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**PRESS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

### **2016 San Juan County Full Scale Disaster Simulation**

*Aztec, NM* – Every year in September, San Juan County Office of Emergency Management in partnership with local law enforcement, emergency services, and industry, work together to create a simulated real world disaster training. Participating agencies and businesses spent most of the year planning the one-day simulation, beginning with a Homeland Security Orientation Seminar, held in January and culminating in a Full Scale Disaster Simulation on September 14, 2016.

This year ConocoPhillips stepped up to sponsor the event. Residents in the area of the ConocoPhillips yard on Herrera Rd. in Farmington will see and hear response vehicles and equipment taking part in the simulation from 6:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Bloomfield residents in the area of Arizona Ave. will see and hear response vehicles as well as a loud sound from an emergency response device coming from the ConocoPhillips San Juan Gas Plant in Bloomfield from 6:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. In addition, the plant's sirens will be alarming for an extended period as part of the simulated event.

San Juan County Emergency Management would like to thank residents of these areas for their cooperation and understanding during the disaster simulations. Disaster Simulation training is designed to mimic real world events. Responders will be reacting as if the simulation is a "real event" and to observers, the simulation may seem real.

**Please remember that this is just a training simulation.**

San Juan County's Exercise Program gives response agencies and industry personnel a chance to practice working together in a simulated emergency/disaster situation. These programs are just one of the many ways San Juan County Office of Emergency Management, local law enforcement and emergency services, and industry are working in partnership to ensure a safer community.

If you have questions or concerns about this Disaster Simulation Exercise or other preparedness activities, contact San Juan County Office of Emergency Management at 505-334-7700.

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