

State of California
Alfred E. Alquist
Seismic Safety Commission
Memorandum

To: Seismic Safety Commissioners

Date: February 27, 2012

From: **Karen Cogan**
Seismic Safety Commission
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Subject: **Tsunami Preparedness Week – March 25-31**

Background

This year, Tsunami Preparedness Week will be held March 25-31, sponsored by the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program. There is a website that is available for more information: <http://nthmp.tsunami.gov/taw/tsunami-awareness-week.html>

In addition, Senator Alquist is pursuing a resolution from the California legislature, promoting the event.

Issue and Recommendation

Staff has invited Ms. Johanna Fenton from CalEMA, Earthquake Tsunami Division to brief the Commission on activities surrounding Tsunami Preparedness Week. No action is required.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

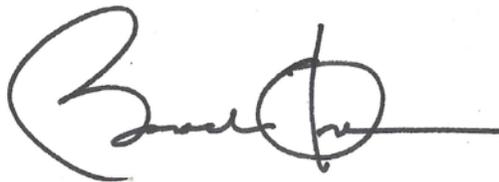
March 16, 2011

I send greetings to all those observing National Tsunami Awareness Week.

Tsunamis are uncommon but deadly natural phenomena that threaten shorelines across America and around the world. The heartbreaking loss of life from the recent earthquake and tsunami in Japan reflects the catastrophic damage these unexpected disasters can cause, and Americans continue to keep all those affected in our thoughts and prayers.

As we offer our assistance to those impacted by this tragedy, we also renew our commitment to ensuring preparedness along our shores. Efficient warning systems and awareness in coastal communities are vital to protecting Americans in at-risk areas of the country. To meet these needs, the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP), a partnership of State and local governments and Federal agencies, is working to reduce the impact of tsunamis through hazard assessment, evacuation planning, and educational outreach. While the danger posed by tsunamis cannot be eliminated, these efforts can help save lives by equipping citizens to effectively respond to emergency situations.

On behalf of all Americans, I thank those involved with the NTHMP for their contributions to the safety of Americans in coastal communities. I wish you all the best.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be Barack Obama's signature, written in a cursive style.