



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mailing Date: October 24, 2005

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SIMULATED DISASTER DRILL SCHEDULED

Waukesha, WIS – The Waukesha County Emergency Preparedness Committee is conducting a full-scale simulated disaster exercise on Thursday, October 27, 2005 in the Village of Menomonee Falls and the City of Oconomowoc. The exercise is being directed by the consulting firm of Pre-Emergency Planning, LLC.

Funding for the exercise was provided through a Department of Homeland Security Grant administered by the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance and awarded to Waukesha County.

The exercise, named “Explosive Challenge,” will involve a simulated terrorist event that results in a large number of casualties. Volunteers will play the role of the injured “victims.” “Victims” will be transported to Community Memorial Hospital (Menomonee Falls), Elmbrook Memorial Hospital (Brookfield), Oconomowoc Memorial Hospital and Waukesha Memorial Hospital for treatment and care.

In addition to community police and fire departments, the Flight for Life, the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), and the Suburban Mutual Assistance Response Teams (SMART) will be participating.

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“Simulated Disaster Drill Scheduled,” continued . . .

The purpose of the exercise is to determine how well prepared area emergency agencies are to deal with a major emergency that results in multiple injuries and to test the coordination between several communities who may be requesting similar resources to support a major event.

Testing those emergency plans is important. By exercising emergency plans, participants can identify areas that work well and those that need improvement. Lessons learned from exercises can be used to revise operational plans and provide a basis for training to improve proficiency in executing those plans.

Media are welcome to attend this exercise at either location. Media guests will be required to register at the exercise site and remain in the media viewing area. Photo opportunities and a public information officer will be available to provide comments and additional information with regard to the scenario throughout the exercise. Locations and times follow:

Menomonee Falls:

Menomonee Falls High School - Football Field
W142 N8101 Merrimac Dr.
Menomonee Falls, WI
3:30 – 7 p.m.

Oconomowoc:

Public Works Yard
801 S. Worthington Street
Oconomowoc, WI
3:30 – 6:30 p.m.

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