



ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update

Produced by Emergency Support Function 15 – External Affairs

January 2010

ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR ESF 15

Public Safety Memorial Design Chosen

The Public Safety Memorial Commission has chosen a design for the Virginia Public Safety Memorial to honor public safety professionals who have lost their lives in the line of duty. The memorial will be built in the Darden Garden at Capitol Square and will honor the 352 Virginia public safety officials who have died since 1972, including law enforcement officers, firefighters, jail and correctional officers, members of the Virginia National Guard and Defense Force, emergency management and Hazmat personnel, alcohol enforcement agents, volunteer rescue squad members, emergency medical services personnel, conservation police, marine resource officers, state park rangers and forest wardens. The commission chose Yoshikawa Wright and Lisa Gimmy Landscape Architecture's Memorial Garden Design. A model of the design is on display in the Patrick Henry Building and is available for download at http://www.publicsafety.virginia.gov/Initiatives/MemorialCommission/Memorial_Commemorative_Sign.pdf.

Reprinted from the VDEM EM Update e-newsletter, dated Dec. 30, 2009.

Virginia Requests Federal Assistance for Recovery from December Winter Storm

Governor Timothy M. Kaine requested federal disaster assistance to reimburse state and local governments for costs associated with the severe winter storm that occurred Dec. 18-20, 2009, and the ensuing power outages. The Governor requested assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to reimburse state agencies and 40 localities for damage to public infrastructure, debris removal, related emergency services and snow removal costs. More than 2 feet of snow fell in parts of the Commonwealth requiring major efforts by state and local governments to maintain public safety. The Virginia State Police responded to more than 3,300 traffic crashes and more than 71,000 power outages were reported. During the storm and aftermath, an estimated 2,000 people went to shelters. Localities in Governor Kaine's request include Fairfax County and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas Park and Manassas. The Governor also requested Hazard Mitigation Assistance for all Virginia localities, which helps local and state governments implement measures to reduce the impact of future disasters.

McDonnell Announces Commonwealth Preparedness and Public Safety Appointments

Virginia Governor-elect Bob McDonnell has appointed Terrie Suit to serve as assistant to the Governor for Commonwealth Preparedness. McDonnell will keep the position as a Cabinet-level post. Suit is currently government affairs director at Williams Mullen. Previously, Suit served in the Virginia House of Delegates and chaired both the General Laws Committee and the Virginia Housing Commission and served on the Commerce and Labor, Counties Cities and Towns, Education and Agriculture Committees. Prior to serving in the General Assembly, Suit served for three years as a gubernatorial appointee to the Virginia Real Estate Board. McDonnell appointed Marla Decker to serve as Virginia's secretary of Public Safety. Since 2005, Decker has served as deputy attorney general of the Public Safety and Enforcement Division in the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia. In that position, Decker supervised and staffed Attorney General William C. Mims' anti-gang, anti-terrorism and crime prevention initiatives, responsibilities she has assumed for four Attorneys General. Decker also supervised the drafting of criminal legislation, developed and implemented training initiatives, and conducted community awareness events relating to gangs. In addition, Decker supervised criminal investigations and prosecutions.

Reprinted from the EM Update e-mail newsletter, Jan. 13, 2010, edition, published by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

