

# NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: Oct. 13, 2016

## **WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE**

### **TO HOLD FULL-SCALE ANTITERRORISM EXERCISE**

*White Sands Missile Range, N.M., Oct. 13, 2016* – White Sands Missile Range will conduct an installation-wide full-scale antiterrorism exercise on Monday, Oct. 17 and Tuesday, Oct. 18 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. affecting El Paso and Las Cruces gates. On Oct. 17 an exercise at the installation's post office will require police and fire response and will cause a temporary closure from 9 a.m. to noon. On Oct. 18 the Oro Grande gate will be closed from 8 a.m. to noon for safety reasons. Residents are asked to plan ahead in order to avoid unnecessary disruptions to scheduled activities.

The exercise is part of an antiterrorism measure designed to test WSMR's ability to deal with real-world scenarios on the installation. The exercise applies to all members of Team WSMR to include: DoD military, civilian personnel, supporting defense contractors, and individuals visiting facilities on the installation.

Anyone entering the base should be prepared for 100 percent ID checks. As the exercise unfolds and the Force Protection Condition (FPCON) levels increase, visitors can expect delays at the entry gates to include random vehicle checks. FPCON is directed by the Department of Defense to position military facilities against possible threats. These levels can be adjusted by commanders based on local conditions, specific threat information, or guidance from higher headquarters.

Team WSMR members are asked to use caution and be attentive to detours when attempting to reach their destinations during the exercise. The installation's giant voice system will be used to make announcements concerning the exercise.

Along with the exercise, U.S. Army Northern Command and Army North will be conducting tactical training exercises after WSMR's full-scale exercise. The Soldiers will assist in WSMR's two-day full-scale exercise, conduct their training exercise and depart on Oct. 21.

For more information, visit the WSMR Public Affairs Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/WSMRPublicAffairs](http://www.facebook.com/WSMRPublicAffairs) or contact the Public Affairs Office at [\(575\)-678-1134](tel:(575)678-1134).