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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS WASHINGTON DC
740 AM EDT MON OCT 20 2008

TO: SUBSCRIBERS:
-FAMILY OF SERVICES
-NOAA WEATHER WIRE SERVICE
-EMERGENCY MANAGERS WEATHER INFORMATION NETWORK
-NOAAPORT
OTHER USERS...PARTNERS AND NWS EMPLOYEES

FROM: EDWARD JOHNSON
DIRECTOR...STRATEGIC PLANNING AND POLICY OFFICE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HEADQUARTERS
DAVID CALDWELL
DIRECTOR...OFFICE OF CLIMATE WATER AND
WEATHER SERVICES

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE MEMO ISSUED ON NWS SUPPORT FOR
SPECIAL EVENTS

ON SEPTEMBER 25 2008...NWS ISSUED AN INTERNAL MEMORANDUM
PROVIDING GUIDANCE AND POLICY PRINCIPLES REGARDING NWS
SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL EVENTS SUCH AS SPORTING EVENTS OF ALL
TYPES...OUTDOOR FESTIVALS...AND OTHER KINDS OF GATHERINGS
THAT ATTRACT CROWDS LARGE AND SMALL.

WHEN SEVERE WEATHER THREATENS THE VICINITY OF THESE
EVENTS...BOTH PARTICIPANTS AND SPECTATORS ARE POTENTIALLY
EXPOSED TO HAZARDS SUCH AS LIGHTNING...EXTREME
TEMPERATURES...OR TORNADIC ACTIVITY. THESE SITUATIONS POSE A
SPECIAL CHALLENGE TO EVENT COORDINATORS...PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICIALS...AND WEATHER SERVICE PROVIDERS.

NWS HAS AN UNCOMPROMISING COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND
WORKS CLOSELY WITH PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICIALS TO ENSURE THEY
UNDERSTAND THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN OUR PRODUCTS RELATING
TO HAZARDOUS WEATHER. WHILE NWS CAN PROVIDE SUPPORT TO
PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICIALS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS...MORE
SPECIALIZED SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE FROM AMERICA'S WEATHER
INDUSTRY /PRIVATE SECTOR PROVIDERS OF WEATHER SERVICES/
...SUCH AS CUSTOMIZED CONSULTING SERVICES ORGANIZED AND
PACKAGED TO HELP MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT HOW TO PLAN AND RUN
THE EVENT.

THE PUBLIC WAS GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND COMMENT ON
THESE POLICY PRINCIPLES AND...BASED ON THIS REVIEW...NWS IS
CONFIDENT THAT IT IS OPERATING IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ITS
USERS. NWS DOES NOT SEE THIS AS A CHANGE IN OUR CURRENT
LEVEL OF SUPPORT BUT RATHER A CLARIFICATION OF THE LEVEL OF

SUPPORT NWS IS COMMITTED TO PROVIDE.

THE SPECIAL EVENTS GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM IS ONLINE AT
/USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/SP/SPECIALEVENTSGUIDANCE.PDF](http://www.weather.gov/sp/specialeventsguidance.pdf)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS...PLEASE CONTACT:

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THIS AND OTHER NOTIFICATION MESSAGES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
/USE LOWERCASE/:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OS/NOTIF.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/os/notif.htm)

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