

2021 – 2022

# UT System Emergency Management Annual Report

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This report includes annual campus safety reviews from the UT System and our campuses in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Martin, Pulaski and the Health Science Center in Memphis.





# UT System Emergency Management Annual Report

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## Executive Summary

The University of Tennessee Office of Emergency Management is responsible for providing university officials with guidelines to assist campuses/institutes/units in the development and maintenance of plans and procedures that meet emergency prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery requirements within the National Incident Management System and the Tennessee Emergency Management Plan.

These plans and procedures help ensure that all campuses/institutes/units are able to respond appropriately in the case of emergencies or disasters that could occur within or around the university community in order to minimize negative effects on persons and property and facilitate recovery from these incidents. Most immediate emergency response actions that involve protection from harm to persons and property are executed at the local and regional level.

Therefore, the UT System emergency management program provides general guidelines that assist campuses/institutes/units in responding to emergencies and establishes procedures to monitor the emergency preparedness activities of campuses/institutes/units. The system guidelines specify requirements that campuses/institutes/units must meet to adhere to state and federal requirements.

This report will provide an overview of the various campus level events, exercises, successes and challenges for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, which began in July 2021 and ended in June 2022. It will also provide a look ahead to the 2022-2023 fiscal

year by listing the goals of each campus and institute and well as priorities for the system office.

Special thanks to all of our campus emergency managers and campus police officers for their around-the-clock efforts in planning and ensuring that our campuses remain safe environments for UT students, faculty, staff and the general public on an annual basis.

# UT System Report

## UT System Achievements

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- Successfully transitioned of 300 system employees to UT Tower.
- Completely revised emergency and safety plans and procedures for UT System employees.
- Hosted two off-site retreats to discuss emergency management and safety protocols with our campuses and worked with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission to sponsor a meeting of all higher education emergency managers statewide.
- Worked with the Office of Information Technology to develop a system-wide ransomware plan.
- Continued to look at software solutions that could be shared across the system that would provide updates in the event of an emergency.
- Identified a new weather solutions partner, SDS Weather for a system-wide weather application with weather stations on each campus and at select Ag Extension offices.
- Worked with local county offices and internal university resources to identify members to form a OneUT Response team that could assist in recovery or provide resources in the event of an emergency that doesn't directly impact one of our campuses.

## UT System Events in 2021-2022

### Actual Disaster, Emergencies and Disruptions

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- No actual events in 2021-2022.
- Had a small COVID outbreak but proper protocols were followed within UT Tower.



## UT System Training

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- Completed annual requirements for the Tennessee Emergency Services Coordinator, which is a series of training and exercises that are required by the Tennessee Emergency Management Association.
- The director spoke at the spring 2022 system-wide staff meeting and reviewed building emergency protocols with the team.
- The director completed the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency's Basic Academy which consisted of three week-long training events in Nashville.

## UT System Goals for FY 2022-2023

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- Host two annual in-person meetings of system-wide emergency managers, one of which will include emergency managers from the Tennessee Board of Regent schools.
- Implement a holistic safety program across the system that includes emergency management and public safety (environmental health and safety).
- Identify emergency response solutions that could be implemented across the system (i.e. cameras, identification software, etc.)
- Develop a recovery plan for events that do not directly impact the university but where university resources are requested, specifically from out-of-state universities.
- Refine and continue to develop a holistic public safety training program for all system employees.



# UT Knoxville Report

## UTK Achievements

Includes UT Knoxville, UT Institute of Agriculture and  
UT Space Institute

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- Conducted thorough COVID response lessons learned process and published a comprehensive after-action report and improvement plan.
- Director of emergency management appointed to the Knox County 911 board.
- Emergency management planning specialist appointed as vice chair of the Knox County Local Emergency Planning Committee.
- Two personnel from the Office of Emergency Management activated to augment the Sevier County Emergency Operations Center to support the response to wildfires.
- Transitioned COVID response capabilities to a community health capacity in the Student Health Center to maintain better preparedness and campus protection against infectious diseases.
- UT Space Institute (UTSI) campus has remained full staff for the entirety of FY 2022 without any interruptions from positive COVID cases. All cases were identified quickly which resulted in no cases spreading to other faculty, staff, and students.
- UTSI completed a successful summer intern program, with a significant increase in student enrollment, without any incident and only one positive COVID case.
- UTSI has maintained adequate supply of PPE to support the needs of the campus.
- UTSI completed emergency action plans for all major facilities and every wing in the Main Academic building.
- Campus roads were officially named and identified with street signs to help aid in more expedient emergency response at UTSI.





