



STANFORD UNIVERSITY FIRE MARSHAL OFFICE

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY
ESF - 480 Oak Road
Stanford, CA 94305-8007
650.723.0448; fax: 650.725.3468
www.stanford.edu/dept/EHS

Alternative Emergency Phone Numbers to 911

Everyone knows that in case of an emergency to call 911 or 9-911 from a campus phone. This phone number has been so universally engrained into society that people will call for reasons that aren't emergencies. Such as reporting the fact that they just felt an earthquake, as though the dispatchers who answer the line didn't experience it themselves. Now that everyone has the number committed to memory and isn't afraid to use it we have a new complication to throw in. Cell phones and let's face it everyone has one. Some people are so accustomed to them they no longer feel the need to pay for a landline phone in their home. But what happens when you call 911 from your cell phone is not the same as when you call from a landline phone. All 911 phone calls from cell phones are forwarded to the California Highway Patrol dispatch center, which receive more than 6 million calls a year statewide, up from 29,000 in 1998. As a result what will happen most often is that the caller will be greeted with a recorded message saying all operators are busy. Once you do manage to get through you will need to convey all of the information related to the emergency you are reporting, then you will be transferred to the appropriate local dispatch center, where you will be requested to repeat all of the emergency information again. All of this takes time, too much time. Fortunately each city has a seven digit emergency line that cell phone users can call to report their emergency. Each city has one and you are strongly encouraged to place one or more of the numbers, listed below, in the speed dial of your cell phone. Easy, no committing to memory, no busy signal, no transferred call. Fast reliable service, just what we are all looking for.

Campbell	(408) 378-8161	Cupertino	(408) 299-3233
East Palo Alto	(650) 321-1112	Fremont	(510) 796-3311
Gilroy	(408) 842-0191	Los Altos	(650) 948-8222
Los Altos Hills	(650) 299-3233	Los Gatos	(408) 354-8600
Menlo Park	(650) 325-4424	Millbrae	(650) 697-1212
Milpitas	(408) 263-1212	Monte Sereno	(408) 354-8600
Morgan Hill	(408) 779-2101	Mountain View	(650) 903-6922
Palo Alto	(650) 321-4433	Redwood City	(650) 369-3333
San Carlos	(650) 592-2222	San Francisco	(415) 553-0123
San Jose	(408) 277-8911	San Martin	(408) 277-8911
San Mateo County	(650) 363-4911	Santa Clara	(408) 615-5640
Santa Clara County	(408) 299-2311	Santa Cruz	(831) 471-1131
Saratoga	(408) 299-3233	Sunnyvale	(408) 736-6244