



## Exercises

**OEM designs and conducts citywide drills and exercises to test the City's plans, reinforce response and emergency management techniques, and promote interagency cooperation.**

Recent drills have involved testing the City's response to a chemical incident, a bioterrorist attack, and an emergency at sea.

### **TRIFECTA**

Conducted at the Maspeth Rail Yard in Queens, the TRIFECTA field exercise in March 2006, was designed to test the City's response to a chemical incident. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Domestic Preparedness and hosted by OEM, TRIFECTA tested the execution of the Citywide Incident Management System (CIMS) — specifically, the City's hazardous materials response, first responder safety, decontamination, and fatality management. Drawing nearly 1,000 participants from more than 25 City and partner agencies, TRIFECTA focused primarily on emergency response coordination, critical decision making, and the integration of CIMS.

### **PODEX**

Staged at locations throughout the city, the June 2005 PODEX field exercise was designed to examine the City's distribution of Strategic National Stockpile assets in response to a bioterrorist attack. The two-day drill, which tested the City's point of dispensing (POD) plan, began as the City's health monitoring equipment tested positive for anthrax. City officials were challenged to set up mock PODs to distribute medications to affected residents and handle related security, public information, and transportation issues.

### **Operation Maritime Strength**

In October 2004, OEM conducted Operation Maritime Strength aboard the Guy V. Molinari Staten Island Ferry. This exercise was designed to examine the City's response plans for a waterway emergency. Maritime Strength allowed senior-level City officials to evaluate preventative response concepts and plans for an incident involving the Staten Island Ferry or other watercraft. The exercise also challenged participants to use their collective expertise to make decisions in fields including preparedness, law enforcement, consequence management, homeland security, and health and medical protocols.