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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pinellas County Selected as a “Model Community”

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently selected Pinellas County as a model community for CDC’s Terrorism Injuries: Information, Dissemination and Exchange (TIIDE) project. The communities selected serve as best practice models of how emergency medical services (EMS) can work with other safety and public health agencies in times of disaster. Pinellas was one of five communities selected from among 13 highly qualified applicants.

The Pinellas County project is a collaboration between the Pinellas County Health Department, Pinellas County Emergency Management and the Metropolitan Medical Response System and their efforts in preparing the community for all hazards.

The TIIDE Project addresses the need to develop and exchange information about injuries from terrorism. Each of the selected communities has been successful in strengthening the relationship and collaboration between public health and the emergency care community to improve daily operations and disaster preparedness for their communities.

The TIIDE Project focuses on three areas that work to minimize health consequences of terrorism and other public health emergencies: *Lessons learned from terrorist events, Partnerships, and Dissemination of Information.*

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MEDIA: Backgrounder attached