

# BENTON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES

## Media Alert

April 3, 2006

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### Exercise to test local emergency responder capabilities

Richland WA: Benton County Emergency Management will coordinate a Mass Casualty Exercise on Wednesday, April 5. The exercise will begin with the simulated collapse of gym roof at Carmichael Middle School. **Please note that the exercise does not involve Carmichael students.** Responding agencies will include the Richland Fire Department, Kadlec Medical Center, Benton County Emergency Management, Benton County Fire Protection District 4, Southeast Communications Center, and the Richland Police Department.

One area of simulation during such an exercise normally involves using roll players as media representatives on the accident scene and at the hospital to test the responding agencies ability to provide accurate and timely information, as well as to control the scene. During this exercise, Benton County Emergency Management is inviting members of the local media to be involved. We are seeking local reporters to be at either Carmichael Middle School or Kadlec Medical Center for the exercise.

The exercise scenario will begin with the simulated roof collapse at **Carmichael Middle School** shortly after 9 a.m. on Wednesday. We would ask local reporters to begin their roll play at the school at approximately 9:15 a.m. Those wanting to participate at **Kadlec Medical Center** should be there at about 9:45 a.m. Media involvement in the exercise scenario will end no later than 10:45 a.m.

Any participation by the broadcast or print media during this exercise will be greatly appreciated. Please let us know if you have any questions. And if you would like to take part in the exercise, please call Steve Sautter at 628-8470 or 539-0312.

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