



Hoosier Responder

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IDHS OFFERS ONLINE EMS RECERTIFICATIONS

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) has introduced a new system to allow emergency medical service (EMS) personnel to renew their certifications online. The system will allow all EMS personnel the ability to renew an existing certification, but will not allow new certification requests.

The goals of providing on-line certification renewal are to provide a faster, more efficient method of updating certifications while maintaining the integrity of the EMS system in Indiana. Currently new on-line certification renewal process does not provide for agencies to submit in-service and update certificates on behalf of affiliated personnel. Certificates eligible for on-line renewal include: First Responder, Emergency Medical, Technician – Basic,

Emergency Medical Technician – Basic/Advanced, Emergency Medical Technician – Intermediate, Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic Primary Instructor, Emergency Vehicle Operator, and Emergency Vehicle Operator – Instructor. Eligible certificates will be available for electronic renewal beginning 90 calendar days in advance of the certification’s expiration date, and ending 10 business days before the expiration date.

To use the online EMS recertification system visit <https://acadisportal.in.gov>, or visit the IDHS webpage at www.in.gov/dhs and click “EMS On-Line Certification Renewal” under Topics of the Day. ▪

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From the Director’s Chair-Executive Director Joe Wainscott

INDIANA FOCAL POINT FOR NATIONAL LEVEL EXERCISE

As you are aware, from May 16-20, 2011 Indiana was a key participant in NLE11—a large, complex, White House directed exercise spanning four FEMA regions, eight states, and involving thousands of individual participants.

In Indiana, local emergency responders, county emergency management officials, state and federal government personnel and non-government private sector partners from nearly three-fourths of Indiana’s 92 counties took part in the 2011 national level exercise.

In terms of the number and variety of agencies involved, and the wide array of geographic locations they hail from within the state, this is Indiana’s largest disaster exercise ever.

A key component of Indiana’s participation in the exercise was the full-scale or “boots-on-the-ground” element that provided the greatest validation so far of Indiana’s district response task forces and the district emergency response concept.

Throughout the course of the exercise, more than 1,200 Indiana emergency responders from IDHS district task forces 1, 2 and 3, and elements from districts 4 and 6, as well as the federally organized Indiana Task Force 1 and Ohio Task Force 1, tested their response capabilities including: law enforcement, search and rescue, disaster mental health, animal shelter and hospital, civil support, and fire suppression at the Muscatatuck Urban Training Center.

On behalf of IDHS I am extremely grateful

to all Indiana’s public and private sector emergency responders and emergency management professionals for their ongoing commitment and dedication to disaster preparedness and to this tremendously comprehensive and multi-faceted exercise in particular.

Thanks to your participation, this exercise helped us evaluate many of the core capabilities that comprise our Indiana’s and our country’s ability to effectively and efficiently respond to and recover from a catastrophic natural disaster, making us better prepared to protect the lives and prosperity of Hoosiers in the future. ▪



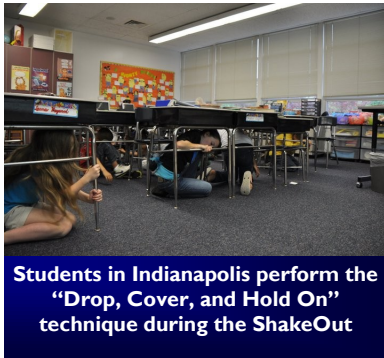
MORE THAN 600,000 HOOSIERS PARTICIPATE IN 2011 GREAT SHAKEOUT

On April 19th, Hoosiers throughout the state participated in the 2011 Great Central United States ShakeOut.

More than three million people took part in the event across the central United States, with Indiana leading the way with more than 600,000 participants. The Indiana Department of Homeland Security partnered with the Indiana Department of Education and Indiana Geological Survey to inform Hoosiers about the drill and encourage all Indiana residents, including schools, businesses and communities, to pledge their participation.

