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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chabot College needed a new emergency tower system that would allow its officers to broadcast emergency notifications and instructions through multiple means and locations. Chabot College Campus Safety Officer, Nathan Moore, explains why the Talkaphone WEBS Emergency Phone Towers were the best answer for their needs.

The Chabot-Las Positas Community College District serves a large part of the San Francisco East Bay Area. The district runs two colleges: Chabot College in Hayward and Las Positas College in Livermore. The district serves nearly 25,000 students and employs nearly 2,000 administrators. In order to accommodate the growing number of staff and students, both Chabot College and Las Positas College have progressively added to their infrastructure in recent years.

With these new expansion projects comes a challenging task of upgrading the

college's emergency communication and response systems. After the tragic events at Virginia Tech, it has been a priority of many educational institutions to provide multiple means of communication with their students, especially for new structural additions to the campus.

Chabot College and Las Positas College are operated separately from each other. They each have their own administrators and staff, specifically their public safety representatives and officers. Both colleges were looking to update and expand their current public safety communication solutions, and both came to a decision to install Talkaphone's emergency phones, mass notification towers and software throughout each campus.

Chabot College wanted to install a product that could provide a communication tool for both their students and police officers. Chabot's 94 acres of land are in the center of the Hayward suburban community and heavy pedestrian traffic navigates through and around the campus daily.



“We perform fire and earthquake drills. We wanted a system that could help us better organize our response and communication with the community. These units have done just that.”

Nathan Moore, Campus Safety Officer Chabot College

Chabot College’s Nathan Moore, the Emergency Preparedness Liaison for Chabot College, elaborated on their choice. “The main objective of the college was to improve communications in and around campus. We made the switch to Talkaphone because we wanted a system that could allow us to broadcast messages from our call center and also broadcast messages spoken directly through the units with a microphone in the back.”

Chabot College has installed Talkaphone emergency phones throughout the campus parking lots and recreational areas with heavy student traffic. The installation included blue light towers as well as smaller pedestal mounts equipped with Talkaphone’s WEBS mass notification speakers. Not only do these units allow students to instantly connect with the Chabot security in case of an

emergency, they also allow the Chabot security to reach out to the entire campus community using the WEBS Contact mass notification platform.

Taking into consideration the long history of earthquakes and wildfires in California, it was a no brainer for Nathan Moore and the rest of the Chabot College Police to choose these devices as a key communication tool during an emergency. Nathan Moore elaborated, “We wanted a system that could help us better organize our response and communication with the community. These units have done just that. These units help let the community know what’s going on during a drill or actual emergency. We wanted to create a safe environment.”

All units were painted bright red with an all-LED blue light on the top. The units can be seen throughout the entire campus and are easily identifiable. According to Nathan Moore, the blue light towers have a strong presence on campus. “At night the strobe lights have actually helped us locate people during emergencies.”