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MEDIA ADVISORY

SECURITY AND SUPPORT AVIATION HOLDS LRGV ALL HAZARDS PLANNING AND EXERCISE OPERATION IN HIDALGO COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2014

Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court

Ramon Garcia
County Judge

A. C. Cuellar, Jr.
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Hector "Tito" Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Joseph Palacios
Commissioner, Precinct 4

OFFICE OF HIDALGO COUNTY JUDGE RAMON GARCIA

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Weslaco, Texas – Throughout the year city, county and state agencies are planning and preparing in the event a storm or fire should threaten our area. Keeping up to date on new strategies and techniques is crucial to overcoming a disaster or emergency. On **Friday, March 21, 2014 at 1 pm at the Mid-Valley Airport**, the B CO 1-114th Security and Support Aviation with the Texas Army National Guard, in coordination with local emergency responders, will demonstrate search and rescue procedures first hand.

Each year the Security and Support Aviation performs their annual training operations in different areas in the State of Texas. This year they chose to set up a command center at the Mid-Valley Airport in Weslaco, where they will perform search and rescue training operations for the next week. Local first responders will receive hands on experience and support by the Security and Support Aviation on how to deal with hurricanes or wildfires, they will also practice hoist rescue operations and wide area search and rescues.

Among the equipment being utilized during the training missions is the LUH-72 Lakota aircraft. The LUH-72 Lakota aircraft provides an aerial platform equipped with visual and infrared cameras and a high-powered searchlight capable of providing an 'eye in the sky,' day or night. This allows the aircraft to assist first responders with hurricane, fire, and flood operations, as well as search and rescue operations.

The media is invited to take a firsthand look at the operations and aircraft being used for these training exercises.

DETAILS

- WHAT:** LRGV All Hazards Operation
- WHO:** B CO 1-114th Security and Support Aviation with Texas Army National Guard
- WHEN:** Friday, March 21, 2014
1:00 pm
- WHERE:** Mid-Valley Airport
1909 Joe Stephens Ave.
Weslaco, TX

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