Due to the proximity of our state to two active seismic zones, the New Madrid

Seismic Zone and Wabash Valley Seismic Zone, many Indiana residents recognized the threat and took it upon themselves to participate in the drill. The highlight of the Great ShakeOut was a simultaneous drill



Students in Indianapolis perform the "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" technique during the ShakeOut

where participants practiced the "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" technique.

"The Great ShakeOut in Indiana was tremendously successful," said IDHS Executive Director Joe Wainscott. "Our two objectives to raise awareness about the threat of earthquakes and promote preparedness were met as hundreds of thousands of students, businesses and families across the state practiced earthquake safety measures during the drill. I believe a substantially greater number of our citizens are now better prepared to respond appropriately in an earthquake."

Officials from local, state, and federal agencies joined the Indiana Department of Homeland Security at locations across the state during

the drill. These agencies include county emergency management agencies, fire departments, FEMA Region V, Central United States Earthquake Consortium, Indiana Geological



Representatives from Vanderburgh County EMA, SW Indiana Red Cross, Vanderburgh County School Corporation, Indiana Geological Survey, IDHS, FEMA, and the Central US Earthquake Consortium participated in the 2011 Great ShakeOut in Evansville

Survey, United States Geological Survey, among others.

"The Indiana Geological Survey is pleased that so many Hoosier residents took part in the Great

Central US ShakeOut. Even if we don't experience a serious earthquake in the very near future, earthquake preparedness plans and supplies can protect citizens against other natural disasters such as

floods and tornadoes," said Indiana Geological Survey Educational Outreach Coordinator Walter Gray.

Due to ISTEP testing in schools, Indiana held the event on April 19th, while

all other participating states held the drill on April 29th. ■



State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson speaks to students in Fort Wayne about earthquake safety



Students in Dearborn County perform the "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" technique during the ShakeOut

PRESIDENT SIGNS NEW NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS POLICY

A new presidential policy directive on national preparedness was recently signed into law by President Barack Obama. This new policy aims to strengthen the security and resilience of the United States through systematic preparation for the threats that pose the greatest risk to national security. This includes acts of terrorism, cyber attacks, pandemics, and catastrophic natural disasters.

While the directive is intended to spur action by the federal government, it is also intended to facilitate a nationwide integrated approach to preparedness. The goal of the new preparedness policy is to

define capabilities needed to prepare for specific types of incidents that pose the greatest risk to the nation. Numerous incidents were examined during the development of the directive including the 2009 H1N1 pandemic, Hurricane Katrina, and the Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

"Capabilities defined by specific and measurable objectives are the cornerstone of preparedness," said Brian Kamoie, senior director for preparedness policy on the White House National Security Staff. "Rather than rigid approaches that apply only in certain scenarios if specific assumptions come true, a focus on

capabilities will enable integrated, flexible and agile all-hazards efforts tailored to what we know are unique circumstances of any given threat, hazard or actual event."

The directive stresses an all-of-nation approach, which is highlighted by three action items. The first action item is the establishment of an overarching preparedness goal that identifies the core capabilities necessary for the spectrum of preparedness, including prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery.

[\(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7\)](#)

NATIONAL LEVEL EXERCISE SIMULATES CATASTROPHIC EARTHQUAKE IN CENTRAL UNITED STATES

On May 16-19th, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) participated in the 2011 National Level Exercise. This exercise was centered on the scenario of a catastrophic earthquake in the New Madrid Seismic Zone. A 7.7 magnitude earthquake was simulated near Marked Tree, Arkansas, as well as a 6.0 magnitude earthquake along the Wabash Valley Seismic Zone.



Participants in the NLE at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center

The 2011 National Level Exercise was the largest exercise in United States history, encompassing four Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regions (IV, V, VI, and VII) and eight states (Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee). In Indiana, local emergency responders, county emergency management officials, state and federal government personnel, and private sector partners from nearly three-fourths of Indiana's 92 counties are taking part in the 2011 national level exercise.



