

NSA Washington to Take Part in District Shield Exercise

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WASHINGTON – Naval Support Activity (NSA) Washington emergency response teams will join Washington, D.C., civilian emergency and law enforcement agencies as part of the citywide District Shield 2014 exercise, Oct. 19-20.

The NSA Washington portion of the exercise will feature an active shooter drill and mass casualty scenario at Washington Navy Yard, and is designed to integrate naval and city first responders to better practice command and control (C2), said Audrey Champagne, installation training officer for NSA Washington.

"It gets all these agencies familiar with each other," Champagne said. "It has to be all of us that work together to make everything more efficient."

In the wake of the tragic shooting event Sept. 16, 2013, Champagne said NSA Washington has identified more than two dozen objectives to test during the upcoming exercise.

"We felt there were quite a few things we could improve on to ensure, in the event this occurs again, we will be more prepared in the C2 portion," she said.

The Washington Navy Yard portion of the District Shield exercise is scheduled to take place in Building 200 the night of Oct. 19 into the early hours of Oct. 20, causing minimal impact to residents and normal daily operations.

Several other events will be occurring simultaneously throughout the city, testing how the Washington, D.C., Emergency Operations Center splits its resources to react to various threats. Champagne said by working alongside a range of first responders and creating a unified command post, naval and civilian forces will learn what the strengths of each are and better coordinate in the event of a real emergency in the future.

During the exercise, the 6th Street SE gate at Washington Navy Yard is scheduled to be under normal operations for residents and employees. First responders are slated to use the O Street SE gate, and there may be traffic and pedestrian delays along and near 10th Street SE around Building 200. Residents and employees at Washington Navy Yard may expect emergency vehicle lights and some noise during the exercise, which is schedule to end by 3 a.m. Monday.

For more news and information from around Naval District Washington, visit www.facebook.com/NavDistWash or www.cnmc.mil/regions/NDW.



Naval Support Activity (NSA) Washington emergency responders will partner with the Metropolitan Police Department and other agencies for an active shooter and mass casualty drill at Washington Navy Yard, Oct. 19-20 as part of the citywide District Shield exercise. (U.S. Navy photo by Chatney Auger)