Virginia Task Force 1 Deployed to Haiti Earthquake

Virginia Task Force 1 (VATF-1), Fairfax County's urban search and rescue team was activated by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Tuesday evening, Jan. 12, to the earthquake near Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The task force is composed of 72 personnel, six search and rescue canines, search and technical rescue personnel, physicians, paramedics, structural engineers, other support personnel and approximately 48 tons of rescue equipment and supplies. The team is self-sustaining for approximately 14 days. The task force left from the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's Academy at 8:15 a.m., Jan. 13, and flew from Dulles International Airport later that day. VATF-1 members rescued a United Nations security guard early Thursday morning, Jan. 14, underneath a massive rubble pile. Firefighters used cameras, listening devices, saws, and jackhammers to assist in the extrication of the man. Virginia Task Force 1 deployed a second urban search and rescue team to Haiti, Thursday, Jan. 14, arriving at the Port-au-Prince Airport Friday, Jan. 15, at 3:30 a.m. VATF-1, under the sponsorship of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), consists of search and rescue specialists, physicians, paramedics, structural engineers, hazardous materials specialists, and a search canine and handler. As the federal sponsoring agency, USAID pays for all costs and expenses incurred by VATF-1 when members are activated or undergo training. All training, equipment, and personnel costs of VATF-1 are paid for by the federal government on a regular basis. Additionally, when firefighters and members are deployed, there is no loss in emergency response or service to Fairfax County residents, as minimum staffing for all apparatus is continuous for all fire and rescue stations. The training and expertise gained by working with our federal partners in times of local, regional, national, and international disasters and emergencies enhances and improves the skill sets of firefighters and paramedics. The skills gained from this partnership provides a direct benefit to county residents by using these skills in making Fairfax County a safer and better place to live and work. The team returned to Fairfax County on Thursday, Jan. 28.



<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/vataskforce1/>

* Photo courtesy of USAID, taken on Jan. 17, 2010, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Haitian Earthquake Relief Fraud Alert

The FBI today reminds Internet users who receive appeals to donate money in the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti to apply a critical eye and do their due diligence before responding to those requests. Past tragedies and natural disasters have prompted individuals with criminal intent to solicit contributions purportedly for a charitable organization and/or a good cause.

Therefore, before making a donation of any kind, consumers should adhere to certain guidelines, to include the following:

- Do not respond to any unsolicited (spam) incoming e-mails, including clicking links contained within those messages.
- Be skeptical of individuals representing themselves as surviving victims or officials asking for donations via e-mail or social networking sites.
- Verify the legitimacy of nonprofit organizations by utilizing various Internet-based resources that may assist in confirming the group's existence and its nonprofit status rather than following a purported link to the site.
- Be cautious of e-mails that claim to show pictures of the disaster areas in attached files because the files may contain viruses. Only open attachments from known senders.
- Make contributions directly to known organizations rather than relying on others to make the donation on your behalf to ensure contributions are received and used for intended purposes.
- Do not give your personal or financial information to anyone who solicits contributions: Providing such information may compromise your identity and make you vulnerable to identity theft.

Anyone who has received an e-mail referencing the above information or anyone who may have been a victim of this or a similar incident should notify the IC3 via www.ic3.gov. For further information, visit the FBI's Web site:

<http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel10/earthquake011310.htm>

PLANNING / PREPAREDNESS

Current Threat Level

- The United States government's national threat level is Elevated, or Yellow.
- The U.S. threat level is High, or Orange, for all domestic and international flights. Only small amounts of liquids, aerosols and gels are allowed in carry-on baggage. See the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Web site (<http://www.tsa.gov>) for up-to-date information on items permitted and prohibited on airlines.
- Virginia Threat Level: 



Under an elevated threat level, businesses should:

- Continue all precautions from lower Threat Conditions.
- Announce Threat Condition ELEVATED to employees.
- Review vulnerability and threat assessments and revise as needed.
- Identify and monitor governmental information sharing sources for warnings and alerts.
- Update and test call down list for emergency response teams and key employees.
- Review and coordinate and update mutual aid agreements with other critical facilities and government agencies.
- Establish and monitor active and passive security measures.
- Review employee training on security precautions (bomb threat procedures, reporting suspicious packages, activities and people).
- Conduct communications checks to ensure radio contact can be established.

At this time there is no credible information warning of an imminent, specific threat to the homeland. All Americans should continue to be vigilant, take notice of their surroundings, and report suspicious items or activities to local authorities immediately. Everyone should establish an emergency preparedness kit and an emergency plan for themselves and their family, and stay informed about what to do during an emergency.

http://www.dhs.gov/xinfoshare/programs/Copy_of_press_release_0046.shtm

<http://vaemergency.com/>

IRS Disaster Losses Tool Kit

Businesses damaged or destroyed by disasters can prepare their tax documents using the IRS Disaster Losses Tool kit. Download the toolkit today: www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p2194b.pdf.

