



Student Policy Regarding

and Principles of Foundation, and Organization

It is also the university's view that educational objectives can best be accomplished through the processes of planning, listening, reflecting and interacting. Accordingly, when challenging or controversial issues arise that affect large segments of our community, St. Thomas will offer forums through which these issues may be considered in an educational manner consistent with our community's goals and values without censorship or reprisal for participation in good faith.

SECTION IV. DEMONSTRATIONS

St. Thomas recognizes that participation in an organized demonstration can be a meaningful and powerful way to express beliefs, values and ideas. St. Thomas affirms the right of students to engage in nonviolent demonstrations that employ peaceful methods such as marches, rallies and protests that reflect the principles of Catholic social teaching¹ and the best practices of nonviolent movements.² Demonstrations violate this policy if they do one or more of the following:

- a. Result in the harassment or mistreatment of St. Thomas members or visitors (St. Thomas community)
- b. Obstruct or restrict the free movement of persons
- c. Result in the destruction of property
- d. Result in the violation of laws or the destruction of property
- e.
- f. Result in the violation of laws or the destruction of property
- g.

Students, including student groups and organizations, planning to hold a demonstration must complete and submit a "Notice of Demonstration" form, available in the Dean of Students Office, at least 48 hours in advance of the planned demonstration. These forms require students to identify such matters as the

date, time, location, and purpose of the demonstration, and to describe the planned demonstration in a way consistent with best practices of nonviolence that promote transparency and open communication, and it allows St. Thomas to make appropriate logistical arrangements. Upon receipt of the completed Notice, the Dean of Students Office will consult with organizers of the demonstration and with the appropriate school or college dean, if applicable.

The dean may consult with appropriate St. Thomas personnel to ensure there is appropriate campus communication about the event.

The planning process is intended to be a consultative and collaborative process that facilitates students' opportunity to express their views while assuring that students and St. Thomas fulfill their responsibilities related to the event. St. Thomas does not assume any liability for damages or injuries to persons or property.

St. Thomas property.

The absence of liability does not imply sponsorship of the demonstration by St. Thomas or that the views of the demonstrators are supported or endorsed by St. Thomas.

¹ See "[Themes of Catholic Social Teaching](#)".

² See [Justice and Peace Studies](#) mention active nonviolence course.

SECTION V.

The associated mission

statements are available on the St. Thomas website (available at <https://www.stthomas.edu/mission/>).

SECTION VI. SPONSORSHIP OF STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Thomas will not sponsor student groups,