SUBJECT: Fire At The Austin Cary Conference Building
CR# 11-1374
DATE OF INCIDENT: Tuesday, July 19, 2011
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NARRATIVE:

At approximately 2:25pm, the University of Florida Police Department (UFPD) and Alachua County Fire rescue (ACFR) responded to a report of fire at the Austin Cary Conference Building, Bldg. 142.

A witness, who works at the facility, indicated that he initially saw black smoke coming from the porch area of the building and then saw the fire inside the building. He immediately called for fire services. Upon arrival, units from both UFPD and ACFR discovered that the Conference Building, located in the Austin Cary Memorial Forest, was completely engulfed in flames and could not be extinguished in time to save the building. The building was used as the main facility within the forest for the University of Florida where lectures in forest resource education, demonstration, and research were conducted. The building, constructed in 1987, was 3,200 square feet and was also a multi-use facility. The cause of the fire is under investigation and has not been determined at this time. The amount of cost affiliated with the loss of the building and items/equipment inside has also not been determined.

For questions regarding information contained in this release, please contact Major Brad Barber at (352) 273-3309. If after hours, please call (352) 392-1111 (#UFPD (#8373) and ask to speak to a Patrol Supervisor. 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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