Mobilizing Against Pandemic

Telework Exchange, a public-private partnership focused on expanding telework adoption, has announced the results of its "Mobilizing Against Pandemic" study, which aims to evaluate the U.S. public- and private-sector's business continuity and mobile IT infrastructure standings. The Mobilizing Against Pandemic study, underwritten by Intel, reveals that 81 percent of government and business IT decision makers have written business continuity plans. However, the study finds an inflated IT confidence – both sectors report implementation challenges and lack assurance that employees could work remotely during an emergency. The study outlines five simple steps organizations can take to support a mobile workforce.

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/news04908.html>

Hurricane Watches and Warnings Change

The National Hurricane Center has added 12 hours to the forecast period in its tropical storm and hurricane watches and warnings. The additional time will allow individuals, emergency response partners and the private sector to better prepare for a storm. Advancements in track forecasts have made the additional time possible. These changes will go into effect for the 2010 hurricane season, which begins on June 1. New tropical storm and hurricane watches and warnings:

- **Tropical Storm Watch:** A tropical storm watch is issued when tropical storm conditions, including winds

from 39 to 73 mph, pose a possible threat to a specified area within 48 hours.

Tropical Storm Warning: A tropical storm warning is issued when tropical storm conditions are expected to affect a specified area within 36 hours or less.

- **Hurricane Watch:** A hurricane watch is issued for a specified area when hurricane conditions, including sustained winds of 74 mph or greater, are possible within 48 hours.
- **Hurricane Warning:** A hurricane warning is issued for a specified area when hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours. In coastal or near coastal areas, a hurricane warning can remain in effect when dangerously high water or a combination of dangerously high water and exceptionally high waves continues, even though the winds may have subsided below hurricane intensity.

More information about the new watches and warning times is available at

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2010/20100105_nhc.html.

Reprinted from the EM Update e-mail newsletter, Jan. 13, 2010, edition, published by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

New National Weather Service 1-inch Hail Criteria

The National Weather Service (NWS) has increased the hail criteria for issuing a severe thunderstorm warning. In addition to the criteria for 58 mph wind gusts or greater, predicted hail size must be 1 inch in diameter or larger. Previously, the warning criteria were 58 mph winds and 3/4-inch hail or larger. While the severe thunderstorm warning criteria is now 1 inch, NWS is still required to report hail less than one inch in diameter in its monthly Storm Data summary. Local emergency managers and associated 911/Emergency Communications Centers are asked to report thunderstorm related phenomena (large hail, wind damage, tornadoes, funnel clouds), as well winter storm hazards (snow/ice accumulations, coastal flooding, etc.) to their local NWS offices.

Reprinted from the EM Update e-mail newsletter, Jan. 13, 2010, edition, published by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

UK Companies Unprepared for London 2012

With fewer than 1,000 days to the start of London 2012, the majority of UK companies are unprepared for how the Olympic Games will impact their business and staff, according to a new survey by BT Global Services. Almost half (44 percent) of board-level executives surveyed said they are unaware what activities will be happening in their area. This is despite the fact that the Games are due to take place in 34 venues across the UK, including, Glasgow, Manchester, Cardiff and Weymouth, while over 600 athletes training camps will be stationed nationwide. The number of people using public transport is expected to rise to 800,000 during the busiest day of the Games – equivalent to the entire population of Leeds – and approximately 300,000 foreign visitors are due to stay in Britain during this time. It is therefore vital that UK companies take the necessary steps to minimise disruption. A third of companies surveyed said they had not yet made assessments for how the Games would affect their staff, while just 13 percent have set in place provisions to ensure that any resulting increase in workflow can be managed carefully. Only 22 percent of businesses have a fully-implemented, flexible working policy in place. Of those that do not have a policy, nearly half are unsure whether it is achievable to install flexible working technologies in time, so that staff could work from home or elsewhere during the Games.

