



MISSOURI SENATE
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16th Senatorial District
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Senator Frank Barnitz Commends Local Law Enforcement for Collaboration in Active Shooter Training

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, commended local law enforcement in the Pulaski County area for working together during a two-day training session on rapid response to active shooters in Waynesville. Senator Barnitz attended the training on May 1 to observe the exercises and simulations.

The training for law enforcement participants included instruction and actual scenarios of active shooter situations, using the Old Waynesville Technical Academy to simulate actual events in public and private buildings. Practical exercises included simulations of a lone active shooter, several shooters, and an IED incident. The deputies from the Pulaski County Sheriff's Department and Military Police stationed at Fort Leonard Wood participated in the exercise.

“This valuable training provided hands-on experience of actual scenarios that law enforcement could encounter,” said Sen. Barnitz. “It effectively protects our community if this simulation were to become a reality.”

The course was instructed by a group called ALERRT (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) based out of the Texas State University Dept. of Criminal Justice. Since 2002, ALERRT has trained more than 22,000 first responding officers throughout the nation. Federal grants help to fund the training.

“If an unfortunate event like this were to occur, this training equips the first responders with the skills to safely and effectively respond to and stop an active shooter,” said Sen. Barnitz. “It also forces collaboration of local law enforcement jurisdictions, calling on Pulaski County sheriffs, city police, the highway patrol, and military police to work together as one team.”

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