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LOS ANGELES COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA PREPARES FOR OPERATION GOLDEN PHOENIX-2010

LOS ANGELES (Wed., May 19, 2010) –The Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office, Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and its Operational Area (LACO) partners comprised of 88 cities, 137 unincorporated areas and 288 special districts are scheduled to participate in “Operation Golden Phoenix 2010” (OGP-10) on July 28, 2010.

The exercise program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate. OGP-10 is a training exercise that will explore the emergency response and management following the detonation of an improvised nuclear device in the Los Angeles metropolitan area. The program represents a collaborative partnership between DHS, and cities and agencies within the LACO. Operation Golden Phoenix is an exercise of the DHS Science and Technology’s Integrated Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (ICBRNE) Detection Demonstration Program. This program in conjunction with Los Angeles Public Safety and private industry has implemented regional interoperable sensor systems that monitor, report, display and alert appropriate officials in the event of a detection.

“These systems enhance the safety of responders by enabling sharing of detection information across local, regional, and national emergency management agencies providing an integrated and more effective response,” stated Teresa Lustig, DHS S&T Program Manager. System data is exchanged utilizing global information sharing standards, enhancing situational awareness during an event. The primary goal of OGP-10 is to evaluate and explore the following:

- Effective use of Interoperable devices, tools, and systems related to integrated sensor information/data to improve information sharing and collaboration between first responder and public safety personnel at the local, state, and federal levels.
- Effective use and sharing of survey and monitoring data in order to provide: dissemination of public health and subject matter information; coordination of evacuation and shelter-in-place decisions and guidance; actionable information usable for decision making; and command and control principles and agency standard operating procedures.
- Advanced planning for recovery operations.

More information can be obtained at the following websites: <http://www.cawnp.org/gp10.htm> and www.icbrne.org.

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