



CDM

# Media Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 16, 2003 for Conference April 21, 22, 23

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## DISASTER MITIGATION CONFERENCE EXPERTS FOCUS ON EARTHQUAKES, FIRES, FLOODS AND TERRORISM

Disaster experts locally and from around the world will offer their insights and expertise at the upcoming third annual Disaster Resistant California conference, being held April 21, 22, and 23 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose. Press conferences, keynote speakers and demonstrations are described below.

More than 30 presenters and 10 professional development courses are being offered, along with a special walking tour of downtown San Jose where participants will examine, first-hand, earthquake retrofitted unreinforced masonry buildings.

The conference is funded by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and private sponsorships.

The complete schedule is available at [www.oes.ca.gov](http://www.oes.ca.gov), click "DRC" in the right column. Registration forms are available online. Media representatives, however, are asked to register by contacting the media contacts listed above.

### MONDAY, APRIL 21

11 a.m. – Kickoff News Conference

An introduction to the three-day conference will be presented by the following:

- Dallas Jones, Director, Governor's Office of Emergency Services
- Paul Jacks, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Disaster Assistance Division
- Dr. Guna Selvaduray, Executive Director, Collaborative for Disaster Mitigation
- Dick McCarthy, Seismic Safety Commission
- Dr. Frances Edwards-Winslow, Director, City of San Jose Office of Emergency Services

12:30 p.m. - Signing Ceremony

In a signing ceremony, Shizuoka, Japan and California will cement the details of their staff exchange agreement.

- Dallas Jones, Director, Governor's Office of Emergency Services
- Eiichi Sugiyama, Director General, Disaster Prevention Bureau, Prefecture of Shizuoka, Japan

3:30 p.m. – Keynote Presentation

**George Vinson, Director, California Office of Homeland Security**

**Dick Andrews, Chair, Senior Advisory Committee to the President, Homeland Security Advisory Council**

4:30 p.m. – Flood Wall Demonstration among the outdoor displays

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PARTNERS



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### **TUESDAY, APRIL 22**

10 a.m. – Earthquake Map News Conference

The unveiling of the "Earthquake Shaking Potential for California" map will be hosted by OES, Seismic Safety Commission, California Geological Survey and US Geological Survey. The full-color map will be a clear visual image to the public and decision makers as to which areas of California have the greatest risk of damage from future earthquakes, due to soil conditions, proximity to fault lines, and other factors to be discussed.

- Dallas Jones, Director, OES
- Dr. Bruce Clark, Chairman, California Seismic Safety Commission
- Darryl Young, Director, California Department of Conservation
- Dr. Mike Blanpied, Associate Chief Scientist, Earthquake Hazards Team, U.S. Geological Survey

**12 p.m. – Keynote Presentation**

**John Garamendi, California State Insurance Commissioner**

Can California really rely on a federal disaster declaration in the event of a natural disaster?

Is there a better way to spread the cost of rebuilding in the wake of a disaster?

5 p.m. – Canine Demonstration in the outdoor display area

**7 p.m. – Keynote Presentation**

**30<sup>th</sup> New York City Fire Commissioner Thomas Von Essen**

The Commissioner will share his experience of responding to the terrorist attacks of 9-11-01.

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23**

**12:30 p.m. – Keynote Presentation**

**Sharon Davis, First Lady of California**

The First Lady will speak about a new multi-disaster preparedness educational campaign and present Disaster Resistant California awards to selected cities.

2 p.m. – Resolution News Conference

Joint resolution of conference attendees, resolving to support and enhance disaster mitigation efforts within their spheres of influence from their neighborhoods to their town halls to the State Capitol.

*OES coordinates state-level emergency preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation for a wide range of natural and human-caused emergencies and disasters. As part of its responsibilities, OES' Disaster Assistance Division manages state and federal grants provided to local communities for disaster mitigation and recovery. OES also coordinates the State's Mutual Aid System, the "neighbor helping neighbor" system in which fire-fighting and law enforcement resources from throughout the state can be called on to support local governments, and work with other state and federal agencies.*

*The Collaborative for Disaster Mitigation at San Jose State University, established in June 1999, is a collaborative effort among local governments, the private sector and academia. Its main focus is to limit loss of life, injury and property damage from natural disasters, and to accelerate economic recovery through implementation of mitigation measures.*