

POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY

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**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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**March 25, 2011**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Pottawattamie County, Iowa Emergency Exercise**

During the last 24 hours, the Treynor School System has received threats to their employees and buildings due to the planned “active shooter” exercise. After consultation with the Treynor School District and the Pottawattamie County Sheriff’s Office we have jointly decided to cancel the exercise due to these threats which we must consider as viable. The Pottawattamie County Sheriff’s Department is now actively investigating the threats.

It is astounding that people claiming to be “patriots” would be opposed to emergency response agencies drilling to be prepared for any threat.

As stated many times, the scenario building narrative was meant only to meet the Department of Homeland Security requirement to qualify for HSGP grant funds. In no way has our Office or any of the other response agencies favored a political view or issue. Our only intent was to prepare for a worst case scenario to build our capacity for such an event and to test any gaps in our response system.

“I apologize to the true patriots who have endured profane laced telephone calls, threats, and generally had their operations disrupted over this event,” commented Jeff Theulen, Coordinator of the Emergency Management Agency.

The countless fire departments, law enforcement responders, school systems and our non-government partners were never intended to be the victim of any of this criticism.