

News

Macomb County
Office of Public Affairs



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Dec. 20, 2004

Contact: Phil Frame
Office of Public Affairs
586-469-5125
phil.frame@macombcountymi.gov

SPRINKLER MALFUNCTION DAMAGES COURT BUILDING

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. – A sprinkler system malfunction on the fifth floor of the Macomb County Court Building today caused extensive water damage and forced the shuffling of courtrooms to accommodate normal business.

“Unfortunately, the public had to stay outside on this cold day while we made a determination of the extent of the damage and what we could do to shuffle courtrooms,” said Circuit Court Chief Judge Peter Maceroni. “We apologize for any inconvenience to anyone who had to wait in the near-zero-degree weather.”

Maintenance workers discovered about 3 a.m. today that the sprinkler system on the fifth floor malfunctioned and went off sometime during the night. Flooding on the fifth floor caused extensive damage. Seepage from the flooding caused additional damage on both the fourth and third floors, mostly on the south side of the building.

Two courtrooms were closed on the fourth floor and one on the fifth floor, causing the courts to open late. Business in the affected courts was moved to other courts that were available because of holiday scheduling, allowing otherwise normal operations.

The cause of the malfunction in the sprinkler system is under investigation. No financial estimate of the damage is yet available.

###