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**Front Range Airport to Host 460<sup>th</sup> Space Wing Airplane Crash Exercise**

*Bennett Fire Protection District #7, Sable Altura Fire Department, Cunningham Fire Protection District, Adams County Sherriff, 460th Space Wing, and 140th Wing to participate in event.*

Front Range Airport will host a 460th Space Wing airplane crash exercise, or MARE (Major Accident Response Exercise), at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 10. The 460th first responders and their local civilian counterparts work together on a mock incident involving two military airplanes colliding in midair, with one plane crash-landing at Front Range Airport.

“Buckley Air Force Base has some of the most skilled first responders in the business; however, in the event of a major accident, we will quickly overrun our organic resources,” stated Colonel Rose Jordan, 460<sup>th</sup> Mission Support Group Commander. “In our individual areas of expertise, I believe we have great relationships with our off-base counterparts; however, this exercise will bring all elements together, including fire, security forces, emergency management, medical, safety, and public affairs on base and off.”

“This is a unique opportunity for our emergency responders to work on a large-scale exercise with our community partners and the skilled personnel from Buckley Air Force Base,” said Front Range Airport Director Dave Ruppel.

Buckley Air Force Base will exercise mobilizing their emergency response from an off-base location. Adams County Rescue and Front Range Airport’s Fire Fighting Crew will make the initial response, and Bennett Fire will respond soon after. The exercise is expected to last five hours.

Front Range Airport is a general aviation airport located 19 miles east of Denver on 3,900 acres of land in Watkins, Colorado. The airport is considered a potential spaceport site that would serve as a hub to aerospace and space tourism industries.

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