

Allegheny East Conference Corporation

OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

July 9, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Incident at Allegheny East Conference Grounds Addressed Swiftly by Local Authorities and AEC Security

On Saturday, July 6th, at approximately 8:00 PM, Douglass Township police responded promptly to an incident at the Allegheny East Conference (AEC) grounds following reports of gunfire. A male suspect discharged a firearm into the air near the wood line in the area in front of Jefferson Hall on Douglass Drive.

Upon hearing the shots, AEC's law enforcement personnel, trained to respond to such situations, immediately initiated established protocols, including notifying local law enforcement, dispatching to the area of the incident, and implementing a "shelter in place" directive for the campus. Approximately 10 minutes later, after receiving confirmation from police that the suspect had been apprehended, the campus lockdown was lifted.

We want to emphasize that this was an isolated incident of disorderly conduct. At no point did it pose a direct threat to individuals on campus. No one was harmed or injured.

"The safety and security of everyone on our campus is our highest priority," stated LaTasha Hewitt, Communication Director at Allegheny East Conference. "We are grateful for the swift response of our security team, led by Corporal Karl Burnett, and the cooperation of Douglass Township Police in managing this situation effectively, shared Dr. Trevor Kinlock, president of AEC."

Allegheny East Conference continues to work closely with law enforcement as they investigate the incident. AEC administrators and security personnel are fully cooperating to provide any necessary assistance.

For further information or media inquiries, please contact LaTasha Hewitt at lhewitt@aeccsda.com.

About Allegheny East Conference: The Allegheny East Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is a Christian organization serving communities in Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, and the eastern part of West Virginia. AEC operates the conference grounds as a venue for various community and religious events throughout the year.

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