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Contacts:

David Montevideo
Property Manager
South Hill Mall
253-840-2828
propertymanager@southhillmall.com

Sheri Badger
Public Information Officer
Pierce County Emergency Management
(desk) 253-798-2204 (cell) 253-377-4149
www.PierceCountyWa.org/HRP



South Hill Mall Becomes Training Ground for Safety Forces

Public safety agencies from Pierce County will participate in a special training session Thursday, October 8, 2009 at South Hill Mall in Puyallup, WA. The full-scale emergency response exercise will test the readiness of police and fire departments to a simulated terrorist event. The event will begin at approximately 5AM and end before 10AM. Sections of the mall parking lot will be blocked off Thursday morning to keep observers and commuters out of the affected areas. The interior of the property will be off-limits to mall walkers prior to 10AM, however mall merchants will be able to open for business as the exercise concludes.

“We are very pleased to be able to offer our facilities for this project.”, said South Hill Mall Property Manager David Montevideo. “We think it’s vitally important to help our first responders be on top of their game when it comes to protecting the public.”

Members of the news media will be directed to a staging area in the far Southwest corner of the mall parking lot closest to the Famous Dave’s Restaurant, near the 9th ST SW entrance to the South Hill Mall. There will be no access to the interior of

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the mall while the exercise is in progress. Reporters and photographers are encouraged to coordinate their activities at the scene with Pierce County Emergency Management officials.

South Hill Mall has been serving the people of the Puyallup/Tacoma area since 1988. Currently, the mall complex comprises over one million square feet, with anchor stores such as Target, Macy's, JC Penney, the all-new JC Penney Men's and Home store, Sears and Regal Cinemas. Customers also enjoy 120 other specialty shops. For more information, visit online at www.southhillmall.com

South Hill Mall is owned and managed in association with Cafaro affiliated companies, based in Youngstown, Ohio. One of the nation's largest privately held shopping center developers, the Cafaro organization owns and oversees more than 30 million square feet of commercial real estate in 11 states. Founded by the late William M. Cafaro in the 1940's, the firm is now celebrating its 60th Anniversary as a family owned and managed business. For more information, visit online at www.cafarocompany.com

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