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**For Immediate Release**

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## **El Camino College to Participate in the Great California ShakeOut Earthquake Drill**

On October 20, 2011 at 10:20 a.m., El Camino College students, faculty, and staff will participate in the annual Great California ShakeOut earthquake drill. This is the third year the drill will take place statewide, in all 58 counties, in order to educate the public on how to protect themselves during a large earthquake. Last year, the Great California ShakeOut engaged over 7.9 million Californians. Even more participants are expected this year, which will make it the largest earthquake drill to ever take place in the United States.

The El Camino College Police Department will help coordinate this event. An alert will sound on that day and those who are inside should stay inside while those who are outside should remain outside. Then everyone will practice how to *Drop* to the floor, *Take Cover* under a sturdy object, and *Hold On* to it until the shaking stops.

In addition, El Camino College will carry out its evacuation plan. When given notice, everyone will be led outside to designated assembly areas where an emergency responder will give directions. Everyone should stay in the designated areas until given official notice to return to the buildings.

A major earthquake in California could cause unprecedented devastation, but learning quake-safe actions will save lives and ensure that an earthquake does not become a catastrophe. ShakeOut began in 2008 in Southern California as an effort by scientists and emergency managers to inform the public about earthquake preparedness. It has since spread across North America and is coordinated by the Earthquake County Alliance.

For more information, contact the El Camino College Police Department at 310-660-3100. General information about the event and helpful earthquake safety resources can be found at [www.ShakeOut.org](http://www.ShakeOut.org).

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