



## JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

### City of Temple and Temple ISD join forces to conduct active shooter tabletop exercise

**TEMPLE, TX (August 17, 2023)** - Today, the City of Temple and Temple Independent School District (TISD) collaborated in a joint active shooter roundtable exercise, aimed at enhancing preparedness and response protocols in the event of an emergency. The exercise involved key stakeholders from both organizations, ensuring seamless coordination and fostering a safer environment for the entire community.

"Effective emergency management requires a unified effort among all community partners," said City of Temple Emergency Management Program Manager Jennifer Henager. "This joint exercise with Temple ISD allowed us to assess our collective response capabilities and refine our strategies."

The tabletop exercise, conducted at the TISD Administration building, simulated a realistic scenario to test emergency response procedures and evaluate the effectiveness of communication channels, coordination, and decision-making during a potential active shooter incident. The exercise involved representatives from Baylor Scott and White Hospital, Bell County Emergency Management, Bell County Sheriff's Department, Temple EMS, Capital Area of Texas Regional Advisory Council, Temple Fire and Rescue, Temple Police Department, and the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

"Safety and security are of utmost importance to our community, especially within our schools," said Temple Police Chief Shawn Reynolds. "This joint exercise with Temple ISD allows us to strengthen our capabilities and responses to emergencies collaboratively. Together, we can provide a safer environment for our students, educators, and the entire Temple community."

TISD Superintendent Bobby Ott emphasized the significance of such exercises in fostering a culture of safety within the district. "The safety of our students and staff is a top priority for Temple ISD. By working together with the City of Temple and our local law enforcement, we can better understand the challenges we may face and enhance our preparedness to protect the well-being of everyone in our schools."

The tabletop exercise served as a valuable platform for exchanging insights, addressing potential vulnerabilities, and establishing stronger working relationships between the City and TISD. Such collaborative efforts are instrumental in mitigating risks and enhancing the safety measures that protect the Temple community.

Both the City of Temple and Temple ISD express their gratitude to the participating agencies, first responders, and school staff who contributed to the success of this exercise.

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