



NEW YORK CITY **OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**
Office of Public Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

04-005

March 5, 2004

**NYC OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO HOST A MAJOR
MULTI-AGENCY FIELD EXERCISE AT SHEA STADIUM**

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) will host Operation United Response, a major multi-agency field exercise, at Shea Stadium on March 14. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP), and planned in conjunction with partners including the Greater New York Hospital Association (GNYHA), New York City Fire Department (FDNY), New York City Police Department (NYPD), and the New York Mets, among others, United Response is part of City's continuing efforts to test and refine its preparedness plans and emergency response protocols.

The exercise involves a simulated emergency at Shea Stadium that will result in many casualties and require a large-scale response from multiple agencies and hospitals. Scenario details are kept confidential prior to the exercise to ensure a realistic response from participating agency personnel.

The drill will begin Sunday, March 14, at 11 a.m., and will last for several hours.

Most activity will take place within Shea Stadium, its parking lots, and the surrounding area. A large number of police, fire and emergency vehicles will be present. Parking restrictions may be posted on local streets in advance of the exercise, and police may close off area streets while emergency vehicles are deployed from nearby staging areas to stadium grounds.

Smoke from mock explosions may be visible in the Shea Stadium area as the exercise scenario unfolds. Any noises or smoke are planned and should not be cause for alarm. Response personnel may be wearing hazardous material protective clothing ("moon suits"), and players may be working with environmental monitoring equipment. These activities are simulations and do not indicate the actual presence of a hazardous substance or present any threat to public safety.

More than 50 New York City area hospitals are also participating in United Response and will receive and process mock "patients" in their emergency rooms.



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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 for more information about the drill's impact on the Shea Stadium area.

-30-

Press contact: Jarrod Bernstein (718) 422-4888