Dear Colleagues,

On October 1st, Cal OES launched its Earthquake Warning California “Don’t Get Caught Off Guard” education and outreach campaign—coincidentally the day following the start of an earthquake swarm located at the southern end of the San Andreas and Imperial faults. The goal of this timely campaign is to educate Californians about tools and resources available through Earthquake Warning California, the first statewide earthquake warning system in the nation. This includes no-cost resources that can give Californians potentially seconds of notice before an earthquake is felt: the MyShake App, government-issued Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA), and Android Earthquake Alerts.

In addition to highlighting and promoting the new and innovative emergency preparedness and mitigation technology, Earthquake Warning California shows Californians how having a plan can help them stay safe in their homes, businesses, and communities during and following a disaster. Earthquakes can happen in California at any time; knowing how to protect yourself and your family once you receive an alert or feel shaking is key.

In conjunction with Earthquake Warning California, Cal OES invites you to participate in the Great California ShakeOut drill on October 15, 2020, at 10:15am, when for the first time the MyShake App will be tested in collaboration with the statewide drill. While 2020 has given rise to many challenges, the ShakeOut drill has adapted—it can be done at home, work, or school, following COVID-19 health and safety guidelines.

Events and situations in our lives have the potential to catch us off guard, but now earthquakes don’t have to. Take a minute to download the free MyShake App and practice “Drop, Cover and Hold On”—or if you have a mobility-related disability, “Lock, Cover and Hold On”—at this year’s ShakeOut. Don’t forget to register your participation and check out additional info at www.ShakeOut.org/California.

Sincerely,

[Signature]