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## **Arapahoe County Administration Building to close to the public at 1 p.m., March 17 for employee emergency preparedness exercise**

*Goal of exercise is to test response plans, employee preparedness for emergencies*

**LITTLETON, CO** --- On March 17, the Arapahoe County Administration Building, 5334 S. Prince St., Littleton will close to the public at 1 p.m. to conduct a public safety preparedness exercise.

The exercise will begin promptly at 3 p.m. and closing the building at 1 p.m. will allow customers time to complete their transactions with the County prior to the start of the exercise. This exercise will impact the Administration Building only.

"Improving our emergency preparedness is one of the County's key strategic Align Arapahoe initiatives and it's also an important priority of our citizens based on the results of our 2014 Citizen Survey," said Commissioner Nancy Sharpe, who represents District 2 and serves as the 2015 Board Chair. "While we apologize for the inconvenience closing the Administration Building early on March 17 may cause our customers, we feel it is vital that our employees are prepared should they ever face a real-life disaster or emergency."

The March 17 exercise is not a real event, but it is designed to feel real in order to test how employees would respond to an actual, real-life emergency. The exercise will be conducted by the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office, along with assistance of the City of Littleton police and fire agencies, which will participate as emergency responders during the exercise.

Arapahoe County is providing advance notice of this exercise to ensure customers schedule their visit to the Administration Building on March 17 accordingly, and to ensure that nearby business owners, employees and neighbors are aware the activity occurring at the Administration Building at 3 p.m. March 17 is not a real incident, but a public safety preparedness exercise only.

\* \* \*

**Media Note:** For your safety, and in order to complete the exercise in a realistic environment, the exercise area will not be open to the public or to the news media. However, a media observation area will be set up in a designated area outside the Administration Building should members of the news media wish to

observe the exercise. Please contact Andrea Rasizer at 303-795-4284 or [arasizer@arapahogov.com](mailto:arasizer@arapahogov.com) for more information.

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