# UTK Events in 2021-2022

## Actual Disaster, Emergencies and Disruptions

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- On Dec. 8, 2021, a construction crew hit a gas line and the resulting leak that required the evacuation of the Early Learning Center.

## UTK Training

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- Participated in Department of Energy hazardous materials release exercise.
- Activated a shelter as an exercise.
- Participated in a hospital virtual table top exercise.
- OIT conducted a cybersecurity table top exercise.
- Director attended the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency Emergency Services Coordinator workshop.
- Planning specialist completed the FEMA Emergency Managers Basic Course.
- Attended TN Homeland Security District Family Assistance Center/Rescue Task Force workshop.
- Hosted two FEMA 300 and 400 classes and FEMA/DHS terrorism awareness series.
- UTK trained 7998 campus personnel in a variety of emergency preparedness related deliveries.
- UTSI hosted a training for AED, CPR, and first-aid for faculty, staff, and students.
- UTSI conducted successful fire and evacuation drills for the main academic building and for the Student Center (student housing facility).

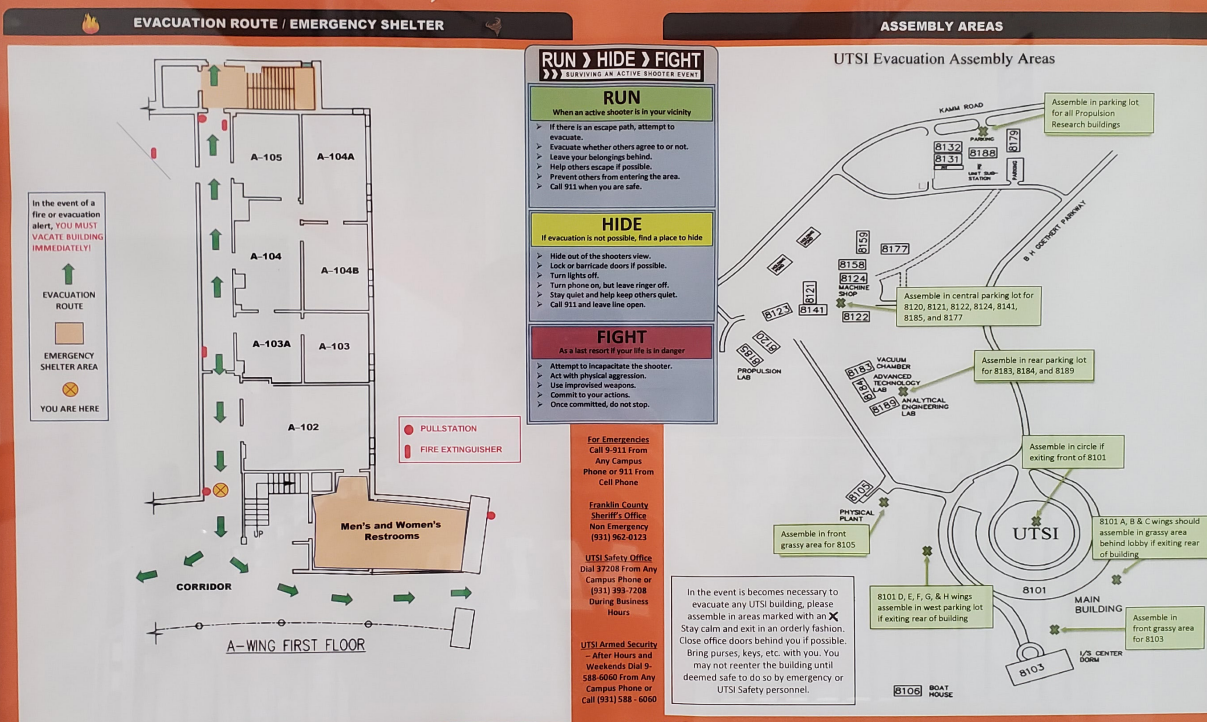
# UTK Goals for FY 2022-2023

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- Complete three to five high priority mitigation projects.
- Complete building emergency action plans for all major UTK facilities.
- Develop comprehensive awareness strategic communications plan.
- Add training on active shooter scene control to the tactical training and conduct a full-scale exercise to validate the training.
- Conduct a tabletop exercise with Franklin County Sheriff's Office for active shooter/terrorism for UTSI.
- UTSI to join the Franklin County local emergency planning committee (LEPC).
- UTSI to participate in training with the Franklin County and Estill Springs Sheriff's office.
- Develop plans for improved hazardous waste storage facility and improvements for fire and life safety for major facilities at UTSI.



