



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Release 07-24
August 24, 2007

**NYC OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO HOST A MULTI-
AGENCY EXERCISE AT PENN STATION**

The NYC Office of Emergency Management (OEM) will host a multi-agency field exercise at Penn Station on Sunday, August 26, 2007 between the hours of midnight and 4:00AM. The exercise is part of the City's continuing efforts to test and refine its preparedness plans and emergency response protocols.

This exercise will allow OEM to assess the effectiveness of emergency operations plans, and identify means for improving the City's capacity to respond to a terrorist incident within a train station. Scenario details are kept confidential prior to the exercise to ensure a realistic response from participating agency personnel.

During the exercise, a large number of police, fire and other emergency vehicles will be present, as well as significant numbers of exercise participants. During the drill, West 33rd Street between 7th and 8th Avenues will be closed. Additionally, the entrance to Penn Station at the corner of West 33rd Street and 8th Avenue will be closed from 11:00PM on Saturday, August 25th to 4:00AM on Sunday. There will be no disruption to regular Amtrak, commuter or subway service. The drill will occur early on a Sunday to minimize the impact on the surrounding area.

Response personnel may be working with environmental monitoring equipment. These activities are simulations only. No actual hazardous substance will be used and there is no threat to public safety.

Regular police, fire, ambulance and other emergency services will not be impacted. Participating agencies will maintain normal staffing levels throughout the exercise and remain capable of handling all routine operations.

Residents may call 311 or visit NYC.gov/oem for more information about the exercise's impact on the local area.

-30-

MEDIA NOTE: Due to extremely limited space, the exercise will not be open to the media. A press release with information on the exercise will be released on Sunday morning.

CONTACT: Andrew Troisi
718-422-4888