

## BE PREPARED FOR AN EARTHQUAKE

All U.S. states are at some risk for earthquakes.

Earthquakes are a sudden slipping or movement of the Earth's crust or plates that are caused by a release of stress.



Can collapse buildings



Can damage utilities, structures, and roads



Can cause fires and explosions

## IF AN EARTHQUAKE HAPPENS, PROTECT YOURSELF RIGHT AWAY

## If you are indoors:

- 1. Try to remain calm.
- 2. "DUCK, COVER and HOLD!" If you are not near a strong desk or table, drop to the floor and cover your head and neck with your arms.
- 3. Watch for falling objects such as light fixtures, bookcases, cabinets, shelves and other furniture that might slide or topple.
- 4. Avoid windows, heavy objects, or things hanging from the walls.
- 5. **Do NOT** try to exit the building during the earthquake. Many fatalities occur when people try to exit the building, and are hit by falling debris.
- 6. **Do NOT** use elevators.
- 7. If you use a wheelchair, lock the wheels and cover your head.
- 8. Be prepared for aftershocks.
- 9. Report locations of injured people to CWRU Public Safety at 216.368.3333 or 911.

## If you are outdoors:

- 1. Try to remain calm.
- 2. Stay away from buildings: falling debris can catch a wind gust and travel great distances.
- 3. Avoid power lines, trees, and other objects that have the ability to fall or do damage.
- 4. Move to a clear area if you can safely walk.