# EVACUATION, SHELTER & ASSEMBLY AREAS



Lower A Wing



# UT Chattanooga Report

## UTC Achievements

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- Rolled out a new cell phone-based campus radio network adding approximately sixty (60) radios to improve communications.
- Completed rollout of new radio console for campus police, which provides much greater flexibility and capability for the 9-1-1 center.
- Participated as one of a group of emergency managers in National Weather Service effort to test two new tools for forecasters. The test involved NWS staff working through six forecast scenarios and delivering simulated end-to-end communications the emergency managers for decision making.
- Provided an assessor for an emergency management accreditation program (EMAP) visit in the U.S.
- Completed a scheduled review/update of six (6) documents related to the constitution, organization, and overhead plans of the Emergency Management Program.
- Hosted TEMA/TN National Guard/Department of Defense/U.S. Northern Command: Swift Water Rescue class at the ARC.
- Participated in the UT System Executive Leadership Team retreat, tabletop exercise. Scenario was hostage situation involving students and administrators in international location.
- The campus completed one of its highest priority projects by installing fire protection sprinklers throughout Hunter Hall.



# UTC Events in 2021-2022

## Actual Disaster, Emergencies and Disruptions

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- Jan.3, 2022 - A snow advisory and below freezing temperatures caused a two-hour delay in opening.
- Jan. 6, 2022 - Deteriorating winter weather caused an 11 a.m. closure followed by a two-hour delay on Jan. 7.
- March 11, 2022 - An overnight winter weather event caused a cancellation of activities between 8 and 10 a.m. on Saturday.
- April 6, 2022 - The potential for an early evening snowstorm caused a cancellation of all classes after 4 p.m.

## UTC Training

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- Aug. 19, 2021 - A tabletop exercise focused on emergency messaging was conducted for Communications and Marketing.
- Aug. 23-24, 2021 - Two sessions of the Emergency Operations Center Orientation were held for new team members in advance of the tabletop exercise set for Sept. 16th, 2021.
- Sept. 16, 2021 - A tabletop exercise was held simulating a tornado strike on campus.
- Jan. 18-19, 2022 - A sports threat assessment training was held by Hamilton County. One team member attended along with a representative from UTC Athletics
- Jan. 27, 2022 - A tabletop exercise was held based on a winter storm preparation scenario.
- Feb. 1-2, 2022 - Annual UTC-ALERT Team refresher training.



