

NEWS

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For more information, contact
David Wert, Public Information Officer
(909) 387-5412
dwert@sbcounty.gov

Government Center to Evacuate with Shakeout Drill

Hundreds of County staff and visitors to the San Bernardino County Government Center at 385 North Arrowhead Avenue will join more than six million Californians' as they practice responding to a catastrophic earthquake with a drop, cover and hold drill followed by a full building evacuation at 10:15 a.m. on Thursday October 15th. Many other County departments and buildings in the immediate area of the Government Center will also conduct full drills and evacuations. A full drill and special earthquake events will also take place at the County Museum, California St exit from the I-10 in Redlands.

"By accepting the statewide challenge to make ShakeOut earthquake drills an annual event we hope to continue to raise staff awareness about the seriousness of protecting the public and themselves during an earthquake with a drop, cover and hold in place drill, followed by a full evacuation of the building. We practice to ensure staff know the appropriate steps to take to increase their safety and that of the visiting public regardless of the type of event," said Board Chairman Gary Ovitt.

Generally accepted guidelines for building safety during an earthquake include;

If you are indoors – stay there. Get under and hold onto a desk or table, or stand against an interior wall. Stay away from exterior walls, glass and heavy items. Protect your head until the shaking stops and you can safely exit. Do not use elevators.

The drop, cover and hold drill will take place at 10:15 a.m. followed by the building evacuation. Government Center business will resume at approximately 10:45 a.m. following the drill and building re-entry.

For more information about the Shakeout Drill go to: www.shakeout.org