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## **South County Disaster Preparedness Expo Marks 5<sup>th</sup> Successful Year**

(Santa Ana, CA) – Thousands of Orange County residents will learn how to improve their preparedness for emergencies and disasters at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual South County Disaster Preparedness Expo to be held Saturday, October 20 at the Norman P. Murray Community and Senior Center, 24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo.

Fifth District Supervisor Patricia C. Bates is again hosting the Expo, which will feature an earthquake simulator, emergency response vehicles, equipment demonstrations and practical advice on preparing your family, home and business for potential emergencies. “Preparedness is absolutely critical for Orange County residents, because what we do now will determine what our lives will be like after a major disaster,” said Supervisor Bates. “We can’t predict when an emergency will strike but we can be prepared for one and the Expo shows us how.”

Expo participants will include the OC Sheriff’s Department, OC Fire Authority, the City of Mission Viejo, Southern California Edison, Doctor’s Ambulance Service and numerous other organizations. The South County Disaster Preparedness Expo is held in conjunction with the City of Mission Viejo’s “Walk Against Drugs” and will take place Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. The Expo is free and open to the public.

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