

On Thursday, October 20, 2011 at 5 p.m., the City of Huntington Beach along with 30 other Orange County jurisdictions will conduct a test of Orange County's Regional Emergency Notification System, AlertOC. AlertOC is a mass notification system used by the City of Huntington Beach and the County of Orange to issue government related messages, to residents and businesses. The system has the capacity to send thousands of messages within minutes via phone, e-mail and text. The primary use of the system is to disseminate messages pertaining to the health, safety or welfare of a community that is being affected by a perceived, emerging, or imminent emergency event.

This test is being conducted in conjunction with the State of California Great Shakeout Exercise. The primary objective of this regional exercise is to test AlertOC's capability, capacity and effectiveness to deliver emergency notifications to the public during times of a major disaster. This will simulate probable use of the system during a "real" disaster event. All Huntington Beach residential phone numbers will be called on October 20, 2011 at 5 p.m. Businesses will not be called on this date, however all residents and businesses are encouraged to register their cell phones, text numbers and e-mail addresses at www.alertoc.com

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