Contact: FEMA News Desk, 202-646-3272

Media Advisory

ADVISORY FOR THURSDAY: ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS TO PARTICIPATE IN PUBLIC EARTHQUAKE DRILL IN STATES ACROSS THE CENTRAL U.S.

Officials Joining State and Local Partners and Millions of Americans for Great Central U.S. ShakeOut on Thursday

WASHINGTON – On Thursday, April 28, officials from across the Obama administration, including cabinet secretaries, and leaders of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, will join state and local officials, the private sector and millions of Americans to participate in the first-ever multistate public earthquake drill in the United States.

Ten states are participating in Thursday's drill, called the "Great Central U.S. Shakeout," including Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas; Indiana conducted their drill last Tuesday, April 19, 2011.

On Thursday, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan will travel to St. Louis to join Missouri Governor Jay Nixon, school officials and students at a drill at a high school. FEMA Deputy Administrators Rich Serino and Tim Manning will participate in drills at elementary schools near Atlanta and Oklahoma City.

To date, over 2.7 million Americans have signed up to participate in the ShakeOut, including 2016 schools, 82 colleges and universities, and 268 businesses, among many others. To learn more about the ShakeOut, visit: http://www.shakeout.org/centralus/.

Additional officials from FEMA and other federal agencies will be participating in ShakeOut drills in other participating states. More details on all events, including additional attendees, will be released once they are finalized.

Thursday, April 28

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

10:15 CDT AM

Secretary Napolitano and Secretary Duncan will join students and school officials for the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut, followed by a media availability

Carnahan High School of the Future

4041 South Broadway St. Louis OPEN PRESS

*Credentialed media interested in attending must R.S.V.P by 5 p.m. CDT Wednesday April 27, to Julie Linder with St. Louis Public Schools at 314-345-2367 or <u>julie.linder@slps.org</u>.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

10: 15 EDT AM FEMA Deputy Administrator Rich Serino will join students and schools

officials for the ShakeOut, followed by a media availability

Milford Elementary School 2390 Austell Road SW Marietta, GA 30008

*Credentialed media interested in attending must R.S.V.P by 5 p.m. EDT Wednesday April 27, to Sarah Lippman at 404-419-9237 or sarah@cookerly.com.

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

10:15 AM CDT FEMA Deputy Administrator for Preparedness and National Protection,

Tim Manning, will join students and school officials for the ShakeOut,

followed by a media availability

Jones Elementary School 13145 Montana St.

Jones, OK 73049

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^{*}For more information, contact the FEMA Press Office at 202-646-3272 or <u>FEMA-News-Desk@dhs.gov</u>.