



Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Office of Emergency Management
1275 North Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90063
(323) 980-2260



Jeff L. Reeb
Director

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Ken Kondo, (213) 792-5128 – Cellular
communications@ceoem.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LACOOEM

**SEPTEMBER 2016 IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH AND AMERICA'S
PREPAREATHON IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

For the seventh straight year, public, private, faith-based and non-profit agencies are unifying efforts to promote disaster preparedness throughout Los Angeles County. In partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency's "September is National Preparedness Month (NPM)", over ten Los Angeles County Departments, including the Chief Executive Office/Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Community and Senior Services, Animal Care and Control, Fire, Library, Mental Health, Public Health, Public Social Services, Public Works, Sheriff, along with Houses of Worship, American Red Cross, non-government organizations, Los Angeles County Operational Area cities, unincorporated area communities, schools, colleges, special districts and private corporations will participate in disaster preparedness expos, fairs, workshops, trainings and presentations held throughout the County.

"Now is the time to prepare, before forecasted winter storms trigger debris and mudflows especially in the recent burn areas of Los Angeles County," said Los Angeles County OEM Director Jeff L. Reeb. "It is our hope that Los Angeles County residents and business owners take time during the month of September to create and practice their emergency and communication plans, stock emergency supplies and get involved in participating in emergency drills and exercises."

Los Angeles County OEM will be coordinating, co-hosting and participating in 11 NPM events and activities scheduled in September. For a list of 2016 NPM events, please go to <http://css.lacounty.gov> or <http://lacoa.org>. To find the latest information, follow OEM on Twitter @LACOOEM and Facebook.com/LACO-OEM.

Los Angeles County residents and businesses, including persons with disabilities and others with access and functional needs may call 211 LA County for emergency preparedness information, and other referral services. The toll-free 2-1-1 number is available 24 hours a day and seven days a week. 211 LA County services can also be accessed at <http://211la.org>.

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**2016 SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH AND
FALL LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S PREPAREATHON! EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

(Please remember schedule may be subject to change)

Thursday through Saturday, September 8-10, 2016 (8 a.m. – 5 p.m.): California Volunteers 30th Anniversary Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) national conference to be held at Sheraton Universal Hotel located at 333 Universal Hollywood Drive, Universal City, CA 91608 **(Conference registration is required, and event is OPEN to the media. For additional information, visit California Volunteers <http://www.californiavolunteers.org/index.php/CERT/CERT30>).**

Saturdays, September 10, 17 & 24, 2016 (9 a.m. – 5 p.m.): East LA is Getting Disaster Ready! The Los Angeles County Bomberos Association will provide free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training at Centro Estrella at Alma Family Resource Center located at 4701 East Cesar Chavez Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90022. Event is hosted by the East Los Angeles Preparedness Coalition. **(Minimum age requirement is 14 years old and advance registration is required. Training participants must attend all 3 Saturday training sessions in order to receive a CERT training certificate. For additional information, email hchavez@ceooem.lacounty.gov).**

Sunday, September 11, 2016 (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.): Los Angeles County Fair Day to be held at Los Angeles County Fairplex located at 1101 West McKinley Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768. **(Event requires an LA County Fair admission ticket, information provided by the County Departments is free. For more information visit, the LA County website at <http://lacountyfair.com>).**

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 (12:30 – 2:30 p.m.): Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services and the Office of Emergency Management present a Disaster Preparedness Seminar and Expo at East Rancho Dominguez Community Center and Park located at 15116 South Atlantic Avenue, Compton, CA 90221. **(Event is free, OPEN to the public and media. For more information, visit <http://css.lacounty.gov> or <http://lacoa.org>).**

Thursday, September 15, 2016 (8 a.m. – 5 p.m.): Business Industry Council on Emergency Planning and Preparedness (BICEPP) 1st Annual Southern California Emergency Managers conference to be held at City of Los Angeles District Three Government Offices located at 19040 Vanowen Street, Reseda, CA 91335. The conference is hosted by BICEPP, Nexis/Firestorm and California Resilience Alliance. **(Conference registration is required. For more information visit <http://bicepp.org>).**

Saturday, September 17, 2016 (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.): City of Long Beach CERT Ready Emergency Preparedness Expo to be held at Heartwell Park located at 5801 Parkcrest Street, Long Beach, CA 90808 **(Event is free, OPEN to the public and media).**

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Sunday, September 18, 2016 (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.): City of South Pasadena Police and Fire Open House and Emergency Preparedness Expo to be held at the city's police and fire department stations located at 1422 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030 **(Event is free, OPEN to the public and media. For more information visit <http://www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us>).**

Tuesday, September 20, 2016 (8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.): 7th Annual Disaster Olympix "Road to Response." Teams of five compete in hands-on, high energy events to enhance their preparedness skills to be held at Children's Hospital Los Angeles located at 4650 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90027.

Thursday, September 22, 2016 (2 – 4 p.m.): Los Angeles County Community and Senior Services and OEM Disaster Preparedness Seminar and Expo to be held at Santa Clarita Valley Senior Center located at 22900 Market Street, Newhall, CA 91321 **(Event is free, OPEN to the public and media. For more information, visit <http://css.lacounty.gov> or <http://lacoa.org>).**

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