

**From:** Maurice Jones  
**Sent:** Friday, October 30, 2020 4:26 PM  
**To:** Town Email Users  
**Subject:** Town Manager's Weekly COVID Update 10-30-20  
**Attachments:** [Taking Care of Yourself During the Holidays and Throughout the Fall & Winter](#)

Hello Everyone,

### **Active Shooter Scare at UNC Hospital**

At around 11:30 this morning, there was a call to 911 reporting that a person with a rifle had entered the Ambulatory Care Center at the UNC Hospital. Many units responded to the scene. The Care Center was put into lockdown and Chapel Hill Police, University Hospital Police, UNC Police and other outside agencies began securing the site and sweeping the building. The police completed two sweeps of the building and did not encounter any victims or signs of a shooter. The all clear occurred roughly an hour after the call was received at 911. At the moment we believe the call made to 911 was, thankfully, just a mistake made by a concerned member of the public.

I applaud our police and emergency responders for their quick response to this reported incident at UNC. As a reminder, if we would were to receive a specific threat to one of our facilities or in a neighborhood that bordered one of our facilities we would utilized the protocols that are in place to communicate with our employees and to provide directions for locking down and sheltering in place.

### **Halloween**

As we have feared, Halloween is happening during a surge in COVID-19 positive cases and hospitalizations in NC. When Halloween falls on a weekend night we normally prepare for large crowd management on Franklin Street. This year our public service looks different. We made an announcement several weeks ago that we would not be closing Franklin Street to accommodate the annual Halloween on Franklin event. We are using all our resources to ask our community to avoid crowds and get-togethers even if they are outside. We are encouraging folks to use creative ways to have socially distanced fun, like an in-door scavenger hunt for candy instead of trick-or-treating.

Public service doesn't end when we clock out of our Chapel Hill jobs. As members of our home communities we all have an opportunity to encourage safety and spread the message about celebrations. I urge you to consider how you might use your influence as a neighbor, family member and friend to send a message of shared responsibility and vigilance as our state experiences a surge in positive cases.

### **Election Day**

Another event on the horizon is the election on Tuesday, November 2. Elections are always polarizing to some degree and this year's pandemic, the resulting isolation and economic downturn and racial strife in our country have heightened that effect. As with our COVID-19 response, I urge you to focus on safety as we weather the outcome of the election. And, if possible, to spread kindness as folks process their feelings about the outcome one way or the other.

The bottom line of my message as always is to take good care of yourself. I'm attaching the very helpful email sent out to employees last week from the Wellness Committee that talks about how to do that during the holidays and throughout fall and winter. And please don't forget that the resources below are at your disposal. If you need other resources, please reach out to us for help.

### **Resources**

- Submit employee questions and concerns to the Office of Risk Management at 919-969-5035, [rallen@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:rallen@townofchapelhill.org)
- Contact the Town's Wellness Clinic: 919-968-2796, <https://chapelhillwellnessatwork.org/>
  - Please call first
  - Please note: the Town's Wellness Clinic does not have the capability to test for coronavirus; the staff can recommend whether you should seek additional medical guidance

- Your Blue Cross and Blue Shield health plan provides video diagnosis options. Visit <https://member.carefirst.com/members/health-wellness/video-visit.page>.
- Contact the Ombuds at [ombuds@townofchapelhill.org](mailto:ombuds@townofchapelhill.org) or 919-265-0806
- If you need to talk with someone about personal problems and/or work-related problems that may impact your job performance, health, mental and emotional well-being, call 1-800-326-3864 or visit [bhsonline.com](http://bhsonline.com).

All the Best,  
Maurice

Maurice Jones  
Town Manager  
Town of Chapel Hill, NC  
(919) 968-2743  
[www.townofchapelhill.org](http://www.townofchapelhill.org)