



# NEWS RELEASE

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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## **Family Disaster Plan Guide Available to County Residents**

The San Bernardino County Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services in partnership with the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health and San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department at the request of the Board of Supervisors has developed a San Bernardino County family disaster guide – "Your Family Disaster Plan: Three Steps to Creating a Family Disaster Plan."

During the past few years San Bernardino County and the communities in the County have experienced a multitude of natural disasters. After each disaster residents ask, "Am I as prepared as I should be in the event of an emergency?"

Recent disasters, including the Hurricane Katrina tragedy, show that people need to be prepared to survive for up to 72 hours before outside assistance may arrive. The County's emergency responders have prepared "Your Family Disaster Plan: Three Steps to Creating a Family Disaster Plan" to assist residents of the County prepare for any emergency.

The three steps outlined in the guide are: Make a Plan, Prepare the Family and Practice your Plan. By following the easy steps contained in the guide residents will be able to develop a plan for themselves, their family and their pets. The guide also contains Evacuation Tips and where to go for more information prior to and during an emergency.

Over 107,000 copies of the guide were distributed to residents in the unincorporated areas of the County. Guides were also distributed to all San Bernardino County employees, as well as the 24 cities/towns in San Bernardino County and 57 counties within the State of California. Copies will also be distributed to local community groups, fire stations, libraries, and other locations within the unincorporated areas of San Bernardino County.

Copies of the guides are available to individuals upon request. To request a guide, contact the San Bernardino County Fire Department Office of Emergency Services at (909) 356-3998.

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