

After-Action Report

Residence Hall Fire Drills

November 13, 2019

Summary

During the weeks of September 23rd and 30th, 2019, University Safety Officer, in conjunction with Residence Life, conducted fire drills in the following Residence Halls:

Sept. 23: Arkansas Hall & Pack Place

Sept. 24: Living-Learning Community (Honors 1, 2 & 3 / Honors 4, STEM & ROTC)

Sept. 30: University Hall

Oct. 3: Sorority Houses (Delta Zeta / Alpha Omicron Pi / Chi Omega / Zeta Tau Alpha / Alpha Gamma Delta) & Kays Hall

Oct. 4: North Park Quads (Building 3 / Building 1 & 2 / Buildings 4 & 5)

Oct. 9: The Circle (Strickland Hall & Gaines Hall / Richmond Hall & Smith Hall)

The following report includes timing information and areas for improvement identified during the drills and their follow-up activities, along with steps to address the issues noted. Issues have been forwarded to the appropriate department for remedy or repair.

Arkansas Hall

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 2:47
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 92
- Equipment Failure/Fire Code Violation: Level 2 middle stair door does not latch automatically
 - o Action Step: Recommend door be replaced completely due to previous attempts of fixing the closer not being successful and the door having holes on the inside of it.
- Procedural Observations: Empty wheelchair placed in building to practice assisting persons with disabilities.
 - o Action Step: Wheelchair removed during drill and placed in northwest stair, level 3.
- Procedural Observations: Some residents gathered on west side of building
 - o Action Step: Reiterate emergency evacuation checkpoint to residents – southeast corner of east parking lot

The Circle- Strickland Hall & Gaines Hall

- Time required for total evacuation(s): Strickland- 3:03, Gaines- 2:21
- Total Occupants Evacuated: Strickland- 13, Gaines-15

The Circle-Richmond Hall & Smith Hall

- Time required for total evacuation(s): Richmond- 2:50, Smith- 2:09
- Total Occupants Evacuated: Richmond- 15, Smith- 6

Honors LLC Buildings 1,2 & 3

- Time required for total evacuation(s): Building 1-1:57; Building 2-1:53; Building 3-2:09
- Total Occupants Evacuated:): Building 1-23; Building 2-30; Building 3-30

Honors Building 4, ROTC & STEM LLCs

- Time required for total evacuation(s): Building 4- 2:45, STEM- 1:46, ROTC- 4:10
- Total Occupants Evacuated: Building 4- 32, STEM- 17, ROTC- 20
- Procedural Observation: ROTC & STEM evacuated to wrong side of building. ROTC had people enter building while alarm was sounding. ROTC had residents refuse to immediately evacuate, waited several minutes to acknowledge alarms.
 - o Action Step: Repeat ROTC fire drill to allow for residents and RAs to better understand procedures. Remind STEM RAs of proper fire procedure.

Kays Hall

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 6:50
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 140
- Procedural Observation: Empty wheelchair placed on level 7 in building to practice assisting persons with disabilities
 - o Action Step: Wheelchair was moved to enclosed stairwell per procedure.

North Park Quads Buildings 1 & 2

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 3:08
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 35
- Procedural Observation: Some residents entered building while alarm was sounding or re-entered building before "all-clear" was given.
 - o Action Step: Ensure effect communication between RAs and residents and remind residents to not go into a building with the alarm sounding under any circumstances.
- Procedural Observation: Due to size of NPQ buildings, RA's felt overwhelmed evacuating their whole floor by themselves. Did not seem confident in timeliness of evacuation.
 - o Action Step: Consider adding additional staff to NPQs, look at additional training opportunities.
- Equipment Failure: Both buildings' middle stairwell doors on 2nd floor will not latch
 - o Action Step: Service door and possible replace latching system

North Park Quads Building 3

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 3:26
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 54
- Procedural Observation: Some residents entered building while alarm was sounding or re-entered building before “all-clear” was given.
 - o Action Step: Ensure effect communication between RAs and residents and remind residents to not go into a building with the alarm sounding under any circumstances.
- Procedural Observation: Due to size of NPQ buildings, RA’s felt overwhelmed evacuating their whole floor by themselves. Did not seem confident in timeliness of evacuation.
 - o Action Step: Consider adding additional staff to NPQs, look at additional training opportunities.

North Park Quads Buildings 4 & 5

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 3:06
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 46
- Procedural Observation: Some residents entered building while alarm was sounding or re-entered building before “all-clear” was given.
 - o Action Step: Ensure effect communication between RAs and residents and remind residents to not go into a building with the alarm sounding under any circumstances.
- Procedural Observation: Due to size of NPQ buildings, RA’s felt overwhelmed evacuating their whole floor by themselves. Did not seem confident in timeliness of evacuation.
 - o Action Step: Consider adding additional staff to NPQs, look at additional training opportunities.
- Procedural Observation: Residents used nearest exit, however did not go to a common meeting place for accountability
 - o Action Step: Clarify that after evacuation, residents must congregate to one area so RAs can get a headcount of how many people evacuated.
- Equipment Failure: Building 4’s south hallway door would not latch
 - o Action Step: Service door and possible replace latching system

Pack Place

- Time required for total evacuation(s): Building 1 – 5:04; Building 2 – 5:21
- Total Occupants Evacuated: Building 1 – 80; Building 2 – 70; 6 pets (both buildings)
- Procedural Observations: Empty wheelchair placed in building 2 to practice assisting persons with disabilities.
 - o Action Step: Wheelchair located and moved to front vestibule by drill participant.
- Equipment Failure: Building 1 west stair level 1, push bar on exit door is damaged and will not allow door to open
 - o Action Step: Service door/push bar

University Hall

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 3:34
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 145
- Fire Code Violation: Blocking path of egress in hallways
 - o Action Step: Adjust the displays in the hallways. Move pumpkins on the first floor to not block pathway.
- Procedural Observation: Empty wheelchair placed in building to practice assisting persons with disabilities
 - o Action Step: Wheelchair was moved to enclosed stairwell per procedure.

Sororities – Alpha Gamma Delta

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 1:47
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 6

Sororities – Alpha Omicron Pi

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 2:25
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 10
- Procedural Observation: Residents were late to evacuate, did not leave building immediately upon hearing the fire alarm.
 - o Action Step: Remind residents that upon hearing fire alarm, evacuation must be immediate and urgent.
- Procedural Observation: RA claimed house had been evacuated and all girls were out and then more residents came out of the building.
 - o Action Step: Ensure GVAs know not to claim complete evacuation to emergency responders unless evacuation count is completely correct.

Sororities – Chi Omega

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 2:39
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 8
- Procedural Observation: Residents congregated by back door until GVA came out of building and told them to go across the parking lot.
 - o Action Step: Remind residents to evacuate to opposite side of parking lot from sorority house, at least 300 feet away from building.

Sororities – Delta Zeta

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 1:44
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 4

Sororities – Zeta Tau Alpha

- Time required for total evacuation(s): 1:38
- Total Occupants Evacuated: 6