



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Line: 970-623-8699

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Grand Junction Regional Airport Conducting Full-Scale Emergency Exercise (Triennial) on May 2, 2023

Grand Junction, Colorado – Grand Junction Regional Airport’s (GJT) Triennial Full-Scale Emergency Exercise will take place on Tuesday, May 2nd, between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the southern portion of airport property. Travelers on Interstate 70 and Horizon Drive may see a large first responder presence and/or simulated smoke from the exercise. Regularly scheduled flights and traffic corridors are excluded from this exercise and should not experience any impacts from the training.

The purpose of the exercise is to give the airport, mutual aid partners and emergency responders the opportunity to train for a real aircraft emergency in a safe and controlled environment. This live exercise will be conducted in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration requirements.

Agencies participating in this year’s training exercise include:

Grand Junction Regional Airport Authority (GJRAA) Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) staff, Air Traffic Control, Grand Junction Fire Department, Grand Junction Police Department, Grand Junction Regional Communication Center, Mesa County Emergency Services/Sheriff’s Office, Mesa County Coroner, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Federal Aviation Administration, National Transportation Safety Board, American Red Cross, United Airlines, American Airlines, Allegiant Airlines, West Star Aviation, St. Mary’s Medical Center, Community Hospital, Family Health West Hospital, Grand Junction VA Medical Center, Collbran Job Corps, and the Civil Air Patrol.

GJT is required to maintain an Airport Emergency Plan. This 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. Federal law requires that this plan be tested with a mock full-scale aircraft emergency every thirty-six consecutive calendar months.

Local media can learn first-hand how emergency organizations would respond to a major aircraft emergency at the Airport.

For members of the media interested in attending or covering the event please contact GJT’s media liaison: Linde Marshall 970-623-9388 or the Fire Department’s media liaison: Dirk Clingman at 970-697-8587.