

From: Laura Doll
Sent: 12/8/2011 7:41:14 PM
To: Paul Clanon (PAC@cpuc.ca.gov); [Redacted] Cherry,
Brian K (/O=PG&E/OU=CORPORATE/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BKC7)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: I think this is an example of good crisis messaging. Really.

Laura

From: alumni@vt.edu
To: [Redacted]
Subject: Thanks for your prayers and support
Date: Thu, 8 Dec 2011 22:23:34 -0500

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Thanks to Alumni and Friends for Your Prayers and Support

It is so sad that more tragedy at the hands of a gunman occurred in a place that suffered an unspeakable tragedy and loss of life in 2007. We are merely a few months shy of the fifth anniversary of the April 16th shootings that paralyzed our community and shocked the world.

A shooting of a campus police officer occurred at approximately 12:15 PM today in the parking lot adjacent to Cassell Coliseum. The officer apparently had stopped a traffic violator. A third individual, separate from the stopped car, approached the police officer and shot him. The shooter reportedly ran toward the parking lot at the end of Washington Street along Duck Pond Drive, referred to as the "Cage". Another officer who had been alerted of that approaching person saw an individual fitting the description and, by the time the officer approached, found that individual to have been shot. Both the officer and second person shot were confirmed as dead. No identities have been released.

Because two crime scenes are under police investigation, there has been no confirmation

that the second person found dead was the person responsible for killing the campus officer. There was a gun reportedly found in the Cage parking lot. However, a campus-wide alert that was in place through the afternoon was lifted by state and campus police, as well as other investigating authorities, shortly after 4:30 PM. Clearance to go about normal activities was given. There were no other shots fired or suspicious activities confirmed during the afternoon following the discovery of the second person who had been shot.

Thankfully, there is a multifaceted alert system in place that did not exist in 2007. Communication alerts through land line phones, cell phones, text, and email were all utilized within 8 or 9 minutes following the first shooting being reported to campus police headquarters. The system quickly reaches our students as well as the employees of the university. All students, faculty, staff and visitors were advised to remain in buildings that were all secured. Because this was the “reading day” before exams, there were no scheduled classes and slightly less individual foot and vehicular traffic around the campus. Five additional alerts, after the first, were sent until 4:38 PM, at which time there was notification that it was deemed safe to resume normal activity.

The administration and authorities were grateful for the compliance by the campus community with the alerts for all to remain in secured spaces. There was rapid response by local law enforcement agencies to assist the campus police. We are extremely grateful for that response and the protection they provided.

There were many expressions of concern communicated to our students, faculty, and staff by so many beyond our campus borders in support of our general welfare. Our deepest gratitude goes out to all who sent thoughtful messages and their prayers.

There will be more information provided through the media and posted on the university website at www.vt.edu as it is confirmed and released to the public.

Thank you, Tom Tillar

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