

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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DULUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Active Shooter Training Exercise

Duluth, MN - When it comes to emergencies, you can never be too prepared. In order to have a plan in place for the worst kind of incidents and disasters, the Duluth International Airport will be performing an active shooter drill designed to train both the airport staff and area first responders.

Duluth Airport Authority Director of Operations, Blaine Peterson said “the airport is required to host these types of scenarios by the Transportation Security Administration and the Federal Aviation Administration.”

The exercise is set for Wednesday, May 25, 2016 starting at 7:30 am and should be complete at approximately 1:00 pm. The exercise will take place between flights and not many regular travelers will be inside the airport at this time. The majority of the exercise will take place behind barricaded walls on the first and second level to keep it separated as much as possible if we have any general public in the building. Signs will be posted to make the public and the airport attendants aware that the exercise is taking place. The Duluth Police Department and Fire Department will be involved in the scenario along with St. Louis County and Gold Cross.

The public will be played by variety of 79 volunteers from airport employees, local schools and community members.

Surrounding hospitals will also play a part in the drill. Part of the drill will include transporting thirty patients to each of our area hospitals. This will give the health care facilities an opportunity to train on getting a large volume of patients at one time in this type of scenario.

“We want people to know that this is an exercise,” Peterson said. “We planned for the exercise to occur during a time when passenger traffic would be low in the terminal building. All the actors and role players involved in the exercise will have identifiable badges or uniforms. Actors and volunteers have been instructed that if an individual doesn’t have these visible identifications that they won’t engage them.”

This exercise required extensive planning and collaboration amongst several area agencies and partners. It will be an exercise that will provide valuable knowledge and learnings for all involved.

About Duluth International Airport

The new state-of-the-art passenger terminal at the Duluth International Airport opened for business on January 14, 2013. Currently United Airlines offers three daily nonstop flights to Chicago and Delta offers five daily nonstop flights to Minneapolis/St. Paul. In 2013 the Duluth International Airport recorded the third busiest year in its history. Be sure to check out our new loyalty rewards program – Thanks Again.

www.thanksagain.com/DLH

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