Courthouse flood damages floors



A ruptured sprinkler flooded multiple floors. The flood caused extensive water damage to a Multnomah County, Oregon courthouse.

Multnomah County Oregon's Central Courthouse recently opened at some point early in the fourth quarter on Monday, Oct. 5, 2020. This project was approved; however after decades of lobbying for the funds and four years of construction. What exactly happened?

Unfortunately, a ruptured overhead sprinkler caused some damage to multiple floors in the recently completed \$324 million building. There was a sprinkler head that failed on the 7th floor of the Southwest First Avenue building at the west edge of Hawthorne Bridge.

Water remediation and cleanup is underway. The 106 year old building with unreinforced masonry walls raises some safety concerns especially in the event of an earthquake. The flood damage has reportedly affected the courthouse electrical system and elevators. The building has an emergency power generator; but only for certain areas. Repair costs are being assessed. It reopens next week.

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