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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DFW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT STAGES SIMULATED  
DISASTER DRILL**

June 21, 2002

**FIRST WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION  
EXERCISE AT MAJOR U.S. AIRPORT TO TEST  
COMMUNITY READINESS AND RESPONSE**

DFW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, Texas (June 21, 2002) — DFW International Airport will conduct two emergency response drills, starting Tuesday, June 25, to test its capabilities of responding to catastrophic incidents. The two-and-a-half day long simulated disaster exercises will simulate an airline crash followed by a scenario involving weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and possible terrorist attacks. DFW Airport is the first major airport in the nation to conduct a WMD exercise that will be a "tabletop" simulation designed and run by the Texas Engineering Extension Service (TEEX).

The first drill, called "LifeSaver 2002," will be a mock disaster exercise, which is required by the Federal Aviation Administration every three years, and will encompass all aspects of an airplane crash, rescue and recovery. A plane crash will be simulated at the DFW Fire Training Facility on the morning of Tuesday, June 25. The simulation will include live fires, simulated airplanes and live victims portrayed by volunteers from the Airport and surrounding communities. The Airport's emergency response crews, with assistance from 13 neighboring municipalities' emergency crews, will respond to the site as if it were an actual "Alert III" aircraft accident.

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While emergency crews respond to the scene, DFW officials will activate the Airport's Emergency Operations Center (EOC). In the event of a disaster, the EOC commands all rescue and recovery activities. DFW has staged and passed seven of these drills in its history.

"The LifeSaver drill will put all of our training and procedures to the test," said Jeff Fegan, CEO, DFW International Airport. "Our emergency response crews are some of the best-trained professionals in the country. They practice for emergency scenarios all year long. But the reality of seeing 'victims' at the scene will help inject the human emotions that arise during real emergency situations."

Immediately following the LifeSaver 2002 exercise, Airport response teams will participate in a tabletop WMD drill conducted by the Texas Engineering and Extension Service. This "functional exercise" will likely involve terrorist activities and WMDs. Airport officials will not know what to expect during the course of the scenario and TEEX has designed the WMD drill to tax the Airport's resources to the point that will eventually require a state disaster declaration.

The WMD exercise will test the Airport's Incident Command Posts, EOC and the State's District Disaster Control Office. TEEX officials will continually drive the drill to include new scenarios that could range from chemical attacks to an attack on an airline terminal.

"The need for a weapons of mass destruction exercise like this one has unfortunately become a necessity," said Alvy Dodson, DFW's Director of Public Safety. "DFW is well prepared to handle emergency situations, but with the continuing threats of terrorism against domestic targets, we need to be ready to respond to any situation."

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Representatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Texas Department of Public Safety, the National Transportation Safety Board, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Transportation Security Administration and the Department of Justice will observe the WMD exercise.

DFW Airport executives will be debriefed following both the LifeSaver 2002 and WMD drill. Exercise coordinators will evaluate the Airport's reaction times and response procedures.

Any media organizations that plan to cover the LifeSaver 2002 drill must notify DFW's Public Affairs Department by 12 p.m. on Monday, June 24. Email: [sormand@dfwairport.com](mailto:sormand@dfwairport.com); Telephone: 972 574 8080. The media may cover the LifeSaver 2002 portion of the drill, but the WMD exercise is security-sensitive and not open to coverage. DFW will hold a media briefing on Friday, June 28 to discuss the WMD drill.

For more information regarding emergency response planning or awareness of terrorist activities, visit the Division of Emergency Management's web site at <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem>.

Located halfway between the cities of Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas, DFW International Airport is the world's third busiest, serving 55 million passengers a year. Offering nearly 2,000 flights daily, DFW International Airport provides non-stop service to 129 domestic and 29 international destinations worldwide. For the latest news, real-time flight information, parking availability or further details regarding the many services provided at DFW International Airport, log on to [www.dfwairport.com](http://www.dfwairport.com).

To arrange interviews contact DFW Public Affairs at 972 574 NEWS (6397) or Ken Capps, APR, Vice President Public Affairs, at [kcapps@dfwairport.com](mailto:kcapps@dfwairport.com).

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