



For Immediate Release:
Thursday, March 16, 2006

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Rep. Michael Burgess to participate in Emergency Preparedness and Response Forum

WASHINGTON---On Monday, March 27th Representative Michael Burgess, M.D. (R-TX) will participate in an Emergency Preparedness and Response Forum sponsored by the E9-1-1 Institute and the University of North Texas. The purpose of the forum is to educate local citizens and leaders on emergency communications and various public safety issues.

Dr. Paul Pepe of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center will provide a keynote address titled "*Anachronistic Catastrophes: The Past, Present & Future of Disaster Medicine.*"

Panel topics include: Safeguarding the Public Health - *Pandemics and Biohazards*; Effective Management of Response to Natural Disasters - *Public Safety and Weather*; Incorporating the Private Sector into Disaster Response; and Local Implications of Distant Events. A list of confirmed speakers is attached.

According to E9-1-1 Institute Director Gregory L. Rohde, "As a Member of the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus, Congressman Burgess recognizes that emergency communications is an important public safety issue. Whether a natural disaster or terrorist attack, citizen emergency preparedness is essential and access to E9-1-1 communications crucial."

The E9-1-1 Institute is a non-profit organization which exists to support the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus and assist it in promoting public education on E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues. The Institute provides informational and administrative support to members of the Congressional Caucus as they pursue their mission of improving 9-1-1 emergency communications. For more information about the E9-1-1 Institute and the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus, please visit our website at www.e911institute.org.

Logistics:

When: Monday, March 27, 2006
9:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Where: The University of North Texas
The Gateway Room

Confirmed Speakers Emergency Preparedness and Response Forum

PANELS

1. Safeguarding the Public Health - *Pandemics and Biohazards*

Allen Black - Director of Safety & Security, Dallas Fort Worth Airport
Cmdr. Mick Cote - Federal Emergency Management Agency
Dr. James Kendra - Program Coordinator Emergency Administration and Planning Program Department of Public Administration, University of North Texas

2. Effective Management of Response to Natural Disasters - *Public Safety and Weather*

Dr. McEntire - Public Administration and Emergency administration University of North Texas
Juan Ortiz - Emergency Management, City of Fort Worth
Bill Proenza - Director, National Weather Service Southern Region

3. Incorporating the Private Sector into Disaster

Eric Daly, Fire Claim Section Manager, State Farm Catastrophe Services
Billy M. Kiser - Manager of Customer Service/Dispatch, Hulcher Services, Inc.
Chris Leney - Director of Operations, Cura Emergency Services
Benny Taylor - Service Delivery Manager, Perot Systems Business Continuity Services

4. Local Implications of Distant Events

Robert Lafaye - Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Rowlett
Michael Penaluna - Emergency Management Program Manager, City of Denton
Robie Robinson - Director of Security and Emergency Management, Dallas County

SPEAKERS

"International Disasters"

Dr. Jack Rozdilsky, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Administration, University of North Texas

"Next Steps and Future Directions"

Dr. David McEntire, Program Coordinator Emergency Administration and Planning Program Department of Public Administration, University of North Texas