



FEMA

April 11, 2016

Dear Partner in Preparedness,

Citizens who are aware of their community's hazards and are actively engaged in building resilience to emergency incidents and disasters are better prepared to withstand and rebound from the consequences of these events.

As FEMA's Preparedness Partners for the States of New York and New Jersey, U.S. Virgin Islands and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, I encourage your organization, employees, clients and constituents to participate in this year's *America's PrepareAthon!* campaign. Join us in the next nationwide America's PrepareAthon Day of Action celebrated on April 30, 2016.

America's PrepareAthon! is a biannual national, grassroots campaign organized by FEMA to increase individual and community preparedness and resilience. The goal of this campaign is to increase the number of individuals in our communities that:

- Understand which disasters could happen in their community
- Know what to do to be safe and mitigate damage
- Take action to increase their preparedness
- Participate in family and community resilience planning

To support you in these efforts, I have attached preparedness tools developed by FEMA Region II to provide, federal, state, local, non-profit and private sector partners a simple, low-stress opportunity to conduct *PrepareAthon!* Activities for their constituents, employees and families. Many of you aren't sure what types of activities to conduct, so we have taken the guesswork out by developing several scenarios for your use. Each scenario will focus on a different threat or hazard and is intended to be completed by participants at their own pace, in their own space. Participants can choose to partake in one, some, or all of the following scenarios:

- Scenario One: Active Shooter
- Scenario Two: Tornado
- Scenario Three: Wildfire
- Scenario Four: Hurricane/Flooding
- Scenario Five: Extreme Heat
- Scenario Six: Pet Preparedness

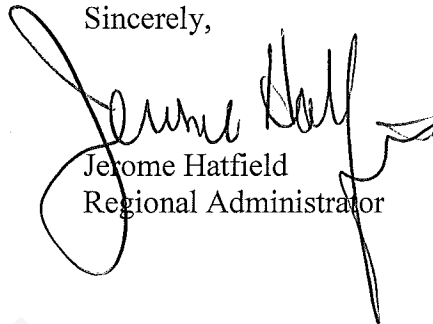
In addition, I encourage you to host events and use social media to raise awareness and participation in your communities throughout the year. Our website, www.ready.gov, provides other examples of easily achievable preparedness activities.

Let us hear about your efforts by registering them on the *America's PrepareAthon* website at https://community.fema.gov/AP_Register. Registering makes your organization part of the biggest preparedness effort in the United States, provides you with additional preparedness resources and recognizes your action-oriented activities as part of *America's PrepareAthon*.

Thank you in advance for your participation in *America's PrepareAthon!* Through your participation and engagement, we can build a better prepared and more disaster resilient nation.

Should you have any questions, please contact Eric Goldman at Eric.Goldman@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerome Hatfield". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

Jerome Hatfield
Regional Administrator