



## **OFFICES OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND CIVIL DEFENSE**

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### **Nearly 55K Participants for the 2023 Great Guam ShakeOut**

Guam participated in the world's largest earthquake drill, the Great ShakeOut on Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 10:19 a.m. (ChST). Participants practiced the earthquake response procedure; "Drop, Cover and Hold On" from wherever they were, for one minute.

The Offices of Guam Homeland Security and Civil Defense (GHS/OCD) coordinated with various groups, agencies, and schools for a total of 54,922 registered participants for Guam, with nearly 41K from K-12 schools, alone. The drill encouraged all residents to increase earthquake preparedness and response by practicing how to protect themselves during an earthquake and how to ensure an earthquake disaster does not become a catastrophe. The ShakeOut participation provided the opportunity to evaluate emergency plans, increase awareness of earthquake safety, and improve resiliency within the community.

"GHS/OCD extends our heartfelt 'Thank You' to the entire island for their participation in this year's Great Guam ShakeOut," said Esther Aguigui, Guam Homeland Security Advisor. "Your commitment to building a safer and more resilient community is seen and appreciated. We look forward to continuing preparedness efforts for not only natural, but human-caused threats as well."

For more information on the Great Guam ShakeOut, as well as useful resources such as drill manuals, tips on earthquake safety, and others for developing a disaster plan, visit <https://www.shakeout.org/guam/>.

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