



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

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Third District

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Fifth District

October 28, 2005

To: Lee Baca, Sheriff
P. Michael Freeman, Fire Chief, Fire Department
Thomas Garthwaite, Director, Department of Health Services
Anthony Hernandez, Director, Department of Coroner
Dave Lambertson, Director, Internal Services Department
Donald Wolfe, Director, Department of Public Works
Marvin Southard, Director, Department of Mental Health
Bryce Yekomizo, Director, Department of Public Social Services

From: 
David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

**RESCHEDULING OF 2005 LOS ANGELES COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA
TERRORISM EXERCISES - OPERATION CHIMERA**

Some of the exercises and workshops associated with the 2005 *Operation Chimera* exercise program have been rescheduled due to the County's recent response and recovery efforts associated with Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, as well as the local Topanga Fire incident. Since many of the County's emergency management and first-responder personnel were heavily involved with these events, a significant amount of exercise planning had to be delayed until their emergency duties were completed.

The *Operation Chimera* program is based on a widespread bioterrorism scenario in Los Angeles County, and is designed to assess the County's response capabilities to widespread anthrax event. The County Department of Health Services is the lead agency for this exercise program and they are playing a pivotal role in the program's design and implementation.

My Office of Emergency Management has worked closely with the Department of Health Services, the County's Exercise Design Team, and other principle parties in rescheduling *Operation Chimera* exercises and workshops to ensure that they are executed in a professional and timely manner. The rescheduled dates are listed below for your reference.

November 17, 2005 (no change):

Field Exercises, including;

- Point of Dispensing (POD) Site Drill - Los Angeles City Sports Arena
- Joint Los Angeles City/County Press Conference - Los Angeles City Sports Arena
- Department of Health Services, Department Operations Center/Statewide Hospitals Exercise Functional Exercise

December 6 and 8, 2005 (Changed from November 4, 11, and 20, 2005):

- County EOC Workshops (all three County EOC Shifts - A, B, and C)

January 12 and 17, 2006 (Changed from September 20 and 22, 2005):

- Cities' Senior and Elected Officials Workshops

January 24, 2006 (Changed from November 3, 2005):

- County EOC Functional Exercise (County EOC Shifts B and C)

February 2, 2006 (Changed from November 17, 2005)

- County EOC Functional Exercise (County EOC Shift A)
- County Department Operation Centers (DOCs)
- Point of Dispensing (POD) Site Field Exercises - Cities of Glendale and Long Beach

A member of my OEM staff, or their contractor support, will be contacting your Department Emergency Coordinator in the near future to confirm your department's participation in these exercises and workshops. Please support your department's participation in these exercises as appropriate, especially your department's designated County Emergency Operations Center (CEOC) response teams and "Warehouse Managers" (per Health Department plans).

Please direct questions to Ian Whyte, OEM Exercise Manager, at (323) 980-2253, or Michael Brooks, OEM Assistant Administrator, at (323) 980-2254.

The recent sequence of natural disasters that have devastated the United States, and the world, remind us that we must always be ready to respond if disaster strikes.

Thank you for your cooperation.

DEJ:CP

IW:jl

c: Each Supervisor
Each Board Emergency Preparedness Deputy
Phillip Moore