



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

October 15, 2015

Great California ShakeOut

Most earthquakes strike without warning. Over the past 44 years, earthquakes in California - including the South Napa earthquake of 2014, have caused enough damage to warrant the President of the United States to declare a major disaster in our state. Two of those earthquakes, the 1989 magnitude 6.9 Loma Prieta Earthquake and the 1994 magnitude 6.7 Northridge Earthquake, combined caused more than 100 deaths, 12,000 injuries and \$45 billion in property losses.

Becoming better prepared for future earthquakes and other emergencies is something everyone can do now to protect themselves, their loved ones, neighbors and co-workers. Every year as part of the effort to prepare for earthquakes, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the Geological Survey, in partnership with the Earthquake Country Alliance, conduct the "Great California ShakeOut" to remind Californians that they can increase their chances of surviving an earthquake if they "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" when they feel the ground shake.

The Great California ShakeOut is the one day each year when government agencies, businesses, civic and faith-based organizations, schools, neighborhoods and families join together to practice how to stay safe when the earth shakes, and to prepare so that our communities will recover quickly after a major earthquake. I call on all Californians to help become better prepared as individuals, families, communities and as a state by taking part in this year's Great California ShakeOut.

Sincerely,


EDMUND G. BROWN JR.