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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Summit County Attends Training for Emergencies

Last week, April 10-14, organizations from across Summit County participated in an Integrated Emergency Management Course, specifically designed to simulate county-level emergencies in Summit County, at the Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland. This Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) training included coordinated response activities, planning for multiple hazards and situational awareness for public officials and emergency responders.

Training included a tabletop exercise and a simulation incident allowing course members to work together in a prepared high impact situation that may be likely to affect all included entities. The class allowed members to work within an emergency operation center to increase awareness of how their agencies may interact during a crisis situation. Roles and responsibilities were highlighted and strengthened to prepare for real-life activities.

"Engaging in this type of simulation exercise provides our first responders with the knowledge to prepare solid response and recovery plans," County Executive Ilene Shapiro said. "In order to be prepared and have appropriate responses, these types of trainings provide great benefits as we work to ready our county for possible unforeseen circumstances."

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Emergency Management Agency Division of Public Safety

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"With advances in technology, we face new and changing threats and hazards. While we hope and pray that our community is never subjected to a large scale emergency, it is essential that we remain prepared for a wide array of possible disaster situations, both natural and man-made," Mayor Horrigan said. "Having reviewed and tested our emergency management structure, I can say with confidence that our community's leaders and first responders are well-prepared to address an emergency situation of any size."

Costs for this course were covered by FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency training budget. Additional fees were covered by Summit County and Ohio EMA's.

Participants included Summit County Executive Ilene Shapiro, City of Akron Mayor Dan Horrigan, City of Fairlawn Mayor William Roth, Springfield Township Trustee Debbie Davis, Vito Sinopoli representing Bath Township and Akron-Canton Airport, Akron Zoo, Akron Children's Hospital, American Red Cross, AT&T, Emergency Management personnel from both Ohio and Summit County, First Energy, Portage Path Behavioral Health, Public Safety Personnel from Akron, Cuyahoga Falls, Copley, Green, Macedonia, New Franklin, Stow, Twinsburg and Summit County Sheriff, Summit County Office of Information Technology, Summit County Educational Services, Summit County Executive's Office, Summit County Public Health and the University of Akron.



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