



# READINESS RULES

“Readiness Saves Lives”

<http://www.osep.uga.edu>

Office of Security & Emergency Preparedness Bulletin

January 2007

## Featured Article

Annually, during September, the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness (OSEP) participates as a National Coalition Member during National Preparedness Month. Campus events, including emergency preparedness showcases and lectures, are intended to heighten awareness about emergency preparedness steps individuals can take to protect themselves and their families during disasters. As a National Coalition member, OSEP receives ongoing communication from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the *Ready* Campaign. *Ready* is a national public service advertising campaign designed to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to emergencies. Coalition members have been asked by the DHS to share the following *Ready* message.

### “Resolve to be Ready”

On December 31, 2006 nearly half of you made at least one New Year’s resolution as you looked toward the New Year. Today, the University of Georgia’s Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness is encouraging all students, faculty, and staff members to make a resolution that is both important and easy to keep—preparing for emergencies.

In a recent national survey conducted by The Ad Council, 91 percent of Americans agreed that taking some simple steps to prepare could help protect themselves and their families in the event of an emergency. However, only 55 percent had taken at least one of the three steps recommended by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s *Ready* Campaign, including getting an emergency supply

kit, making a family emergency plan, and being informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses.

Therefore, the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness is encouraging you to visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) or call 1-800-BE-READY to learn how to prepare your families, homes and workplaces for all types of emergencies including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks. Free materials, including family emergency plan templates and sample business continuity plans, are available through these resources. These materials will provide you with tools to make a New Year’s resolution that will bring you peace of mind.

We encourage you to “*Resolve to be Ready*” in 2007. We wish you and yours a very happy and healthy New Year!

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### 2006 OSEP “A Reflection!”

As in past years, 2006 was another year of opportunities and challenges for the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness (OSEP). Several events, big and small, throughout the year reminded us that emergencies require readiness and cooperation among responders and citizens. From real events like a broken gas main on East Campus to simulated events like the severe weather drill, we had opportunities to assess the University’s capacity to respond to varying emergencies. Outcomes reaffirmed OSEP’s commitment to find innovative ways to better prepare the University community to respond to large scale emergencies. During the year, partnerships were strengthened with campus, community, state, and national partners; emergency plans were strengthened; and efforts to educate the

campus community were augmented. Although the work will never be complete, each year brings us closer to the overall goal of providing the best security and emergency preparedness program possible for the University of Georgia community. Some featured highlights from 2006 follow.

### **January 2006**

#### ***Emergency Operations Manager Position Filled***

Steve Harris, who previously served for more than six years as the School Safety Unit Manager with the Georgia Office of Homeland Security-Georgia Emergency Management Agency, assumed the Emergency Operations Manager position in January 2006. Steve, a former University of Georgia police officer, brought a wealth of experience related to emergency operations planning, security and risk assessments, exercise design and development, specialized training, and incident response services. During the past year, Steve completed all requirements to obtain Certified Emergency Manager status and should receive this prestigious distinction early in 2007.



### **February 2006**

#### ***“Severe Weather Awareness Week”***

The Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness coordinated the University of Georgia’s participation in a Statewide Severe Weather Drill on February 22, 2006 as part of Severe Weather Awareness Week, promoted by the Georgia Office of Homeland Security-Georgia Emergency Management Agency and the Georgia Governor’s Office. Announcements and instructions were provided to students, faculty, and staff and a Web-based survey was used to obtain feedback following the drill. Feedback from more than 900 individuals provided valuable information that was used to assess emergency notification issues for the campus. Plans are underway to fill some notification gaps discovered during the 2006 drill.

### **May 2006**

#### ***Campus Services Fair 2006***

UGA’s Auxiliary and Administrative Services hosted a Campus Services Fair at the East Village Commons.



This event provided an opportunity for Auxiliary and Administrative Services departments to showcase information and services available to the rest of the University community. The Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness participated in the showcase by demonstrating the departmental “Grab and GO” emergency kit, providing informational materials, as well as sponsoring a give-away drawing for a “4 in 1 Emergency Tool.”

### **June 2006**

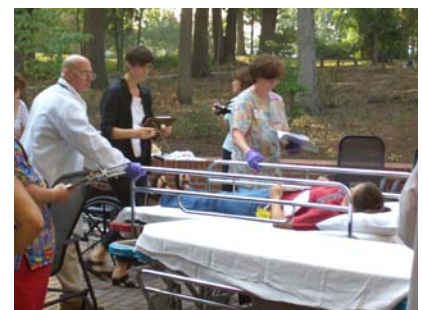
#### ***Emergency Preparedness Training***

The June Emergency Preparedness class conducted at the UGA Training and Development Center was one of many classes conducted throughout the year to provide information regarding basic emergency preparedness, terrorism, departmental emergency procedures, and travel safety. OSEP conducts classes quarterly through Training and Development’s published schedule and upon request by individual departments and student groups.

### **August 2006**

#### ***University Health Center Emergency Drill***

Each year, the University Health Center conducts a drill to test its emergency management plan. A major objective is to be prepared for mass casualties resulting from



Potential Injury Causing Events (PICE). A PICE can be any number of emergencies, such as an explosion, bus crash, downed aircraft, civil disturbance, or incident at a sporting event. The Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness served as a monitor for the August drill and assisted by soliciting volunteers to serve as victims. Other participating agencies included the UGA Police Department and Environmental Safety Division, Athens Regional Medical Center Emergency Medical Services, Community Emergency Response Team members, and Athens-Clarke County Fire and Emergency Services.

A debriefing session was held after the drill. Volunteers and external agency representatives were recognized for their service and asked for recommendations.

**September 2006**

**National Preparedness Month Showcase**

As a National Preparedness Month 2006 Coalition Member, the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness hosted an



Emergency Preparedness Showcase, lecture, and display during September. This second annual event was aimed at better preparing faculty, staff, and students to respond to disasters. Agencies participating in the showcase included the Athens-Clarke County fire and police departments, the Community Emergency Response Teams, the American Red Cross, UGA's Police Department, Environmental Safety Division, Information Security Office, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, and the Georgia Division of Public Health.



**Upcoming Issue:**

- ▶ The Role of Building Safety and Security Representatives
- ▶ Severe Weather Week Recap

**October 2006**

**Major General Terry Nesbitt, Homeland Security Director for Georgia, visits UGA**

Major General Terry Nesbitt's visit to UGA was co-hosted by the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Environmental Safety Division. The visit was an opportunity for Major Nesbitt to meet with various UGA and University System of Georgia departments that deal with emergency preparedness and response on campus. (Pictured L-R: Wayne Dill, Major General Terry Nesbitt, Opal Haley)



**November 2006**

**Athens-Clarke County Mass Casualty Drill**

This drill was designed to test the local emergency preparedness traffic control plan. The drill was co-sponsored by Athens Regional Medical Center and St. Mary's Hospital. Athens-Clarke County government and the University of Georgia provided vehicles to test the plan. Additionally, OSEP actively participated in the drill and subsequent debriefing.



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Bulletins are available bimonthly. The issues assist in disseminating current security preparedness information from this office and other University units. Sign up to receive issues of *Readiness Rules* by e-mail. Click on "bulletin by e-mail" located on the home / contact us bar on the OSEP Web site <http://www.osep.uga.edu>.