



A special announcement on behalf of the University of Pennsylvania's Division of Public Safety

The University is pleased to unveil the Penn Siren Outdoor System (Penn SOS), which is phase two of the UPennAlert Emergency Notification System. This thirteen (13) speaker system has the ability to transmit emergency alert tones and voice intelligible messages to the outdoor campus environment. Penn SOS is not designed to penetrate buildings, but will be audible above normal street noise.

Currently, the UPennAlert System serves fifty-two thousand (52,000) Penn affiliates by delivering emergency notifications via electronic devices (i.e. cell phones, PDAs, and landlines). Penn SOS provides an additional layer of protection for the Penn Community and our visitors. It offers the advantage of communicating with all individuals outdoors across Penn's campus who might not otherwise receive notification of a major event. In the event of a large scale emergency, both systems could be used to alert people in the area of an immediate, hazardous situation.

Penn SOS speakers will be installed during July and August 2009 and each speaker will be individually tested. Once all speakers are in place, simultaneous testing will occur from August 18th to August 20, 2009. When the system is fully implemented tests will be conducted monthly to ensure system reliability. These tests will occur on the first Friday of each month at 11:00 a.m. beginning October 2, 2009. All tests will use the Westminster Chimes as the test tone so as not to alarm the public or disrupt University business.

For more information about Penn SOS and to hear samples of the Westminster Chimes and Penn SOS alert tones visit: [www.publicsafety/upenn.edu/upennalert](http://www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/upennalert) . To learn about other important features of PennReady the University's Emergency Preparedness program, please go to www.publicsafety.upenn.edu or contact the Division of Public Safety, Office of the Vice President at (215) 898-7515.