SUBJECT: Hazmat Incident At Materials Engineering Building
CR# 11-0976
DATE OF INCIDENT: May 19, 2011
DATE OF RELEASE: May 19, 2011
NARRATIVE:

At approximately 11:00 am, the University of Florida Police Department (UFPD) and Gainesville Fire Rescue (GFR) responded to a report of an injured person and a beaker explosion that occurred at the Materials Engineering Building, 0719.

Upon arrival, units from both UFPD and GFR assisted the injured person, University of Florida student Zhi Zhou, 27 and secured the lab where the incident occurred. Mr. Zhou was ultimately transported to Shands Hospital with non-life threatening injuries. After the GFR Hazmat Unit cleared the lab where the minor explosion occurred, it was determined that the material involved was Hydrochloric Acid, Tetrachloride, Titanium, and water which were combined and heated in a 30 milliliter beaker. Given the small and contained nature of the explosion, the building was not evacuated. All units from UFPD and GFR cleared the scene by 11:43 am, with only staff from the University of Florida Environmental Health & Safety (EH & S) and Physical Plant (PPD) completing follow-on tasks.

For questions regarding information contained in this release, please contact Major Brad Barber at (352) 273-3309, or after hours at 392-1111 (#UFPD (#8373). I can also be reached via e-mail at wbarber@ufl.edu, or see the UFPD webpage at http://www.police.ufl.edu/

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