# UTC Training Continued

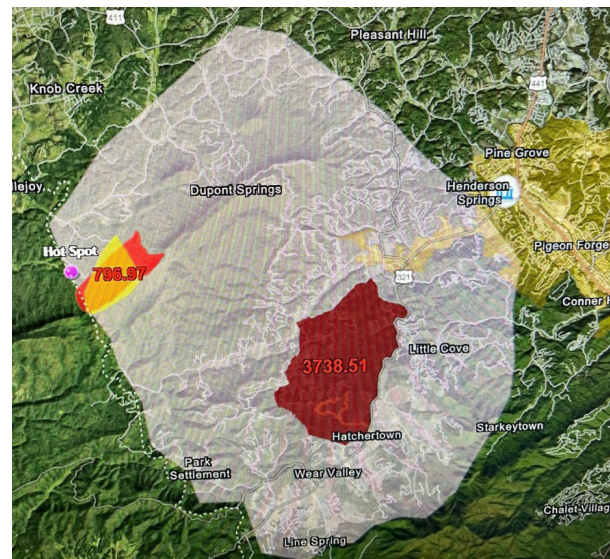
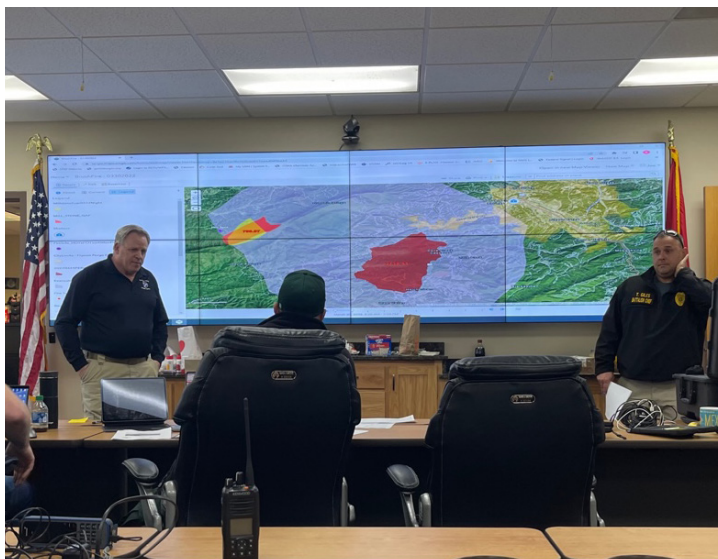
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- April 21, 2022 – Chattanooga Fire Department assisted in presenting a tabletop exercise simulating a fire in a parking garage beneath a residential housing facility.
- July 28, 2022 – A tabletop exercise was held simulating a shooting incident at University Center.

## UTC Goals for FY 2022-2023

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- Complete all documents required for emergency management accreditation program (EMAP) accreditation by Dec. 31, 2022.
- Complete scheduled review and update of nine documents related to preparation, recovery, and additional considerations of the Emergency Management Program
- Complete an Emergency Management Accreditation Self-Assessment for first quarter of 2023 in preparation for applying for accreditation.







# UT Martin Report

## UTM Achievements

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- UTM successfully transferred back to in person classes post pandemic.
- UTM Public Safety employees were able to manage staff by teleworking and moving to 10-hour workdays.
- UTM officers completed a record amount of V-Academy training for EMA.
- UTM pre-stocked ample supplies in the event of another wave of COVID.
- Campus police and the emergency management office completed campus safety walks across campus.
- UTM updated its emergency management plan and completed a peer review with the UT Health Science Center.

## UTM Events in 2021-2022

### Actual Disaster, Emergencies and Disruptions

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- UTM did not have any actual disasters, emergencies or disruptions in the 2021-2022 fiscal year.





## UTM Training

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- UTM officers conducted several active shooter training sessions.
- Completed a tabletop exercise with the Chancellor's Cabinet, also around an active shooter event.
- Completed a Homeland Security assessment with the Department of Safety.
- Received training on stop the bleed kits which allowed kits to be placed throughout campus in all automated external defibrillator (AED) boxes.
- Completed a security assessment on Graham Stadium with Martin city police.
- Received training and updated 12 new DurAXV Verizon priority phones.

## UTM Goals for FY 2022-2023

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- Conduct a full-scale campus exercise.
- Identify a structured approach for personnel augmentation for recovery from a major disaster.
- Maintain a healthy campus in the event of another pandemic.
- Identify location and further plans to construct an on-campus emergency operations center.



# UT Southern Report

## UTS Achievements

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- Continued to maintain policies and procedures implemented to protect our campus during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Maintained the ability to offer virtual classes to students when necessary for safety reasons.
- Faculty and staff returned to full time in office hours with the continued option to attend/orchestrate meetings via Teams/Zoom.
- UTS Clinic successfully made the COVID-19 vaccine available to all members of the UTS community. Provided 271 COVID-19 vaccinations.
- Received support from Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES)/ Higher Education Emergency Relief (HEERF) funds to assist in COVID-19 safety measures, upgrades, and response.
  - o Campus safety operations
    - PPE – sanitizing and masks
    - Furniture for social distancing
  - o Student quarantine expenses
  - o Additional technology resources
    - Laptop check out options
    - Wifi upgrades
    - Smart classroom upgrades



- o Implemented evidence-based practices to monitor and suppress coronavirus by offering vaccine clinics and home test kits.
  - o Financial Aid conducted a direct outreach to financial aid applicants about the opportunity to receive a financial aid adjustment due to unemployment or other eligible circumstances.
- LiveSafe and RAVE safety and emergency alert applications were contracted for the campus community. This corrected a critical issue experienced with previous emergency alert platforms that unsuccessfully reached our UTS community during active threat drills.

