

County of Los Angeles Fire Department



MEDIA ADVISORY

CONTACT: CAPTAIN MARK SAVAGE
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE (323) 881-2413

FIRE CHIEF DARYL L. OSBY
1320 N. Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90063

LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT SHAKEOUT EARTHQUAKE EXERCISE ACTIVITIES

The Los Angeles County Fire Department will join more than 10 million people throughout California in the Statewide 2011 Shakeout Earthquake Exercise responding to a simulated Magnitude 7.8 earthquake on the San Andreas Fault.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department will conduct the exercise on three consecutive days (October 18, 19, and 20, 2011) to include all three platoons of the Fire Department's field units. The exercise will culminate in a major 16-hour exercise on October 20, 2011, that will test the Los Angeles County Fire Department's 80-member Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) Task Force. This is the same team that conducted search and rescue operations after the Haiti earthquake catastrophe, Christchurch (New Zealand) earthquake, and Japan earthquake and tsunami catastrophe.

Demonstration sites are available for news media coverage and on-site interviews. Each Battalion will be conducting multi-company training exercises that will reinforce the skills that will be implemented following a large earthquake.

Battalion drills will consist of the following:

- Relay pumping operations simulating urban conflagration conditions with damaged water mains.
- Drafting operations that simulate retrieving water from alternate sources.
- "Heavy Lift Rescue" operations simulating post-quake structure collapse search and rescue.

Dates and times of demonstrations open to the media:

Tuesday, October 18, 2011

Fire Station 54
4867 Southern Avenue,
South Gate, CA 90280-3466 (TB 705-E4)
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Contact: Battalion Chief Larry Collins (323) 585-5857

Our Vision The Los Angeles County Fire Department will be an exemplary organization acclaimed for our national reputation, our regional strength, and our hometown attentiveness as we provide fire protection and life safety services.

Core Values

INTEGRITY ♦ TEAMWORK ♦ CARING ♦ COURAGE ♦ COMMITMENT ♦ COMMUNITY

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Wednesday, October 19, 2011

Fire Station 159
2030 W. 135th Street,
Gardena, CA 90249 (TB 733-H3)
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Contact: Battalion Chief Dennis Cross (310) 263-7621

Thursday, October 20, 2011

Del Valle Regional Training Center
28101 Chiquito Canyon Road,
Castaic, CA 91384-4640 (TB 4549-B2)
9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Matt Levesque, Public Information Officer (213) 760-2141

- A mobilization exercise of California USAR Task Force 2, the Los Angeles County Fire Department's internationally deployable 80-member Urban Search and Rescue Task Force. This exercise will simulate the team's response to a simulated local earthquake catastrophe with large numbers of collapsed structures, using specially-designed and built collapse props at the LACoFD's Del Valle Regional Training Center.
- The scenario begins at 9:00 a.m. with the simulated earthquake, followed by engine companies and other first responder units arriving on scene to begin search and rescue. They will later be augmented by two specially-trained USAR fire stations. Later, the 80-member USAR Task Force will arrive in waves of personnel simulating true local catastrophe conditions. These firefighters and rescuers will be confronted by a variety of difficult structure collapse simulations with actual live people playing the role of trapped earthquake survivors.
- The search and rescue operations will continue nonstop until 7:00 pm, followed by "demobilization" tasks that include removal and cleaning of equipment, review of the day's operations, and other tasks. After the exercise the team will return to the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Technical Operations headquarters in Pacoima.

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Note: The Los Angeles County Fire Department Public Information mobile command office will be established at this site and will be staffed by Public Information Officers and subject matter experts. Media viewing areas will be established in safe zones near each simulated structure collapse and rescue site. There will be locations where media can use the ongoing operations as backdrop for their live and taped reporting.

Questions contact Los Angeles County Fire Department Public Affairs (323) 881-2413

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