

LOGISTICS EXERCISE HELD FEB. 6

More than 75 Citizen Corps volunteers assisted the Washington Emergency Management Division (WEMD), Exercise Olympic Salvage III, on Feb. 6. The exercise tested a newly developed logistics system that is designed to receive and track responders who might be called to the state to assist in a disaster.

The all-day exercise included the responders checking in and processing at the Clarion Hotel in SeaTac and at the Kitsap County Emergency Operations Center. Exercise sponsors were WEMD and the National Emergency Management Association. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security provided exercise evaluators.

“The exercise tested the new processing system and identified what worked and what should be improved,” said Craig Ginn, EMD Emergency Logistics Planner. “The system, which was operated by Citizen Corps volunteers and King County Emergency Management staff, was designed to register disaster responders, arrange for their food, lodging, and transportation needs, and deployment to the field”.

Laura Goudreau, EMD’s Logistics Section Chief, said, “The system ran well in its first live test”, noting that the responder processing actually took less time than planned for in the exercise.

Jim Mullen, EMD director, concluded that the exercise results “will be noted around the country for its quality and its scope”.

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