<http://www.continuitycentral.com/news04947.html>

<http://www.london2012.com/>

Commercial Facilities Sector Training and Resources

The Office of Infrastructure Protection's Sector-Specific Agency Executive Management Office (SSA EMO) coordinates preparedness and infrastructure protection for a wide range of facilities, from commercial buildings to stadiums, theme parks, and shopping centers. Extremely diverse, the Commercial Facilities Sector has eight major components: Entertainment and Media, Gaming, Lodging, Outdoor Events, Public Assembly, Real Estate, Resorts, Retail, and Sports Leagues. In order to increase security and enhance resilience across the sector, the SSA EMO has developed a series of tools so owners and operators can strike an appropriate balance between open public access and security. Among the training materials available to the retail sector:

- Suspicious Activity Awareness Video “What's in Store: Ordinary People | Extraordinary Events”
Designed to raise the level of awareness for retail and shopping center employees by highlighting the

indicators of suspicious activity, this video provides information to help employees identify and report suspicious activities and threats in a timely manner.

- [Download the “What’s in Store: Ordinary People | Extraordinary Events” video](#) (WMV, 96.3 MB)
- [Download the video transcript](#) (TXT, 8KB)
- Active Shooter Materials: how to respond in an active shooter situation.
 - [Poster](#) (PDF - 1 page, 763 KB)
 - [Booklet](#) (PDF, 13 pages, 984 KB)
 - [Pocket Guide](#) (PDF, 2 pages, 229 KB)
- Training for the Retail Subsector in [Bomb Making Materials Awareness](#)

http://www.dhs.gov/files/programs/gc_1259859901230.shtm

MEDIA ARTICLES OF INTEREST

WHO to Review its Handling of H1N1 Flu Pandemic

The World Health Organization is to examine its handling of the H1N1 pandemic, the group said earlier this month, after accusations by some politicians that it exaggerated the dangers of the virus under pressure from drug companies.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE5BL2ZT20100112>

Most American Fliers OK With Full-Body Scanners; Europeans Are Divided

American air travelers strongly approve of the government’s use of body scanners at the nation’s airports even if the machines compromise privacy, a USA TODAY/Gallup poll finds. However, European nations were sharply divided ... over the need to install full-body scanners at European airports, reports ABC News.

USA Today: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2010-01-11-security-poll_N.htm

ABC News: <http://abcnews.go.com/Travel/wireStory?id=9505070>

Full-Body Scanners Can Save and Transmit Images

According to CNN, the Electronic Privacy Information Center says the Transportation Security Administration is misleading the public with claims that full-body scanners at airports cannot store or send their graphic images. In documents obtained by the privacy group and provided to CNN, the TSA specifies that the body scanners it purchases must have the ability to store and send images when in ‘test mode.’

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/TRAVEL/01/11/body.scanners/index.html>

National Geographic’s *Border Wars* Series Premieres

National Geographic Channel’s new series “Border Wars” premiered on Sunday, Jan. 10, and will continue on Monday nights. In the first episode, National Geographic joined Customs and Border Protection officers and agents as they raced to save illegal immigrants from possible death in desert heat, uncovered a smuggling strategy involving children, and found a record-setting cache of narcotics.

