



PACIFIC COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 15, 2018

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Opportunity to Participate in an Assessment of Community Understanding of Tsunami Risk

South Bend, Washington – Improving the response capacity of Pacific County and other Washington State coastal communities at risk of tsunami presents an on-going challenge. To meet this challenge the Pacific County Emergency Management Agency has supported an evaluation program to monitor and improve earthquake and tsunami education and preparedness programs.

The latest phase of work will involve volunteer focus groups of residents and organizations to explore their understandings of tsunami hazards. PCEMA has a few spots left in these focus groups. The discussions and survey are aimed to quantify people's understanding of tsunami hazards in Washington State, their knowledge regarding the warning systems, and their preparedness to deal with future events.

A range of groups has been empaneled to ensure that the views of a diverse and representative range of constituencies are canvassed. There are a limited number of spots still available for those interested in participating. Focus group meetings will ideally have up to twenty people and last 45 minutes to 1 hour. All focus groups will be taped and transcribed and participants will be asked to complete a very short questionnaire. All information provided will be treated as confidential and no individual will be identified in any way.

Focus groups are currently scheduled for Tuesday June 19, 2018 at the South Pacific County Administration Facility located at 7013 Sandridge Road in Long Beach. Group 1 will meet at 9:00 a.m. and Group 2 at 10:30 a.m. These spots will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Any Pacific County resident or organization interested in participating should contact the PCEMA Office at 360-875-9338 or smcdougall@co.pacific.wa.us to register for these openings.

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