



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 5, 2008

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EARTHQUAKE SIMULATOR SHAKES UP LOCAL ELEMENTARY *County Encourages Community to Take Part in Largest Preparedness Drill in Region*

WHAT: Local fifth grade students will get a first-hand look at the effects of a 7.8 magnitude earthquake with the assistance of an earthquake simulator set to look like a typical living room. The County demonstration is designed to show residents and school children what a real earthquake might look like, and to encourage participation in a community drill coming up next week called the Great Southern California ShakeOut. The students will take part in the drill at 10 a.m. Nov. 13, joining 4.6 million across the state who are expected to participate. The drill is based on a catastrophic earthquake occurring on the southern San Andreas Fault. In April, scientists released a report saying there was a 99.7 percent chance that a magnitude 6.7 or stronger earthquake will shake California in the next 30 years. The likelihood is higher that the quake will strike in Southern California. By registering at www.Shakeout.org, residents can learn about what they can do before, during and after an earthquake.

WHEN: 11 a.m. Thursday, November 6, 2008

WHERE: Olive Elementary School, 836 Olive Ave. in Vista on the playground behind the school. Access the playground by using driveway between the elementary and Washington Middle School.

WHO: County OES Director Ron Lane
La Mesa Fire Chief David Burk
Vista Fire Capt. Randy Pusey
SDSU Professor Pat Abbott

EDITOR'S NOTE: A 24' long mobile trailer and earthquake simulator will be available for reporters and photographers. The simulator features a sophisticated hydraulic system engineered to simulate varying degrees of earthquake intensity to demonstrate what can happen when household items are not secured.

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