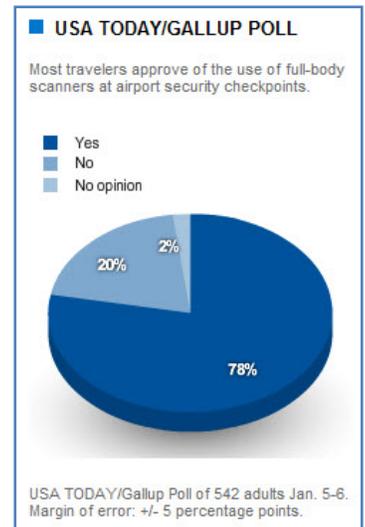
http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/newsroom/highlights/preview_border_wars.xml

<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/series/border-wars>

Despite 9/11 Commission, Many Congressional Committees Still Oversee Homeland Security

The 9/11 commission pointed to the hydra-headed system that hobbles Congress in its what-went-wrong role: There are 88 separate committees and subcommittees claiming authority in the homeland security field, plus a parallel welter of panels for intelligence, says the New York Times. The 9/11 commission proposed investing the dual task with the intelligence committees. This is a logical way to improve Congress’s focus and clout.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/09/opinion/09sat4.html>



Federal Panel Wants Biosecurity Changes

The U.S. government should divide its list of deadly disease-causing pathogens and toxins into separate categories so that research facilities can implement security measures that correspond to the risk posed by those materials, according to the findings of ... the Working Group on Strengthening the Biosecurity of the United States, reports Global Security Newswire. The panel also wants changes in the rules governing the handling, storage and management of the 82 “select agents” – pathogens and biological toxins such as anthrax declared to pose a severe threat to human or animal health. A January 2009 executive order by President Bush established the group.

http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20100112_4809.php

Report: <http://www.hhs.gov/aspr/omsph/biosecurity/biosecurity-report.pdf>

Atomic Scientists Change Doomsday Clock

Scientists [on Jan. 14] moved back the minute hand on the symbolic “Doomsday Clock” to six minutes to midnight to reflect reduced concern that the world is facing the threat of nuclear annihilation, reports Bloomberg. The clock was set up in 1947 by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, which was founded two years earlier by University of Chicago researchers who worked on the Manhattan Project, the program that developed the first atomic weapons. The minute hand has been moved only 18 times before, fluctuating between 2 minutes to doomsday in 1953, after the development of the first hydrogen bombs, and 17 minutes to midnight in 1991, following the end of the Cold War. It was last shifted in January 2007.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=ap4NZaNdCjCE>

Doomsday Clock Web site: <http://www.turnbacktheclock.org/>

Google Maps Help Disaster Relief

Before-and-after satellite photos distributed via Google Maps show “roadways that are now inaccessible and bridges that are uncrossable,” and “this satellite imagery is actually being used in rescue and recovery efforts,” reports Newsweek. Google’s “Lat Long Blog says it ‘received numerous requests from relief organizations and our users to share recent satellite imagery of the country.’ ... the vast amount of satellite imagery also represents a huge potential for tracking and understanding urban changes in non-disaster situations.”

<http://www.newsweek.com/frameset.aspx?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.planetizen.com%2Fnode%2F42536>

Pentagon Report on Fort Hood Details Failures

A Pentagon review released [Jan. 15] portrayed a systemic breakdown within the military that permitted an Army psychiatrist, now charged with killing 13 people, to advance through the ranks despite concerns from his superiors about his behavior reports the New York Times. “The review” of the Nov. 5 Fort Hood, TX, shootings concluded that the Department of Defense was poorly prepared to defend itself from internal threats well beyond the single case of the military doctor accused of the killings, Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/16/us/politics/16hasan.html>

FLU

Fairfax County Pandemic Flu Preparedness

Be sure to visit the county’s pandemic flu Web page for information on upcoming events and preparedness news.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/pandemicflu/>

Open Letter to the American People about the H1N1 Flu Vaccine

In an open letter to the American People, over 30 major health care provider and public health organizations encouraged Americans to get the H1N1 vaccine. This letter emphasizes that the H1N1 vaccine is safe, effective and the best way to protect against the flu.

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/open_letter_h1n1_vaccine.htm

Flu information for People with Diabetes and Caregivers of People with Diabetes

If you have diabetes, you are more likely to get flu-related complications like pneumonia and even be hospitalized or

The ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update is designed to provide information about Emergency Support Function 15 (External Affairs) along with news articles and informational updates relating to Homeland Security and emergency management to ESF 15 partners. Inclusion of any resource, information or Web link is not an endorsement of the product, service or organization. The ESF 15 Business / Nonprofit Update is produced by Fairfax County’s Office of Public Affairs – the lead agency for ESF 15.

die from the flu than other people. Influenza may also interfere with blood glucose management.

