

A GABRIEL CASE STUDY

A 1,500 person facility *without* GABRIEL:



On a late December morning an active shooter alert sounded throughout an large educational facility. This site was better prepared than most after installing lockdown buttons throughout the school, a direct line to the local police department, and mass notification tools including sirens and text-messaging tools. Students and staff scurried into classrooms and those near exits fled the building – making their way to nearby strip malls and residents’ to take cover.



Police responded quickly and in force. Within three minutes the first officer arrived and was followed by 8 agencies providing additional cover including the County Sheriff’s Office, Regional Homeland Security, SWOT, and helicopter support.



Two and a half hours later SWOT finished clearing the building and declared it safe. The site remained on shelter in place for the remainder of the day. Students and staff were slow to return and the drain on public safety resources was significant..



Key Shortfalls

Two weeks later the findings were released – a student triggered one of the lockdown buttons, launching the false alarm. This was a relatively happy ending, but the lack of tools to manage a real crisis was glaring.

Had this been a true active shooter situation, responders would have been in the dark as they tried to find and engage the perpetrator. It would have taken too long to treat the wounded and everyone trapped on site would simply be sitting ducks until the situation was fully under control.

A 1,500 person facility *with* GABRIEL:



Two days before the case above, a staff member was showing the GABRIEL app to a visitor, boasting its capabilities, while he unintentionally held down the panic button. Within seconds the entire building’s shields were blaring sirens and flashing lights, all mobile phones were mimicking the alert, and the security team was in motion. Staff members throughout the building began asking (in the GABRIEL messaging platform) whether this was a drill or false alarm.



Immediately, the site’s management and security staff had received an alert notifying them which user initiated the alarm and gave them an instant feed of video from every GABRIEL Shield on site. The mood in the building was one of curiosity instead of panic. No gunshots, screaming or other suspicious behavior was found anywhere throughout the site. A quick message to initiator- Jonathan, and a “I didn’t do it” response. The CEO called him to verify, and walked down one flight of steps to triple check this was indeed a false alarm.



Within **three minutes** the entire incident was over, building declared safe, and emergency response called off. Key lessons were gathered for staff training and how to leverage the situational awareness had this been a true emergency.

Aside from an embarrassed staff member and a few minutes of excitement, there were more positive lessons learned than harm done.