

2/7/2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media contact: John Doe, Auburn University Media Relations Office, (334) 569-5600

enp0012@auburn.edu

Major Fire Breaks Out at Vaughan Large Animal Hospital

The City of Auburn Fire Department responded to a fire at the College of Veterinary Medicine's Vaughan Large Animal Hospital at 2 a.m. this morning.

Veterinary technician Billy Andrews and six horses, one being a young foal, were found dead inside a horse barn upon the authorities' arrival. Two veterinarians who previously delivered the foal, Emily Johnson and Dwight Johnson, remain unaccounted for.

Currently, firefighters are working to extinguish the fire at the animal hospital, which has already sustained significant damage. University officials and members of the crisis management team held a conference call this morning to discuss the situation and devise a plan of action.

The College of Veterinary Science Dean Calvin Johnson told reporters, "We are devastated by the deaths of Billy Andrews and the horses. Police continue to search for Emily and Dwight Johnson and we hope they are found unscathed."

Last Friday, campus facilities workers installed a new fire alarm in the Vaughan Large Animal Hospital, a campus facilities employee told reporters.

The university and campus police have scheduled a press conference for noon today. Campus officials, the university's president and city police will address the tragedy.