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PRESS RELEASE

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EMA AND NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SIGN HISTORIC AGREEMENT

(COLUMBUS, OH) – An historic agreement has been signed between Ohio Emergency Management Agency and the National Weather Service that will allow county EMA directors the ability to activate the NOAA Weather Radio Warning system for non-weather emergencies.

“This marks a giant step forward in our ability to alert and warn our citizens of impending dangerous situations around the clock, anytime they occur” Said Russ Decker, Allen County EMA director.

“For years we’ve been tackling with the problem of how to warn folks in the middle of the night to the dangers of non-weather emergencies, such as, chemical releases. This agreement provides the avenue for just such an alert”. Decker said.

The agreement takes effect immediately, although technical arrangements between local National Weather Service offices and local EMAs are still being finalized.

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