(From Left) FEMA Region V Administrator Andrew Velasquez, IDHS Executive Director Joe Wainscott, Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, FEMA FCO Greg Eaton

The exercise was designed to test and validate numerous response and recovery capabilities, including: communications, critical resource logistics and distribution, mass care, medical surge, citizen evacuation and shelter-in-place, emergency public information and warning, emergency operations center management, and long term recovery. A key component of Indiana's participation in the exercise was the full-scale or "boots-on-the-ground"

element that involved more than 1,200 Indiana emergency responders from nearly all corners of the state with heavy involvement at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center.

In addition to IDHS, many other state and federal agencies participated in the exercise in Indiana. These agencies include the Indiana Department of Administration (DOA), Indiana Department of Environmental

Management (IDEM), Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), Indiana Geological Survey (IGS), Indiana National Guard (INNG), Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH), Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), Indiana State Police (ISP), Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC). Additional participating agencies include the American Red Cross (ARC), Ohio Task Force I (OHTF-I), US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF), and US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

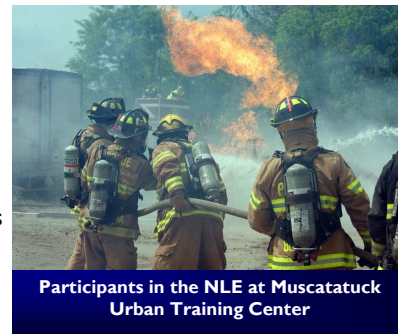
In order to properly assess the ability to respond to a catastrophic earthquake, the scenario consisted of thousands of incidents affecting all aspects of public and private infrastructure. Here are some statistics regarding participation in the exercise:

- More than 1.385 million people in Indiana were left without power in the exercise.

- Communication capabilities (cable, landline phone, cellular phone, and internet) were down throughout all of southwestern Indiana.
- More than 5,000 Indiana National Guard troops were deployed.
- Indiana State Police dispatched more than 300 troopers to the affected areas.
- Disaster declarations were approved for 27 counties in Indiana due to the earthquakes.
- Emergency operation centers were

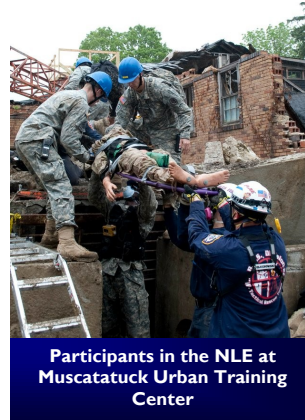
activated in 18 counties.

- The number of people in shelters reached 4,762, with 12,532 being evacuated from their homes.



Participants in the NLE at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center

The purpose of the 2011 National Level Exercise was to strengthen our national preparedness by validating response and recovery capabilities at all levels of government. In addition, experience gained during NLE II and future national exercises provide valuable insights that guide future planning for securing the nation against man-made and natural disasters.



Participants in the NLE at Muscatatuck Urban Training Center

The exercise offered agencies and jurisdictions a way to test their plans and skills in a real-time, realistic environment and to gain the in-depth knowledge that only experience can provide. Participants exercised response and recovery functions that are

critical to responding to a catastrophic event. The lessons learned from the exercise will provide valuable insights to guide future planning for disasters and other emergencies. ■

INDIANAPOLIS 500 PARTNERS WITH DHS TO PROMOTE “IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING” CAMPAIGN

Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano joined Indianapolis Mayor Gregory Ballard, Indiana Department of Homeland Security Executive Director Joe Wainscott, and Indianapolis Director of Public Safety Frank Straub to announce a new partnership to bring the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) “If You See Something, Say Something” public awareness campaign to the Indianapolis 500—an effort to help ensure the safety and security of fans, employees, and race crews by identifying and reporting suspicious activity.

