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**WSSPC Board of Directors Names 2013 Awards in Excellence Winners; Oregon Military Department/Oregon Emergency Management Wins 2013 Overall Award in Excellence**

**Sacramento** - The Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC) Board of Directors is pleased to announce the winners of the *2013 Awards in Excellence*. The *Overall Award in Excellence* in the category of *Mitigation Efforts* went to the Oregon Military Department/Oregon Emergency Management for the *Oregon Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program*.

“Oregon Emergency Management is honored that it has been selected to receive the WSSPC 2013 Overall Award in Excellence for the *Oregon Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program*,” said OEM Director Martin Plotner. “The program helps protect the residents of the state by providing funding to rehabilitate schools and emergency facilities. However, congratulations are in order for all who have helped make this initiative so successful, including the Oregon Legislature, who created the program; the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Commission, who advocates for state resiliency and disaster preparedness; the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) and its seismic partners, who developed a statewide seismic needs assessment for public schools; school and emergency response administrators, who access the grant program to make their public facilities safer, and most importantly, the electorate who voted to provide the bond funding to enhance public safety and resiliency throughout the state.”

Also selected for a *2013 Award in Excellence* in other categories were the following:

*Use of New Technology*: presented to the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) for the *DOGAMI Special Paper 43*; and

*Mitigation Efforts*: presented to the Washington State Seismic Safety Committee for the *Washington School Seismic Safety Assessment Pilot Project*; and

*Innovation*: presented to The Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center for the *Tall Buildings Initiative*; and

*Multijurisdictional Planning*: presented to Washington State Seismic Safety Committee for *The Resilient Washington State Initiative*.

The WSSPC *Awards in Excellence* program was started in 1996 to recognize achievement in different areas of earthquake mitigation, preparedness and response. Every fourth year the awards are given nationally at the National Earthquake Conference. The Awards will be presented at the 2013 joint National Earthquake Program Managers/Western States Seismic Policy Council Annual Meeting held at the Marriott Courtyard Seattle Downtown/Lake Union Hotel in Seattle, Washington, May 2, 2013. Summaries of the 2013 winning programs and projects are posted on the Western States Seismic Policy Council’s website at [www.wsspc.org](http://www.wsspc.org).

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