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/diabetes/diabetes_factsheet.htm

Q and A: Fraud and Abuse Related to 2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine (updated Jan. 13)

The purpose of this document is to provide information to state/local immunization programs regarding options for reporting certain criminal, fraud and abuse matters relating to the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine and ancillary supplies. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to receive reports regarding charges, distribution and marketing irregularities involving the 2009 H1N1 influenza vaccine and ancillary supplies. CDC reviews any information provided and uses its best efforts to forward such reports to appropriate federal (and in some cases, state) regulatory and other agencies for their awareness and possible action.

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/h1n1_fraud_abuse.htm

Sebelius Announces New Facebook Application Called “I’m a Flu Fighter”

Earlier this month, during National Influenza Vaccination Week, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced a new Facebook application called, “I’m a Flu Fighter” that allows users to tell their friends that they received the flu vaccination and urge others to do the same. The Facebook application takes users through four steps. In the first step, “Choose My Character,” users choose between a superhero, a doctor, a virus behind bars or a cartoon syringe to represent themselves as a flu fighter. Then, users set their status by sharing whether they got the flu vaccine or plan to, and how it was (could be better, fine, good, great!). Next, users can send invites to their friends challenging them to get vaccinated. Lastly, users are taken to a page with resources about flu such as the flu vaccine locator. The visibility of users’ information as “flu fighters” is controlled by users through their privacy settings. The application was developed through the HealthySocial research project at Children’s Hospital Boston in collaboration with HHS. National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW), January 10-16, was a national observance established to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination, as well as fostering greater use of flu vaccine.

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/>

TRAININGS / EXERCISES / CONFERENCES

National Capital Region Homeland Security Events

http://www.mwcog.org/committee/committee/events_homeland.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=134

Virginia Emergency Management Courses

<http://www.vaemergency.com>

FEMA Independent Study Courses

<http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/>

American Red Cross Disaster Services Training

http://www.redcrossnca.org/Online/disaster_registration.php

Hospital Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear & Explosive Incidents

(Feb. 1-5 and Aug. 2-6; Aberdeen, Md.)

This is a postgraduate course for emergency planners, hospital administrators, clinicians, and emergency responders who could face mass casualties from a catastrophe. It was developed with hospital-level objectives—clinical and nonclinical.

https://cc.apgea.army.mil/courses/in_house/cbrne.htm



Technologies for Critical Incident Preparedness Conference and Exposition

Feb. 2-4; Philadelphia, Pa.

This conference presented by the International Association of Emergency Managers will bring together leaders and decision makers in a unique forum with responders, business and industry, academia, and local, tribal, state and federal stakeholders to address critical incident technology and preparedness needs, protocols, and solutions.

<http://www.iaem.com/events/calendar/events.htm>



Military Operations Research Society Meeting on Interagency Perspectives, Issues and Analysis

Feb. 9-10; online

The conference will examine how analysis can improve coordinated national security planning and execution among federal and state governments and nongovernment organizations.

http://www.mors.org/events/2010_interagency.aspx

CBRN Defense

Feb. 8-10; Washington, D.C.

Next year's chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear defense conference will deliver an overview of the requirements, technologies, and programs necessary for mission managers and commanders to counter these threats.

http://www.cbrnevent.com/redForms.aspx?id=230498&pdf_form=1

International Disaster Management Conference

Feb. 18-21; Orlando, Fla.

The conference has been designed to meet the educational needs of all persons and agencies involved with emergency preparedness, response, and disaster recovery. This year's theme is "Prepare Freedom's Lifelines."

