

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Butler County improves Courthouse Safety New system provides faster response in times of emergency

Greenville, AL - April 1, 2015

Mattie Gomillion, Butler County Circuit Clerk, today announced the installation of a new personal emergency communications system to better protect courthouse personnel and visitors within the Butler County Courthouse.

Courthouse offices are now equipped with wireless personal call buttons that can send a coded signal to call for immediate help when needed. Unlike traditional security systems, the calls are not delayed through routing to a commercial monitoring service or even 911. The new system, called *ActionAlert* is based on advanced wireless technology developed and manufactured by Falcon Wireless of Birmingham, Alabama.

ActionAlert calls are detected by a device known as a *Premise Notification Accelerator*, or PNA, This device picks up activations by personal emergency call buttons, reads a secure digital coded message, and then translates the data as a voice message via 2-way radio. This message can be received by law enforcement officers on duty inside the courthouse as well as outside patrol officers, and the Sheriff's Dispatch office, as well as selected administrative personnel.

This rapid notification process can reduce response time from an average of ten minutes or more to less than two minutes. Instead of a single on-duty officer response, the number of responders can be a swarm of people; even those not equipped with law enforcement 2-way radios! This is possible since the PNA is also capable of sending an alert text or email message to cell phones of administrative and/or off duty personnel.

Mrs. Gomillion stated that the entire system was installed for less than three thousand dollars and there are no long term contracts or monthly charges. She further stated that we all feel safer now in the knowledge that help, when needed, is quickly available.

Additional information is available from Mattie Gomillion at (334) 382-3521 or by contacting Burch Falkner of Falcon Wireless in Birmingham at (205) 854-2611.

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