



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Public Safety

D. Lance Davenport
Commissioner

August 1, 2011

Keith Squires, Director
Division of Emergency Management
4501 S. 2700 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Emergency Manager:

On April 17, 2012, Utahns across the state will participate in the Great Utah Shakeout, the state's largest earthquake drill. We expect hundreds of thousands of children, business and government employees and families to drop, cover and hold on as we simulate a magnitude 7.0 earthquake on the Salt Lake City segment of the Wasatch Fault.

As you well know, if such an earthquake were to occur, the entire state of Utah would reel from the devastation, disruption and deaths of thousands. This is why we prepare. Preparedness now will affect how we, as cities, counties, businesses and the state react and recover from a disaster.

This is why the Utah Division of Emergency Management and FEMA have teamed up to create the Great Utah Shakeout. It's a chance for all of us to put our emergency planning and training to the test.

As the state's emergency management director, I invite you to register and participate in the Shakeout, on April 17, 2012; at 10:15 a.m. Registration is completed by going to <http://shakeout.org/utah> and clicking on the "Register Now" link.

Signing up allows us to count on your participation, add your organization to our growing numbers – now at more than 120,000 Utahns – and send you regular, though not too frequent, updates on the Shakeout.

Please encourage your agency administration to allow you to sign up all employees as a commitment to emergency preparedness. The Shakeout website includes resources to help your agency plan and execute an emergency drill on April 17. Also, please encourage your employees to sign up their families as participants.

I appreciate your partnership and all you do during your busy schedule to increase preparedness and safety in our state.

Sincerely,

Keith Squires, Director
Division of Emergency Management