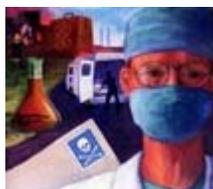
<http://www.emlrc.org/disaster2010.htm>

Homeland Defense and Security Education Summit

Feb. 24-25; Washington, D.C.

"Homeland Security in Transition" will focus on validating homeland security and defense education and will discuss the issues most pertinent relevant to security professionals, the return on investment in homeland security and defense education, and current and relevant research.

<http://www.chds.us/?special/info&pgm=2010Summit>



National Emergency Management Summit

March 3-5; Washington, D.C.

This forum on medical preparedness and response to disasters, epidemics, and terrorism will cover H1N1 experience in the United States and beyond, pandemic planning and readiness, hospital surge, supply chain management, patient evacuations, tsunami warning systems, health 2.0 tools, coordinating communitywide response, crisis standards of care, and more.

<http://www.emergencymanagementsummit.com/>

Medical Management of Chemical and Biological Casualties

March 14-19 and May 16-21; Aberdeen, Md., and Ft. Detrick, Md.

This course is conducted by the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense. It is designed for Medical Corps and Nurse Corps officers and physician assistants, Medical Service Corps officers, and other selected medical professionals. It comprises classroom, laboratory, and field training.

https://ccc.apgea.army.mil/courses/in_house/BrochureMCBC.htm

Biothreat Agent Workshop

March 15-16; Charlotte, N.C.

The theme of the third annual workshop is "Pathogens to Policy." Experts from academia, government, and industry

will interact and share their ideas and the latest developments, providing a forum where researchers, responders, vendors, and students can discuss advances in the fight against bioterrorism.

<http://www.cleanearthtech.com/news.htm>

GovSec & U.S. Law

March 23-24; Washington, D.C.

This conference provides products, strategies, tactics, education, and networking for the professionals whose mission is to secure our nation and their communities. At its core is the convergence of information technology and physical security so that attendees will be better prepared to anticipate, prepare for, prevent, and respond to domestic and international terrorism, accidental and natural disasters, and attacks on critical infrastructure.

<http://www.govsecinfo.com/Home.aspx>

National Hurricane Conference

March 29-April 2; Orlando, Fla.

The purpose of the conference is to improve hurricane preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation in order to save lives and property in the United States and the tropical islands of the Caribbean and Pacific. It also is a national forum for federal, state and local officials to exchange ideas and recommend new policies to improve emergency management.

<http://www.hurricanemeeting.com/>

2010 Virginia Emergency Management Symposium

March 31-April 2; Hampton Roads Convention Center, Hampton, Va.

The theme will be "Heads Up: Eye-Opening Experiences and Changes in Emergency Management." The symposium will include traditional breakout workshops coupled with new training opportunities. Tentative sessions include Intro to HAZUS, WebEOC overviews, Legislative Info 101, and Legal Concerns for Emergency Managers. Visit

<http://www.vemaweb.org> for additional information.

25th Annual NSI IMPACT 2010! Conference, Expo and Awareness Fair

April 26-28; Westfields Marriott, Chantilly, Va.

IMPACT 2010 is programmed by security professionals who are confronting the same issues, worrying the same worries and wrestling with the same problems. Register online at <http://nsi.org/impact-registration.html> or call 508-533-9099.

Sport Event Risk Management Workshop

DHS has identified professional and collegiate stadiums and arenas as potential targets for terrorist activity. The Sport Event Risk Management Workshop has been specially designed for NCAA institutions to help them develop university security action teams, which are composed of specialists from five distinct areas: campus police, athletic department, emergency management, fire/hazardous materials and emergency medical/health services. The workshop will be delivered to these key personnel via regional workshops; training will be available at FedEx Field in Washington, D.C., April 27-28. Emergency managers that have an NCAA institution in their areas are encouraged to participate; contact National Center for Spectator Sports Security Project Manager Nick Nabors at (601) 266-4694 or by e-mail at nick.nabors@usm.edu. More information about the workshop and registration are available at www.ncs4.com/workshop.

