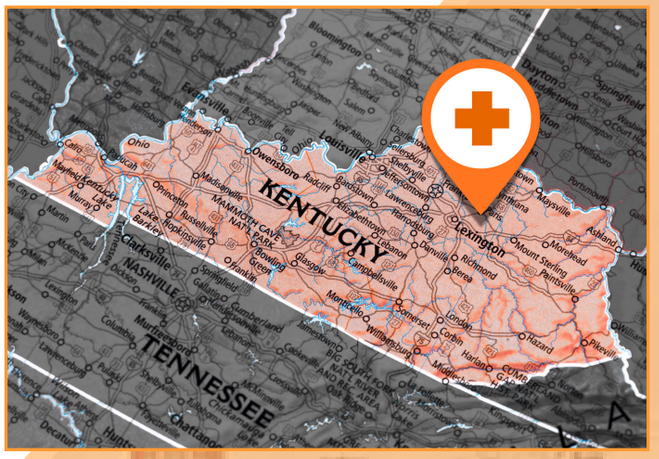
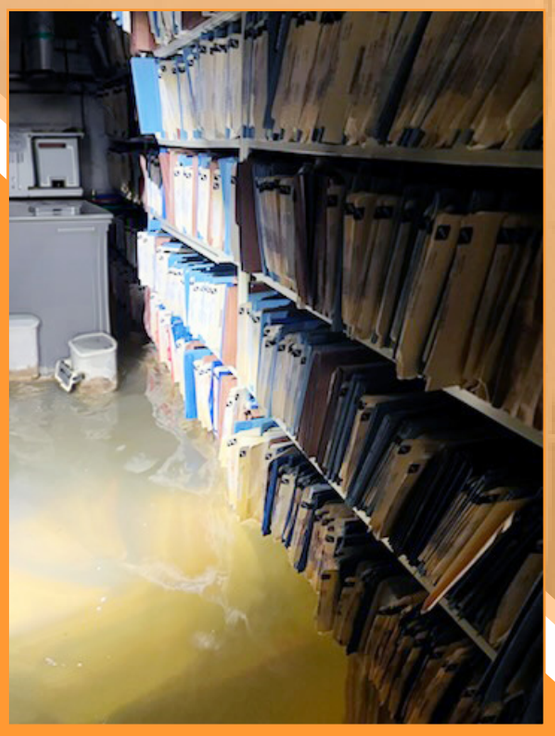
Prism® SPECIALTIES Documents

Restoring Critical Court Records After the Kentucky Floods



Case Study:
April 2025

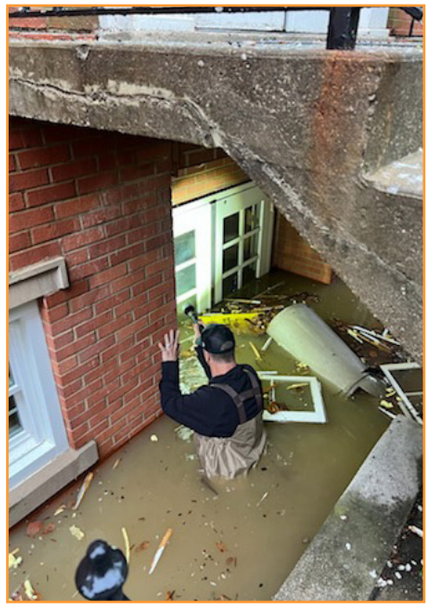


What Happened?

The Challenge

The Solution

What Happened?



In early April 2025, Central Kentucky experienced historic rainfall that caused widespread flooding across the region. Several government facilities were impacted, including two major judicial buildings that housed thousands of active and archived court records. Floodwaters infiltrated records storage areas, leaving large volumes of paper documents saturated with water—many of them fully submerged.

Recognizing the urgency of protecting these critical records, Servpro of Lexington engaged Prism Specialties of Southeast Michigan to provide specialized document recovery and restoration services. **Prism rapidly mobilized teams from Michigan to Kentucky to begin stabilization and recovery operations.**



Over the course of three weeks, Prism teams worked onsite to retrieve and **stabilize more than 12,500 cubic feet of court records.** These documents represented decades of legal proceedings and government documentation essential to maintaining the continuity and integrity of the judicial system.



The Challenge



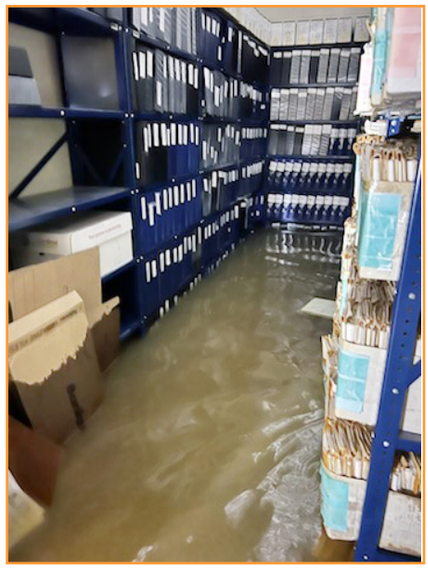
Flood damage to paper records presents an immediate and complex threat. Within 24–48 hours, wet paper materials can begin to deteriorate due to mold growth, ink migration, and structural breakdown of the paper fibers. **In this case, many of the documents had been completely submerged in floodwater, dramatically increasing the risk of permanent loss.**



In addition to the physical damage, the records involved were **highly sensitive legal documents requiring strict handling protocols.** **Maintaining accurate inventory, secure chain-of-custody, and careful handling procedures throughout recovery and restoration was critical to ensuring the records remained intact and properly documented.**

The sheer scale of the project added further complexity. Recovering and stabilizing over 12,500 cubic feet of saturated documents required rapid deployment of equipment, cross-state logistics coordination, and the ability to immediately stop the deterioration process before irreversible damage occurred.

The Solution



Prism Specialties deployed specialized disaster recovery teams to conduct a structured document recovery operation. Crews carefully packed out, cataloged, and inventoried thousands of boxes of documents, ensuring complete tracking and accountability for each record group.

To halt further deterioration, 17 refrigerated trailers were positioned onsite to rapidly freeze the wet materials. This stabilization step prevented mold growth and stopped further damage while the records were prepared for transport.



Once stabilized, the frozen documents were transported to Prism's Document Restoration Facility in Livonia, Michigan, where a comprehensive restoration process began. Services performed included:

- Pack-out and detailed inventory
- Secure shipping and logistics coordination
- Freeze-drying to safely remove moisture from paper fibers
- Gamma irradiation to eliminate microbial contamination
- Specialized document cleaning and recovery
- Hydroxyl treatment to address contamination and odors
- File folder replacement and document reassembly
- Secure storage and organized return of restored records

Through this coordinated recovery and restoration effort, Prism successfully preserved thousands of critical public records that support the daily operations of the court system and protect decades of legal documentation.



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