



## UNC Pembroke After Action Report

**Date:** September 16, 2022

**To:** Gabriel Eszterhas, VC Finance and Administration

**From:** Michael Bullard, Director Environmental Health and Safety  
Campus Safety and Emergency Operations

**Re:** Impairment of call out capability of Campus fire alarm systems

On the morning of September 15<sup>th</sup>, Mark Vesely (Director, Facility Operations) notified Mcduffie Cummings, Gabriel Eszterhas, Damon Richardson, Lou Nelon, and Mike Bullard that an AT&T project that had previously been identified as affecting the campus elevator emergency phones had also affected the ability of the campus fire alarm systems to call out to our fire alarm monitoring company (Holmes Security). **Note: There is no known impairment of each building's sprinkler system nor the ability of the fire alarm system to activate to alert building occupants at this time.**

Mark Vesely worked through the day with DoIT to troubleshoot and it was determined that all phone lines were still operational (confirmed dial tone at the fire alarm panel) but the panel simply could not call out.

A Zoom call was held at 5:15 pm (Mcduffie Cummings, Gabriel Eszterhas, Mike Bullard, Kevin Pait, Katine Blue, and Kenneth Pierce) and it was decided that campus police and select Facilities staff would provide fire watch that night and until a contract company can be brought in to provide fire watch until the issue can be resolved. Mark will work to bring in the contract company (Johnson Controls) to re-program or replace the fire alarm panels to resolve the issue.

Mike Bullard contacted Lee Pierce (Office of State Fire Marshal) and detailed the issue and action plan in place. Mr. Pierce said he was OK with the plan and asked to be kept informed of progress.

A Zoom call was scheduled for 10:00 am on September 16<sup>th</sup> to provide status updates and to further discuss the issue. The Zoom call remarks were:

- The fire watch on the night of September 15<sup>th</sup> was completed without incident via 3 Campus Police and 3 Facilities staff.
- Per Mark - The night of September 16<sup>th</sup> and the weekend will be accomplished via contract company staffing.
- Per Mark – Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> will be the earliest that Johnson Controls will be able to arrive on campus to attempt a reprogramming of the fire alarm panels.



- Ongoing testing of campus buildings show that not all buildings are affected. Buildings that passed call out testing on September 16<sup>th</sup> include Brave Health Center, the Business Incubator, and the Regional Center.
- Per Kevin – AT&T verified that they will continue to provide support for existing analog lines and will provide a 3 year notice prior to discontinuing service.
- Per Mark – Nightly checks of all fire alarm panels are conducted via the fire alarm monitoring company – Holmes Security,

Per an email from Kevin Pait on September 19<sup>th</sup> informed us that an off campus damaged fiber optic line is hindering long distance phone calls and this is the source of the problem with the fire alarm panels.

- Mike Bullard notified Lee Pierce of the source of the issue and advised him that we will maintain a fire watch until the off-campus issue is resolved.

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, DoIT received notification that repairs had been completed to the damaged fiber optic line. Damon Richardson requested a test of all building panels by Holmes Security and three buildings failed to respond – Oxendine Science Building, GPAC, and Cypress Hall.

- Mike Bullard updated the Fire Marshal.
- Mark Vesely updated applicable campus personnel.

Johnson Controls arrived on Campus on September 23<sup>rd</sup> to troubleshoot the three remaining buildings with Damon Richardson.

As of October 1<sup>st</sup> (per Damon Richardson), the only remaining building to be affected by equipment issues is Pine Hall. Parts are on order, and per Mark Vesely, a fire watch will remain in place until the parts arrive and the fire alarm panel has returned to full functionality.

End of report.  
Mike Bullard

Campus Safety and Emergency Operations  
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