The University of Alabama Police Communications Division which is located within the Tuscaloosa County Emergency Operations Center is now capable of Text to 911. All agencies in the Tuscaloosa County Emergency Operations Center will have the ability to not only accept inbound messaging (allowing the public to directly access 9-1-1 through text messaging from their wireless handset) but may also conduct outbound messaging (sending text messages to the public).

Text-to-911 will be especially useful for the hearing or speech impaired and extremely useful in those situations where it is not safe to place a voice call to 9-1-1. Tuscaloosa County 9-1-1 and the University of Alabama Police Department encourages citizens with police, fire or medical emergencies to call 9-1-1 if they can and text 9-1-1 only if they cannot.