Save the date: Emergency Management Procurement Forum

VDEM's Procurement Office will host the 2010 Emergency Management Procurement Forum, May 2-4, 2010, to raise awareness about being better prepared to procure goods and services during emergencies. The conference will begin with an overview and tour of the Virginia Emergency Operations Center and continue with presentations and demonstrations that address Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprises Small, Woman- and Minority-owned certification, legal issues, Small Purchase Charge Cards, prequalified contracts, ethics and more. Attendees will be able to network with state and local emergency procurement personnel from all over Virginia and to see a vendor trade show. Additional details and registration will be available soon.

LINKS

Fairfax County Blogs and Web Resources

- Fairfax County CERT - <http://fairfaxcountycert.blogspot.com/>
- Fairfax County Citizen Corps Web Page - <http://www.fairfaxcountycitizencorps.org/>
- Fairfax County Citizen Corps Blog - <http://citizencorps.blogspot.com/>
- Virginia Citizen Corps - <http://www.vaemergency.com/citcorps/index.cfm>

DHS Science & Technology Directorate Newsletter

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Science & Technology Directorate has a free newsletter, "S&T Snapshots," featuring stories about current research projects and opportunities with laboratories, universities, government agencies, and the private sector. The newsletter is produced monthly by the DHS Science and Technology Directorate in partnership with the Homeland Security Institute, a Studies and Analysis Federally Funded Research and Development Center.

<http://www.homelandsecurity.org/snapshots/>

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report (OSIR)

The Department of Homeland Security provides a Web-based "Daily OSIR," which is posted on the DHS public Web site. Accessing the report via the Web enables readers to retrieve the current Daily Report as well as 10 days of archived DHS Daily Reports. Once you arrive at the Web page you will find the most recent Daily OSIR at the top of the page, under the title "Current Report." This report is posted each morning, except for weekends and holidays.

Simply click on the title "DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report." This will launch the current days report in PDF format. You can continue to submit content comments or make suggestions by contacting the DHS Daily Report Team by telephone at 202-312-5389 or by e-mail at NICCRReports@dhs.gov. You can access the Daily OSIR at: http://www.dhs.gov/xinfo/share/programs/editorial_0542.shtm.

Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Web Page

The county's emergency information page features easy navigation and a clean look so that residents can easily find emergency information.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/

Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Line

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/infoline.htm

Emergency Management Magazine

<http://www.govtech.com/em/toc.php>

FEMA Private Sector

<http://www.fema.gov/privatesector/>

FAIRFAX COUNTY 703-817-7771
EMERGENCY
INFORMATION LINE

ESF 15 Contact Information

Merni Fitzgerald, Director
Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 551 ♦ Fairfax, Va. 22035-0065
Tel: 703-324-3187 ♦ Direct: 703-324-3189
E-mail: Merni.Fitzgerald@fairfaxcounty.gov
Web site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov
Emergency Information: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency

To Unsubscribe:

E-mail publicaffairs@fairfaxcounty.gov with “Remove from ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update” in the subject line and you will be immediately removed from the distribution list.

In accordance with NIMS – the National Incident Management System – the Fairfax County Emergency Operations Plan states that Emergency Support Function 15 (External Affairs) is led by the Office of Public Affairs. This ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update is part of the county's outreach efforts for our business and nonprofit partners as a way to provide information about the county's ESF 15, Homeland Security and emergency management.

Please feel free to forward this ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update to other contacts you have inside or outside your organization. Should someone you know like to be added to our distribution list, have them send an e-mail to jim.person@fairfaxcounty.gov and ask to be subscribed to the ESF 15 Business/Nonprofit Update.

If you have any suggestions on how to improve this update or other communications between Fairfax County and the business/nonprofit community, please contact Merni Fitzgerald, Director of the Fairfax County Office of Public Affairs, at 703-324-3187, TTY 711, or by e-mail at merni.fitzgerald@fairfaxcounty.gov.