What’s the deal with...

**Disorderly Conduct?**

The “Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities” says, “Academic institutions exist for the transmission of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, the development of students and the general well-being of society.”

**But what does that mean?**

Becoming a student at the George Washington University presents many opportunities to learn and grow. But along with those opportunities come certain obligations, like respecting your roommate, attending class, and meeting minimum standards of behavior. One of those minimum expectations is that students will not engage in disorderly conduct, which is defined by the “Code of Student Conduct” as “Shouting or making excessive noise either inside or outside a building; verbally abusing University officials acting in performance of their duties; acting in a manner that annoys, disturbs, threatens or harasses others; disrupting obstructing or interfering with the activities of others; or behaving in a lewd or indecent manner.”

**How does that affect life at GW?**

Here are just a few examples of behavior that the University considers disorderly. These examples are taken from actual cases, but this is not meant to be an exhaustive list.

*The University considers...*

- spitting on someone else...
- throwing objects from windows...
- cursing out a roommate...
- yelling at GWPD officers, CSE staff, or other GW employees...
- playing “hall ball” or other sports in building hallways...
- behavior that unreasonably infringes on others’ rights...
- using water guns in residence halls...
- causing unnecessary complications during an incident being addressed by a University official...
- off-campus events that disrupt the community...

*...to be Disorderly Conduct.*

**What if I am disorderly?**

The GWU Police Department or a University official will write a report, which will be forwarded to the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities. You will be contacted, and a Disciplinary Conference or University Hearing Board will take place to determine whether or not you violated University policy. The “Code of Student Conduct” states the recommended minimum sanction for students found in violation of Disorderly Conduct is Disciplinary Probation. However, depending upon the severity of the incident, you may face sanctions which include, Loss of Housing, Suspension, or Expulsion.