PRESS RELEASE

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Nicole Chapple (202) 481-3049; Nicole.chapple@dc.gov

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY LAUNCHES REVAMPED EMERGENCY ALERT AND WARNING SYSTEM
AlertDC has been upgraded with new features allowing for personalized and targeted communications.

(Washington, DC) - As of August 25, 2014, the District of Columbia emergency alerting notification system, AlertDC, has transitioned to a new software platform. The new system is customizable, and allows you to pick and choose what kind of alert notifications you want to receive and how you would like to receive them. This new Everbridge system replaces the old Roam Secure Alert Network alert system that had been in place since 2004.

Being forewarned about dangerous weather, a neighborhood evacuation or an emergency road closure has never been easier with AlertDC. Now alerts will be available by text, email, cell phone, instant messaging or fax.

"It's important that we keep our citizen's informed, but we also want to give citizens a say in what information they receive and when," says Chris Geldart, Director of D.C. Homeland Security and Emergency Management agency. "The AlertDC system is the perfect solution for that."

If you commute, you can set your cell phone to receive traffic alerts that impact your route. You can set those alerts for just your cell phone and not your computer or other device. If you are at work, you can set different alerts to arrive via email and your cell phone, but not other devices. When we say "personalized and targeted communication," we really do mean just that.

AlertDC is available to those who live, work, attend school and visit the District of Columbia. To gain access to the new system and enhanced features, visit AlertDC.DC.gov. Current subscribers must log-in to update their existing account. New subscribers simply click "Register" to sign-up to receive information that can help you protect yourself and loved ones.

The following is a list of some of the notification topics available through the District's state-of-the-art alerting system:

- Major Emergency Alerts (terrorism or natural disasters)
- Severe Traffic Incidents
- Amber and Silver Alerts
- Activation of Snow Emergency Routes
- City Government Delays and Closings
- School Closings

Those that live and work in different jurisdictions within the National Capital Region (NCR) can sign up to receive alerts from multiple areas along their commute route. To find out about all of the available jurisdiction alert systems in the NCR, please visit CAPITALERT.gov.

If you have problems, questions, comments, or need more information, go to AlertDC.DC.gov.

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