



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

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Nationwide Test of the Emergency Alert System

The Chino Police Department is taking the opportunity to inform residents and members of the business community about an upcoming nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) taking place on Wednesday, November 9th at 11:00 a.m. This test of the system is scheduled to last approximately three minutes, which is much longer than the typical, routine test. The extended three minute length coupled with the possibility that in some areas, the test may or may not include the key information “this is only a test,” is raising concerns with public safety personnel that some listeners may fear that this is an actual emergency and unnecessarily dial 9-1-1. The Chino Police Department is asking all residents and businesses for their patience and support during this broadcast. There is no cause for alarm.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), alongside the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), plan to conduct this first time ever nationwide test of the EAS, which is a media communications based alerting system. These efforts by the Federal Government are to ensure the nation is prepared to communicate with every American in the event of a major disaster or emergency. This system is designed to transmit emergency alerts and warnings to the public at the national, state, and local levels using television and radio broadcast, satellite television and radio, and cable television.

Often used by state and local emergency managers, EAS participants have the ability to broadcast alerts and warnings regarding weather threats, child abductions, and other types of emergencies. Although local and state EAS components are tested on a weekly and monthly basis, there has never been a nationwide test of the system.

For more information regarding the nationwide test, log on to the FCC website at www.fcc.gov/pshs/.

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