose Fierro, D.V.M., Ph.D.
President/Superintendent