



Central United States Earthquake Consortium

**CUSEC**

*a partnership to mitigate disasters and save lives....*

2630 East Holmes Road

Memphis, TN 38118

Voice: (901) 544-3570

Fax: (901) 544-0544

E-Mail: [cusec@cusec.org](mailto:cusec@cusec.org)

Website: [www.cusec.org](http://www.cusec.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **DeSoto County Schools to Participate in Regional Earthquake Drill** **Primary School Selected to Host Director of U.S. Geological Survey, Dr. Marcia McNutt**

**Southaven, MS.** - On February 7, 2013 more than 2.5 million people are expected to participate in the third annual Great Central U.S. ShakeOut. The ShakeOut is a regional earthquake drill involving communities throughout Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee, and Oklahoma. At 10:15 a.m. on Thursday, ShakeOut participants will practice "Drop, Cover, and Hold On", the recommended safety procedure during an earthquake.

DeSoto Central Primary School, located in Southaven, Mississippi, will be holding an open-to-the-media ShakeOut drill and demonstration. During the demonstration, senior officials from Local, State, and Federal Government organizations, including the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey, will be on hand to:

- Talk with students and media about the importance of earthquake and disaster safety.
- Demonstrate proper earthquake safety techniques to students and staff.
- Provide updated information on the likely hood of earthquake occurrence.

Media are invited to attend and take footage of the earthquake drill and hold interviews with senior officials, including the chief executives of the U.S. Geological Survey, Mississippi Emergency Management, and Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium. Press Kits will be provided.

---

**WHEN:** Feb. 7, 2013 from 9:45a.m.to 10:30 a.m. (media setup by 9:45a.m.)

**WHERE:** DeSoto Central Primary School  
3210 Getwell Road  
Southaven, Mississippi 38672

**WHO:** Dr. Marcia McNutt, Director, U.S. Geological Survey  
Mike Bograd, Director, Mississippi Geological Survey  
Robert Latham, Director, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency  
Colleen Long, Principal, DeSoto Central Primary  
Bobby Storey, Director, DeSoto County Emergency Management Agency  
Jim Wilkinson, Executive Director, Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium

**RSVP:** Interested media should contact Katherine Nelson, Community Relations Director, DeSoto County Schools at [katherine.nelson@desotocountyschools.org](mailto:katherine.nelson@desotocountyschools.org) with inquires

---

*The Great Central U.S. ShakeOut is coordinated by the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium and its Member and Associate States, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Geological Survey and dozens of partners.*

###

*Charter Members* Alabama • Arkansas • Illinois • Indiana • Kentucky • Mississippi • Missouri • Tennessee  
*Associate Members* Georgia • Iowa • Kansas • Louisiana • Nebraska • North Carolina • Ohio • Oklahoma • South Carolina • Virginia