

University of Alaska Study Shows Fire Was Not the Cause of the Collapse of the World Trade Center Building 7

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A report, based on a four-year study by forensic engineers at University of Alaska, Fairbanks, concludes that the fall of Building 7 was not a result of fire. This contradicts the 2008 findings of the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST). Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth, a non-profit organization that represents over 3,000 architects and engineers, is calling on Congress to launch a new investigation. The university simulated the destruction of building 7 exactly as was done by NIST, but could not get the same results. The engineers concluded that every interior column in the whole building had to fail at the same time to replicate the collapse, and this would be impossible unless they were destroyed by planted explosives. -GEG

It's been a point of controversy for more than a decade. Now, researchers from the University of Alaska Fairbanks are weighing in.

World Trade Center Building 7 was not struck by a plane, but collapsed hours after the twin towers on Sept. 11, 2001. A draft report released this week by researchers at UAF suggests that the fall was not a result of fires, despite the findings of [the National Institute for Standards and Technology](#), an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce, in 2008.

The study was paid for by a group called Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth. The nonprofit is said to represent over 3,000 architects and engineers who have [signed a](#)

[petition calling on Congress](#) to launch a new investigation into the destruction of the towers.

Dr. Leroy Hulsey, a civil engineering professor at UAF, led the four-year study. According to the [Institute of Northern Engineering's website](#), the objective was to examine the structural response of WTC 7 to fire loads that may have occurred that day, rule out scenarios that couldn't have caused its collapse and identify types of failures that may have caused the fall.

The UAF team's findings contradict those of the 2008 NIST report, which concluded that WTC 7 was the first tall building ever to [collapse primarily due to fire](#).

According to the NIST report, debris from the north WTC tower (WTC 1) ignited fires on at least 10 floors in WTC 7. Fires on some of the lower floors burned out of control. NIST said the automatic sprinkler system on those floors failed, causing the fires to spread.

"The primary and backup water supply to the sprinkler systems for the lower floors relied on the city's water supply, whose lines were damaged by the collapse of WTC 1 and WTC 2," [a fact-sheet on the NIST investigation said](#). "These uncontrolled lower-floor fires eventually spread to the northeast part of WTC 7, where the building's collapse began."

Despite NIST's findings, critics of the government's account have long argued the [building fell in a controlled demolition](#).

"We virtually simulated the building and we looked at that analysis and we also virtually simulated what they did, we couldn't get it to do what they did," Hulsey said.

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