The Advanced Community Emergency Response Team Academy to be held March 27-29 at Camp Blanding

TALLAHASSEE - The Florida Division of Emergency Management (DEM) Citizen Corps and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program will conduct the second Advanced CERT Academy, March 27-29, 2009 at Camp Blanding in Clay County, Florida.

The multi-day session will teach skills in advanced disaster preparedness and provide “hands on” training in Communications, the U.S. National Grid, Urban Search & Rescue and CPR.

On Sunday, participants will engage in a mock exercise where they will be tested on the practical skills obtained during the academy. This will include “real-world” field applications to demonstrate understanding of disaster medical operations, disaster psychology and team organization.

For further information, please contact the Citizen Corps office at CitizenCorps@em.myflorida.com or Donna Ray at 850-413-9966.

**News Media access requirements:**

News Media seeking to cover Sunday’s mock-exercise and media availability at 10:45 a.m. must contact the Florida Division of Emergency Management in advance at 850-413-9883 for access to Camp Blanding Joint Training Center.

**Site Media Contacts:**

The DEM site media contacts for this event are John Cherry, at 850-519-2177 or Princess Ousley at 850-591-3814.

The back-up contact is Lt. Col. Ron Tittle, FLNG, at 904-814-7559.

Entrance to the Camp Blanding Joint Training Center is controlled through the main gate off of State Road 16, located between State Road 21 and U.S. 301 in Starke, Fla. Pre-registered media personnel should arrive at the main gate by 10:00 a.m. Sunday for processing and escort to the training location.

For more information on the Florida Division of Emergency Management and to GET A PLAN!, please visit: www.FloridaDisaster.org. All students, teachers and parents can find educational information and free downloadable materials at: www.KidsGetAPlan.com.

And for the latest daily situation and flash reports go to: www.YouTube.com/FloridaSERT.

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