

**Project Title:** Location Awareness and Public Safety (LAPS)

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**Motivation:**

Universal emergency telephone numbers such as 911 and 112 provide quick access to emergency services. When activated, the caller's location and information are passed to the nearest emergency response service to better assess the situation and respond quickly. Information regarding the events and details of the situation are limited to the caller's conversation. How can other resources be used to aid in assessing the situation, providing quick and accurate response?

The University of Maryland (UM) provides Public Emergency Response Telephones (PERT) with direct communication to the UM Police Department. Many of these phones are equipped with video cameras, which are monitored by the Security Operations Center (SOC), a division of the UM Department of Public Safety (UMDPS). The SOC monitors over 500 video cameras on campus, located in strategic locations both inside and outside buildings. These cameras are used to assess the events on campus and relay pertinent information to the proper agents.

With increasing availability of cellular phones can we utilize relevant resources to provide a clear picture of a potential emergency situation? MyeVue currently has a prototype emergency dialing application that will allow users to quickly use their cellphone to communicate with public safety, including their location. We propose utilizing the campus cameras with the location awareness of cellphones to highlight potential cameras and resources to quickly assess the situation.

**Goals:**

We will utilize the MyeVue framework to develop a prototype application that expands on the current emergency response plan in place to quickly assess the situation given video cameras within the area. To accomplish this task, we propose the following goals:

1. Identify potential resources for assessing the situation based on caller's location
2. Automate focusing of relevant resources on the situation
3. Provide peer to peer location sharing / dynamic routing

To realize these goals, we will break the project into three phases:

1. Panic sends GPS information to PS. A list of cameras with the greatest probability of viewing an incident are brought to the forefront in the SOC.
2. Cameras can focus on the area from where the panic signal came from and assess situation.
3. Information dissemination: syncing the caller's device with emergency response unit.
4. Automate camera tracking of location