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## Walden Galleria to hold lockdown drill

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**CHEEKTOWAGA, N.Y. (WIVB)** — One of the region's most popular malls will hold a lockdown drill on Wednesday, just a week after recent world events called back to memory the looming terrorist threat the world faces.

Officials confirmed the 10 a.m. drill at the Walden Galleria, to be acted out in conjunction with the Cheektowaga Police Department. Those officials say it is purely a precautionary measure to help the security team become familiar with how to react in the event of an

emergency.

“Walden Galleria and Cheektowaga Police Department actively meet to ensure that all parties are properly prepared should an emergency present itself,” Marissa Romano, marketing director for the Walden Galleria, said. “The drills are run from time to time as a preventative measure to ensure the safety of our customers and employees alike.

Due to the time of the drill, customers could be walking around the mall as police carry out their drill. Officials thanked the public for their cooperation.

“I think that would be amazing. I think all stores should have a drill so we can all be safe,” said April Barclay, of Buffalo. “It makes me nervous to go anywhere, because you never know where trouble’s going to be.”

Although it may be an inconvenience to what would otherwise be a quick trip to the mall, others agree. Preparedness is important.

“I think in a big, crowded place like this, I think that it’s something that can get very chaotic very quickly and if you’re not prepared, it’s something you can pay the price for,” said Brennon Jones, of Buffalo. “It’s definitely scary to think how it’s absolutely necessary now that you have to go over these, but it makes you feel a little safer knowing that there’s a plan in place just in case something does happen.”

Cheektowaga officials said the event will be announced that’s it’s only a drill shortly before it takes place.

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