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**FEMA**

April 12, 2010  
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## **LOCAL, FEDERAL EXPERTS TO OFFER ADVICE ON MITIGATION**

**PASADENA, CA.** Homeowners, renters and business owners are invited to learn how to minimize the impact of a natural disaster. The presentation will outline what mitigation activities can be taken to reduce or eliminate the long term risk to human life and property from hazards. By spending only a few dollars, lives can be saved and damages in the thousands of dollars can be prevented. FEMA Mitigation specialists will teach low cost, non-structural mitigation techniques during a workshop hosted by the Long Beach Fire Department Disaster Management Bureau.

<p><b>DATE:</b> Thursday April 15, 2010 <b>TIME:</b> 6 PM to 8 PM <b>LOCATION:</b> Long Beach Gas and Oil Department Auditorium 2400 East Spring St. Long Beach, California 90806</p>
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Long Beach residents will learn from displays and discussions how low cost, non-structural mitigation measures can prevent injuries and reduce damages. A study by the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council found \$1 spent on mitigation saves an average of \$4. “Implementing a few low cost mitigation measures will go a long way toward a quick recovery from a natural disaster,” according to FEMA Hazard Mitigation Branch Director, Diane Earl.

Ken Worman, Cal EMA State Hazard Mitigation Officer, concurs. “Taking actions ahead of time, like securing large-screen televisions, and installing fire-resistant roofing as well as backflow valves will help save lives, prevent injuries and reduce the financial burden of the next earthquake, fire or flood.”

Materials needed to protect your homes or businesses can be purchased at local hardware stores and easily installed. Flexible straps, for example, can be used to secure top-heavy furniture so the objects don’t fall over during an earthquake.

The presentation will emphasize flood, wildfire and earthquake mitigation for reducing future damages. Following a question and answer session, FEMA will provide mitigation publications and fact sheets to interested individuals.

Following the theme “**Building Better, Safer, Stronger,**” can reduce or eliminate long-term risk to human life and property from hazards.

*FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.*

*The California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) coordinates overall state agency preparedness for, response to and recovery from major disasters. Cal EMA also maintains the State Emergency Plan, which outlines the organizational structure for state management of the response to natural and manmade disasters.*