

# After-Action Report

Stadium Severe Weather Tabletop Exercise

September 18, 2017

## Executive Summary

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The tabletop exercise held on February 8, 2017 to consider the impact and management of a severe weather incident during a capacity crowd at Centennial Bank Stadium successfully answered several questions that will improve Thunderstorm/Tornadoes Annex of the stadium's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Generally, the importance of gaining advanced knowledge of impending severe weather for various event managers and the decision to notify fans of the potential for severe weather as early as possible were verified.

Evacuation locations were identified as the Student Activities Center (SAC) and concourse restrooms. It should be noted that the SAC is not accessible via wheelchair from the stadium.

The following report includes areas for improvement identified during the exercise and its follow-up activities:

## Sheltering Locations

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- Identified the Student Activities Center as the best possible sheltering option in the immediate area due to design specifications that rate its roof as capable of sustaining 90 mph winds
- Identified concourse restrooms as best possible sheltering option for persons with mobility impairment

## Communications

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- Improve communication with National Weather Service (NWS) in Memphis by adding key game management officials to email lists for severe weather briefings, and requesting detailed game day forecasts from the NWS during game week planning meetings
- Improve communication with fans by streamlining existing pre-written weather announcements, creating additional pre-written weather statements for Tornado Watches and Severe Thunderstorm Watches, and creating scoreboard graphics to correspond with all pre-written weather statements

## Training & Exercises

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- Coordinate emergency operations training with outsourced security and event support service groups
- Hold a communications drill, where pre-written weather statements will be relayed from the ground to the announcer via radio and corresponding scoreboard graphics will be displayed in the stadium