



Media Advisory

Clark County Fire Department ■ 575 E. Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89119

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For Immediate Release

March 20, 2006

What: Urban Search & Rescue Training

When: Tuesday, March 21, 2005, 10:00 AM

Where: Las Vegas Motor Speedway Infield

Members of Nevada Task Force 1 (NV TF-1) will be participating in a complex exercise designed to hone skills needed to help rescue people from worse case scenarios. Most of the participants are members of the CCFD's Heavy Rescue Team who specialize in technical rescue and many responded to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

They will be working in multistory buildings that the LVMS is planning to replace, so the environment is realistic.

Team members will perform these assignments:

- Breaching/breaking concrete and cutting steel
- Breaking and breaching concrete
- Shoring structures or rescue devices

All tools used by the team are specially designed for heavy rescue work. For example, the "air bags" vary in size from one foot to three-foot square and can lift a semi truck. A unique chain saw is fitted with specialized cutting edges that can cut through six inches of concrete. Special optics and listening devices are used to find survivors who cannot be easily seen among tons of rubble.

NV TF-1 is one of just 28 such teams approved by FEMA that is trained and equipped to be able to respond to a major catastrophe anywhere in the United States. The team and tons of specialized equipment are subject to call out, in as short as a six-hour window, and must be self sufficient for three days once arriving at the emergency.

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News release also available on the Internet at www.accessclarkcounty.com

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