

**Northwest Mississippi Community
College**

Office of Campus Life and Housing

**Annual Residence Hall Fire Safety
Report**

Calendar Year 2008

Prepared in Compliance with U.S. Higher Education Act Amendments of 2008

January 14, 2009

Residence Hall Fire Statistics

2008 Fire Report

There were no fires recorded in the Northwest Mississippi Community College residence halls in 2008. Therefore, no fire-related injuries or property damage were incurred in the residence halls in calendar year 2008.

2000-2008 Fire Statistics

Statistics for fires recorded in the years 2000-2008 are per building and per calendar year.

| Building | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Benton Hall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bobo Hall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| DeSoto Hall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Gainey Hall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Marshall Hall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Panola Hall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Quitman Hall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Tallahatchie Hall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Taylor Hall | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Fire Safety Related Policies/Inspections

Section 108 of the Northwest Mississippi Community College Code of Student Conduct prohibits the setting of, or adding to, unauthorized fires on college premises, willful damage or misuse of fire equipment, initiation of a false fire alarm, or failure to evacuate during a fire alarm or drill (NWCC *Student Guide*, page 26). Smoking is also prohibited in all residence halls (*Student Guide*, page 54).

Residence Hall regulations listed on pages 38 – 40 of the *Student Guide* prohibit possession of the following items deemed to be a fire risk:

- Electric heaters

- Sunlamps
- Toaster ovens
- Personal microwave ovens
- Hot plates
- Candles
- Combustible substances
- Dangerous chemicals

Residents are required to remove personal trash/waste daily and place trash in bins located outside the residence halls.

Weekly room inspections are conducted by professional residence hall staff to insure compliance with these policies. Warnings and fines are assessed for non-compliance. Residence Hall staff members are trained in fire safety issues by the City of Senatobia Fire Marshal.

General fire safety procedures for all students, including residence hall students, are listed on pages 58-60 of the *Student Guide*.

The *Student Guide* is distributed to all students at the beginning of each semester, is available on the College website, and is available on request from the Student Affairs and Housing Offices. Mandatory Informational sessions about residence hall regulations are held at the beginning of each fall semester for campus residents.

Fire Drills

Fire Drills are held in each residence hall during the first few weeks of each semester. Drills are conducted by residence hall staff and campus police officers. A report on each drill is kept on file in the Campus Police Office.

Students who fail to evacuate in a timely manner are cited by the Campus Police with Campus Appearance Tickets and are referred to the Assistant Director of Campus Life and Housing for disciplinary hearings. Students found responsible for violating the evacuation requirement are counseled regarding the importance of evacuating and are sanctioned under the provisions of the Code of Student Conduct.

Residence Hall/Fire Safety Equipment Descriptions

Benton Hall

Description - Completed in 1971 as apartments, Benton was converted in 1989 to a women's residence hall. The three building complex houses 78 female students in two, four or six bed apartments.

Fire Safety Equipment – one fire extinguisher in each apartment, smoke detectors in each bedroom and kitchen.

Bobo Hall

Description - Built in 1965, Bobo is a two-story women's residence that houses approximately 59 female students. A comprehensive renovation was completed in 1996. Students are housed in two bed student rooms with suite baths.

Fire Safety Equipment - A central fire alarm system, smoke detectors in every bedroom and in hallways and lounges, six fire extinguishers, emergency lighting, controlled/monitored building access, fire evacuation route maps per room and video surveillance.

DeSoto Hall

Description - built in 1968, DeSoto was renovated in 1999 and converted from faculty housing to student residences. The four building complex houses 59 male and female students in three to four bed apartments.

Fire Safety Equipment – Smoke detectors in every apartment kitchen and every apartment bedroom, carbon monoxide detectors in every apartment, a fire extinguisher in every apartment, common exterior doors equipped with alarms to discourage door propping, and a secured inner courtyard.

Gainey Hall

Description – Gainey was built in 1966 and renovated in 1995. The two-story residence houses approximately 88 male students in two bed student rooms with suite baths.

Fire Safety Equipment – A central fire alarm system, smoke detectors in every bedroom and in lobbies and hallways, six fire extinguishers, emergency lighting, fire evacuation route maps per room and a controlled/monitored building access system.

Marshall Hall

Description - Completed in fall 2003, Marshall houses 160 male and female students in four bed apartments located in four buildings, with an additional building containing a central office/lounge area.

Fire Safety Equipment – A central fire alarm system, one smoke detector in each apartment, one fire extinguisher in each apartment, and a video surveillance system.

Panola Hall

Description - Completed in 1974 and completely renovated in 2004, Panola houses approximately 84 female students in suite style accommodations, with each suite containing three rooms with two beds each, and a suite bath.

Fire Safety Equipment - A central fire alarm system, smoke detectors in each suite hallway, video surveillance, one fire extinguisher in each suite, and a controlled/monitored access system into each suite.

Quitman Hall

Description – Quitman is a three-story residence hall built in 1968 and completely renovated in 1991, housing 258 men in two and three bed rooms. The building has community baths.

Fire Safety Equipment - A central fire alarm, smoke detectors in each bedroom and in hallways, video surveillance, nine fire extinguishers, emergency lighting, and a controlled/monitored building access system.

Tallahatchie Hall

Description - Tallahatchie is a three building complex built in 1973 and renovated in 1990. 96 male students are housed in one to two bedroom apartments

Fire Safety Equipment - Smoke detectors in every bedroom and kitchen, and a fire extinguisher in every apartment.

Taylor Hall

Description - Taylor is a three-story residence hall housing 172 women in two bed student rooms, with community baths. The hall was built in 1968 and completely renovated in 1994.

Fire Safety Equipment - A central fire alarm system, nine fire extinguishers, a smoke detector in every bedroom and in hallways and lobbies, emergency lighting, video surveillance, fire evacuation route maps per room and a controlled/monitored building access system.

Planned Fire Safety Improvements

Revised fire evacuation maps for rooms are currently being developed and will be appropriately secured to doors in Benton, Marshall, DeSoto, Tallahatchie, Quitman, and Panola Halls. The project is on-going and will be completed by May 20, 2009.