## UTS Events in 2021-2022

### Actual Disaster, Emergencies and Disruptions

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- Continued campus response to COVID-19 pandemic.

## UTS Training

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- Fire drills and severe weather drills were conducted in all residential locations on campus in the fall semester and spring semester.

# UTS Goals for FY 2022-2023

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- UT Southern Emergency Response Plan will be reviewed and updated to ensure optimal practices and procedures are available to the UTS community.
- UTS Campus Security webpage will be updated to display emergency procedures and information in a more user-friendly display.
- UT Southern will facilitate with Pulaski Police Department, Giles County Sheriff's Department and Giles County Emergency Management to conduct an active threat presentation and exercise on campus for the fall of 2022.
- UT Southern will be hosting the 2023 Emergency Preparedness Conference in Spring 2023.









# UT Health Science Center Report

## UTHSC Achievements

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- UTHSC performed a Physical Security Risk Assessment in conjunction with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) in November 2021.
- Following an August 2021 active shooter incident in a nearby community, Campus Police received an increased number of requests for Active Shooter training. The Campus Police provided several training sessions to on-campus and community groups throughout FY2021-22.
- Campus Police Campus Safety and Emergency Management updated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Response Protocol.
- Campus Safety and Emergency Management updated the Hazardous Material Spill Contingency Plan, accompanying Contingency Plan Quick Guide, and Security Plan for the Transportation of Hazardous Materials.
- Campus Safety and Emergency Management updated the campus Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) plan. Implementation of the plan including coordination with several departments on campus to ensure appropriate training and periodic inspections of oil-containing vessels and equipment.
- Twenty fire alarms were triggered in 2021. No fires occurred on campus.
- Lab Animal Care Unit (LACU) performed a tabletop emergency response exercise to evaluate response procedures to be executed during a weather-related HVAC system failure.
- UTHSC representatives attended the Spring 2021 UT System Emergency Managers meeting.
- Achievements related to the UTHSC COVID-19 pandemic response included:



- o UTHSC Human Resources, University Health Services and Campus Safety and Emergency Management continued to collaborate in managing the COVID-19 pandemic by maintaining keeping campus guidelines up to date with CDC and state public health guidelines.
- o COVID-19 testing for students and staff provided by UTHSC University Health Services.
- o COVID-19 vaccines provided to students and staff through UTHSC University Health Services.

## UTHSC Events in 2021-2022

### Actual Disaster, Emergencies and Disruptions

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- UTHSC emergency response personnel responded to eight reported indoor air quality incidents related to natural gas, exhaust fumes and the handling of hazardous chemicals.
- The Spill Response Team responded to two spills – one involving an unknown chemical and the other involving the cleanup of diesel fuel released associated with an emergency generator.

## UTHSC Training

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- Campus Police provided Active Shooter training to several campus and community groups throughout the year.
- Fire Safety provided fire extinguisher training to 42 students, staff member and faculty in the month of August and September 2021.
- In September 2021, the UTHSC Radiation Safety Officer provided the Campus Police with irradiator response incident training.
- The annual AED/CPR training event held in October 2021 provided 92 staff members with AED/CPR training. An additional 36 staff members completed training in February and March 2021.
- In April 2022, the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services provided Campus Police with Naloxone (Narcan) training in case they encounter a suspected opioid overdose or if an officer becomes exposed to opioids while on duty.
- Campus Safety and Research Safety Affairs personnel participated in monthly emergency response training and exercises Incident Command System review, hazardous material spill response, response to indoor environmental quality incidents (e.g., gas leak, odor complaint, etc.), and radiation incident response.
- Campus Safety and Emergency Management worked with the UTHSC Campus Police to provide respirator training and fit testing for personnel whose emergency responsibilities may include the use of chemical respiratory protection.
- Campus Safety and Emergency Management provided SPCC training to Facilities and Food Services personnel to better manage risk associated with the storage of oil on campus.

## UTHSC Goals for FY 2022-2023

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- Complete UT System Incident Command System training.
- Update the UTHSC Emergency Response Plan.







# Contacts

## Emergency Management Contacts

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# TEMA Emergency Services Coordinator (ESC) Contacts for the University of Tennessee

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