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## News Release

MySafe:LA shakes up LAUSD campus with Great ShakeOut drill

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(Los Angeles) -MySafe:LA, for the 5th year, designed, developed, and executed a real-time, realistic earthquake rescue and recovery drill. Working with our partners at the LAFD, LAUSD, DWP and LASPD, we simulated an earthquake at Woodland Hills Elementary School on October 9, 2014 -- one week before the Great California ShakeOut.

The action-packed drill tested LAUSD post-earthquake procedures and challenged LAFD responders, who did not know in advance what they would encounter at the school. Firefighters had to conduct their operations with limited resources, as they would in the wake of a real earthquake.

"We develop these real-time drills to give firefighters an opportunity to interact with and train with elementary school age students," said David Barrett, MySafe:LA Executive Officer. "The strategies are the same, but the tactics vary, so this is a rare and important opportunity for firefighters, school administrators, and students to prepare for the next big emergency event."

Third District LA City Councilman Bob Blumenfield attended MySafe:LA's QuakeSmart:LA assembly before the drill, where kids learned about earthquake preparedness and how to "Drop, Cover, and Hold On". He called it an exciting opportunity for the school to practice its emergency plans.

The MySafe:LA ShakeOut drill simulated a major earthquake that forced the evacuation of the school, as per LAUSD disaster protocols. The resulting head-count determined that several students and teachers were missing, and the LAFD was called to respond with a search and rescue effort. MySafe:LA had moulaged students and staff to look like they'd been trapped and injured in classrooms around the campus. The LAFD also had to deal with downed power lines that cut-off one side of the campus from the other, and required the DWP to come in to de-activate the lines.

MySafe:LA is a unit of the Safe Community Project, a non-profit California public charity.

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