Universities across the globe are finding themselves in the unprecedented position of closing their campuses, partially or fully, to keep students and staff safe and to help slow the spread of the coronavirus. What we’re going through is a big change in a short period - and of course the impact is being felt by the public safety, security and emergency management organizations responsible for protecting campuses and associated facilities. We are now operating in a very different, and difficult environment.

Broadly, there has been a strategic shift from a public safety mindset to one that focuses predominantly on security and wellbeing of individuals. For example, campus buildings may be at greater risk where they are unoccupied or only sparsely occupied, and there has to be greater attention to the safety of those operating in these low occupancy environments. University officials may themselves come under pressure due to staff illness and absence. They are faced with these and a myriad of other challenges which are evolving alongside the fluid nature of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For senior executive teams and public safety leaders, questions arising from closing a campus, include:

- How can we ensure designated areas are being adequately patrolled to minimize the risk of damage to property, trespassing, and looting?
- How can the leadership team keep track of the location and availability of patrol officers, contracted security guards and other resources? How can they best coordinate these resources for the most effective site coverage and risk response?
- How do we provide 24/7 safety, security and welfare for those students who have remained in university-managed residences?

"SafeZone is already protecting some of the highest-profile campuses in the US. Easy to deploy and use, it meets the unique challenges faced by campus police and emergency management teams."

Glenn Farrant, CEO of CriticalArc

SafeZone is a secure, cloud-based solution which can be custom-configured and fully deployed in days. This makes it ideal for universities looking for a quick and easy way to adapt to risks at speed. The software is uniquely suited to assist campus police, public safety, and emergency management organizations with closing and protecting all their facilities. It provides:

- Heat-map reports with at-a-glance depictions of where, when and how often your team has patrolled designated areas, so you can validate and optimize coverage
- The ability to see in real-time the location and availability of campus patrol officers and contracted security guards, letting you direct resources for the best coverage and response to critical incidents
- Automatic check-in of full-time and contracted security teams, so anytime they enter/exit a campus perimeter or other designated zone, you have full situational awareness of their movements.

All of these capabilities are making a difference at the many campuses where SafeZone is now in service.

If you’d like to learn how SafeZone can be deployed very quickly to start helping your organization, please visit www.criticalarc.com and request a demo.