

News Release from: Oregon Office of Emergency Management
Media Advisory: OREGON OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WINS 2013
OVERALL AWARD IN EXCELLENCE
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The Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC) Board of Directors has announced the winners of the 2013 Awards in Excellence. The Overall Award in Excellence in the category of Mitigation Efforts went to the Oregon Military Department's Office of Emergency Management for the Oregon Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program.

"Oregon Emergency Management is honored that it has been selected to receive the WSSPC 2013 Overall Award in Excellence for the Oregon Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program," said Oregon Emergency Management Director Martin Plotner. "The program helps protect the residents of the state by providing funding to rehabilitate schools and emergency facilities."

Plotner said this award would not be possible without the diligent work of other partners including The Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission (OSSPAC) who advocate for state resilience and disaster preparedness. Other cohorts include The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) and its seismic partners, who developed a statewide seismic needs assessment for public schools, and school and emergency response administrators, who access the grant program to make their public facilities safer. The electorate who voted to provide the bond funding to enhance public safety and resiliency throughout the state also played an important role.

The WSSPC Awards in Excellence program was started in 1996 to recognize achievement in different areas of earthquake mitigation, preparedness and response. Every fourth year the awards are given nationally at the National Earthquake Conference.

The Awards will be presented at the 2013 joint National Earthquake Program Managers/Western States Seismic Policy Council Annual Meeting held at the Marriott Courtyard Seattle Downtown/Lake Union Hotel in Seattle, Wash., May 2, 2013. Summaries of the 2013 winning programs and projects are posted on the Western States Seismic Policy Council's website at www.wsspc.org.

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