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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Register for Annual Regional Test of AlertOC

SILVERADO, **California** - (September 23, 2013) – Nearly two million Orange County residents will receive a call, email or push notification on Tuesday, September 24 at 10:00 a.m. to test the County's regional mass notification system. This is the fourth annual regional test of the system and will include 24 participating cities and the County's unincorporated areas.

The test will be held in conjunction with National Preparedness Month, and will replicate a large scale, multijurisdictional emergency requiring thousands of numbers to be called simultaneously across 24 cities and unincorporated areas. The phone message will urge all residents to prepare for real-life emergencies by registering their cell numbers, text numbers and e-mail addresses at AlertOC.com for the best chance to receive vital, timely information when away from home.

As part of the AlertOC drill, the County's emergency public information hotline will be activated from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. to provide preparedness tips and other emergency related information. Community members are invited to call (714) 628-7085 with questions on how to adequately prepare their home or business for any emergency.

Emergencies can happen at any time. A wildfire could spread or a flood could close the roads to a neighborhood while residents are away from home. In these instances, AlertOC is a critical link for residents to immediately learn of any required actions.

For more information or to register alternate phone numbers and email addresses, visit AlertOC.com. Commuters are reminded to be safe and use hands-free devices when talking on the phone and driving.