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WACO AIRPORT TRIENNIAL EMERGENCY EXERCISE

WACO, TEXAS (May 2, 2023) – The Waco Regional Airport will host the Triennial Full-Scale Emergency Exercise from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursday, May 4, 2023. In addition to increased emergency responder traffic on Skeet Eason Road, a simulated debris field will be visible east of the airport’s main runway and south of the Lake Waco area.

The emergency exercise will include a scenario featuring a standard aircraft crash simulation on the airfield and an auxiliary water rescue response in Lake Waco. The simulation provides the airport, mutual aid partners, and emergency responders the opportunity to train for a real aircraft emergency in a safe and controlled environment. The live exercise will be conducted in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration requirements and serves as part of the Waco Regional Airport’s required Airport Emergency Plan. Regional ambulatory agencies, Waco Police Department, Waco Fire Department, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, McLennan County Sheriff’s Office, and the Waco-McLennan County Office of Emergency Management will all provide resources for the simulation.

The Airport Emergency Plan outlines the response procedures for airport personnel and mutual aid partners that must effectively respond to and manage emergency situations that occur on airport property. For the airport to maintain a commercial operating certificate, the Federal Aviation Administration requires airports to hold a full-scale disaster drill every three years to ensure that the nation’s airports are prepared for a worst-case scenario.

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