

LOCKDOWN



Photo by John Padgett

Brevard police officers turn away a car attempting to drive onto campus early Tuesday afternoon while the school was on lockdown.

After receiving 'credible threat,' BC campus undergoes lockdown, told to shelter in place

By Lauren Fowler, Florian Peyssonneaux and Jeni Welch

On Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 11:25 a.m. Brevard College students received an emergency phone call and email through the Emergency Notification System stating the following message: "BC Community, This is not a drill. We have information that there is a credible threat to our campus. Please shelter in place until further notice. Authorities have been notified and our emergency response system has been activated. Please shelter in place until further notice. All buildings are locked down. Please remain inside and shelter in place until further notice. Repeat - This is not a drill. End Notice."

According to Chad Holt, the VP of Admissions and Financial Aid, a call was received on the switchboard from the parent of a prospective Brevard College student, who was visiting campus from Mountain Heritage High

School. In this call, which was answered by Sydney Folger in the office, the parent warned of a rumor that there was going to be a shooter at Brevard College campus that day.

"That's all it takes, if there's even a whisper," Holt said. "There are no rumors anymore—you have to treat everything as a credible threat."

It has been speculated that the parent had heard rumors that may have been spread on Twitter by students at Mountain Heritage High School, but as of right now, no evidence has been found to support this.

Immediately after receiving the call, Folger contacted Campus Security and alerted Chad Holt, who communicated with the Executive Leadership Team, who then initiated a campus-wide lockdown.

The lockdown lasted for 1 hour and 33 minutes as the Brevard police department investigated the third-party alert for a possible gun threat

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