



Town of Wallkill Police Department

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
November 23, 2014

Incident: Disaster Drill.
Location: Galleria Mall, Town of Wallkill
Date/Time: November 23, 2014/9:00 am

On Sunday, November 23, 2014 at approximately 9:00 am, the Town of Wallkill Office of Emergency Management (OEM) conducted a drill simulating a mock disaster at the Galleria Mall. OEM Co-Directors Chief Hertman and Lou Ingrassia Jr., working alongside OEM Coordinator Joe Andre, who, in conjunction with first responder OEM members and the Galleria Mall, planned the drill. During the simulation, members of the Mechanicstown Fire Department and Wallkill Police officers responded to a purported chemical spill at the Mall. Based on the scenario presented, Fire Department officials determined that an evacuation of the Mall was necessary. Through the Town's OEM, resources from Town of Wallkill Volunteer Ambulance Corp, surrounding fire districts, Orange County Sheriff's Office and New York State Police, poured into the area to help implement the OEM's emergency evacuation plan. The purpose of this drill was to evaluate the Town's response to emergencies like this. The evaluation includes communications, plan review and general preparedness. As part of the Town's ongoing commitment to ensure the safety of the residents and visitors to the Town, a review of the drill will take place at the OEM's next regularly scheduled meeting.

The surrounding fire districts included: Circleville Fire Department, Howells Fire Department, Middletown Fire Department, Montgomery Fire Department, Washington Heights Fire Department and Washingtonville Fire Department.

Robert C. Hertman
Chief of Police

-###-