



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Shannon Braun

952-346-6081, sbraun@webershandwick.com

**Airport to Hold Triennial Full-Scale Emergency Response Exercise on
August 25**

*Activity at Des Moines Airport will be part of the planned, multi-jurisdictional
emergency response exercise*

Des Moines, Iowa (Aug. 21, 2018) – The Des Moines Airport Authority will be holding a routine training exercise on airport property on Aug. 25, 2018 from 8 a.m.–12 p.m. During this exercise, the public may see an influx of emergency personnel or drill actors, as well as additional activity, as the equipment for the exercise is being set-up and taken down. In addition to on-site airport staff, the Polk County Emergency Management Agency, Des Moines Fire Department, Des Moines Police Department and many other local emergency responders and agencies from communities surrounding Des Moines will be involved in the exercise.

“Although we discuss our emergency procedures each year, this full-scale exercise is an important opportunity every three years to practice those protocols,” said Kevin Foley, Des Moines Airport Authority executive director. “This exercise helps our staff and local emergency personnel reinforce their ongoing trainings and emphasizes the collaboration needed to prioritize safety in everything we do.”

The exercise will be taking place entirely on airport property, mostly near the south side of the facility on the cargo apron. The scenario will involve over 100 actors with simulated injuries, makeup and bandages, and public spectators may observe emergency equipment and vehicles, flashing lights and sirens as part of the exercise. The Des Moines Airport and all emergency personnel want to assure the public that any activity they see during this time is part of the planned practice exercise.

The Aug. 25 exercise at the Des Moines Airport is in accordance with Federal Aviation Administration regulations, which require airports to conduct annual emergency preparedness drills and at least one full-scale emergency response exercise every three years. These events provide opportunities to test in-depth an airport’s emergency response in a more realistic setting.

About the Des Moines Airport Authority

The Des Moines Airport Authority is an independent entity that oversees the operations and maintenance of the Des Moines International Airport. The Airport Authority works to improve the quality of air service and make air travel to and from Des Moines more convenient and pleasurable. For more information, visit www.dsmaairport.com and follow [@dsmairport](https://twitter.com/dsmairport) on Twitter and [DSM International Airport](https://www.facebook.com/dsminternational) on Facebook.

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