

## **Procedure for calls about Needles / Syringes /Red bags found on campus**

### **1. Needles/syringes found outdoors on campus.**

- a. PennComm dispatch should be called at 511 or 215-573-3333 and a Penn Police officer will be dispatched. UPPD have sharps containers on their mobile units for these occurrences.
- b. Full sharps containers are delivered to Presbyterian Hospital Environmental staff by Sergeant Sean Mackey with the UPPD.
- c. {EHRS confirmed the above procedures with PennComm Director (Matt Corcoran) and Sergeant Sean Mackey on 9/19/2022.}

### **2. Needles/syringes/red bags found in dumpsters or trash compactors at Penn buildings that appear to have come from Penn related research/clinical areas.**

- a. Contact the Biosafety group and someone will advise the caller on how to handle.
- b. An outside vendor (Belfor, etc.) may be brought in as needed for larger jobs where multiple needles need to be picked out of the trash.
- c. Staff must never enter trash compactors to remove items. Staff must never remove sharps from trash containers, attempt to relocate bags, or try to consolidate bags containing sharps\*.

\*-EHRS staff may handle these tasks using proper PPE and tools to protect from needlestick or other injuries.