



UNITED STATES OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT  
Washington, DC 20415

Office of the  
Director

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Heads Of Executive Departments And Agencies**

FROM: BETH F. COBERT, Acting Director

Subject: America's PrepareAthon! – September 30, 2015 – Day of Action

In a memo dated August 8, 2015, the White House Office of Homeland Security and Counterterrorism, requested that all departments and agencies participate in America's PrepareAthon! America's PrepareAthon! builds upon the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Ready Program by adding a focused national call to action for individuals and organizations to take simple, specific actions to improve their preparedness for a potential disaster. FEMA's goal is to increase the number of citizens who understand the hazards most relevant to their community; know the corresponding protective actions, mitigation measures, and community plans; practice a real-time behavior to increase their preparedness; and contribute to whole community preparedness planning.

Our last day of action on April 30, 2015 was very successful. More than 7.5 million people, including many of you, participated in this event. FEMA has established Wednesday, September 30, 2015 as the 4th national day of action. You can support this effort by engaging your colleagues in drills, group discussions, or exercises. Suggested themes include earthquake, hurricane, tornado, flood, wildfire, winter storm, and hazardous materials/chemical awareness. Please forward this memo to your Emergency Management Staff so they can consider how your agency can best take part in this campaign. More information about America's PrepareAthon! can be found at: <http://www.ready.gov/prepare>.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please direct your questions to Sandra Hawthorn, Director, OPM Emergency Actions at (202) 606-5068 or [Sandra.Hawthorn@opm.gov](mailto:Sandra.Hawthorn@opm.gov). Thank you very much for your support.

Cc: Chief Human Capital Officers (CHCOs)

Attachment: White House memo dated August 8, 2015.