

June 7, 2016

Whatcom Unified Emergency Coordination Center  
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**For Immediate Release**

## **Press Briefing: Cascadia Rising Earthquake/Tsunami Exercise**

On June 8 at 1 p.m., County Executive Jack Louws, Bellingham Mayor Kelli Linville, Whatcom County Sheriff Bill Elfo, and Bellingham Fire Chief Bill Newbold, will brief the media on the initial results and lessons learned during the Cascadia Rising earthquake exercise. The briefing will be held at Bellingham City Hall, 210 Lottie Street.

The Cascadia Rising exercise began a little after 8 a.m. June 7 with a simulated 9.0 magnitude earthquake along the Cascadia Subduction Zone and a resulting tsunami and aftershocks. The Whatcom Unified Emergency Coordination Center was activated to begin working the simulated emergency.

Successful life-saving and life-sustaining operations in the aftermath of such a large-scale disaster will hinge on the effective coordination and integration of cities, counties, state agencies, federal officials, the military, and tribal nations, as well as non-government organizations and the private sector. In addition to Whatcom County government, the Port of Bellingham and the cities of Bellingham, Blaine, Everson, Ferndale, Lynden, Nooksack and Sumas are all participating in Cascadia Rising.

*The Whatcom Unified Emergency Coordination Center is a partnership between the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management, the City of Bellingham Office of Emergency Management, and several local jurisdictions, organizations, and agencies.*

**For more information, please visit:**

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