“Security is a shared responsibility and every citizen plays a critical role in identifying and reporting suspicious activities and threats—particularly at large events such as the Indianapolis 500,” said Secretary Napolitano. “Bringing the ‘If You See Something, Say Something’ campaign to the Indianapolis 500 is an important part of the Department’s ongoing efforts to engage the American public in our state, local and national security efforts.”

The “If You See Something, Say Something” campaign—originally implemented by New York City’s Metropolitan Transportation Authority—is a simple and effective program to engage the public and key frontline employees to identify and report indicators of terrorism, crime and other threats to the proper

transportation and law enforcement authorities. Numerous partnerships between DHS and public and private sector organizations have helped increase awareness of the campaign, including a partnership with the National Basketball Association (NBA) to promote the campaign in arenas across the nation, including Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

The Department of Homeland Security originally partnered with the state of Indiana on the campaign in January 2011. The “If You See Something, Say Something” campaign partnership with the Indianapolis 500 featured both print and video materials—including an “If You See Something, Say Something” public service announcement with Indianapolis 500 Driver Graham Rahal.

Over the past year, DHS has worked with its federal, state, local and private sector partners, as well as the Department of

Justice, to expand the “If You See Something, Say Something” campaign and the Nationwide Suspicious Activity



DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano answers questions in Indianapolis about the “If You See Something, Say Something” campaign.

Reporting (SAR) Initiative—an administration effort to train state and local law enforcement to recognize behaviors and indicators related to terrorism, crime and other threats;

standardize how those observations are documented and analyzed; and expand and enhance the sharing of those reports with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and DHS—to communities throughout the country.

In the coming months, DHS will continue to expand the “If You See Something, Say Something” campaign nationally to help America’s business, communities and citizens remain vigilant and play an active role in keeping the country safe. The video for the campaign can be viewed at <http://www.dhs.gov/files/reportincidents/see-something-say-something.shtm>. ■

2011 INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 17-20

The 2011 Indiana Emergency Response Conference will be held on August 17-20 at the Indianapolis Convention Center. This annual conference offers more than 100 workshops to the public safety community in the fields of firefighting, emergency medical services, and law enforcement. The deadline for a discounted registration fee is July 26th, after this date, all registrants will pay the regular rates.

In addition to providing a wide variety of educational workshops and information, the IERC honors those who have dedicated their lives to public safety. Some of the awards given include: Leadership in Fitness

Excellence (L.I.F.E.) Award, Legislator of the Year, Fire Prevention Award, Fire Chief of the Year, Training Achievement Award, Indiana

Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Year, Heroic Rescue Award, and many others. All nominations for IERC awards should be submitted by July 20th.

For the first time, law enforcement trainings



Downtown
Indianapolis

2011 IERC

Indiana Emergency Response Conference



A partner with

Indiana University Health

and workshops will be offered at the conference; joining firefighting and emergency medical service to bring together all aspects of public safety. For more information about the 2011 IERC and registration, visit www.indianaerc.com. ■

RECORD BREAKING SPRING WEATHER IMPACTS MUCH OF THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN UNITED STATES

Severe weather and heavy rains are common throughout the spring and summer in the United States. Severe weather and flooding from this spring's storms has been extreme, and in some parts of the country, has been historic. Persistent heavy rains caused near-record flooding in parts of southern Indiana, and powerful tornadoes ravaged many parts of the southern United States.

According to the National Weather Service (NWS), April was the fourth wettest April on record in Indianapolis with 7.98 inches of precipitation, and the second wettest in Evansville with 11.77 inches. The heavy amount of precipitation caused many rivers in Indiana to overflow their banks and flood many low lying areas of the state. In addition to heavy rains, 14 tornadoes were confirmed to have touched down in Indiana on April 19 and 17 between May 23-26. This included EF2 tornadoes with winds between 111-1135 miles per hour in Tippecanoe and Lawrence Counties.

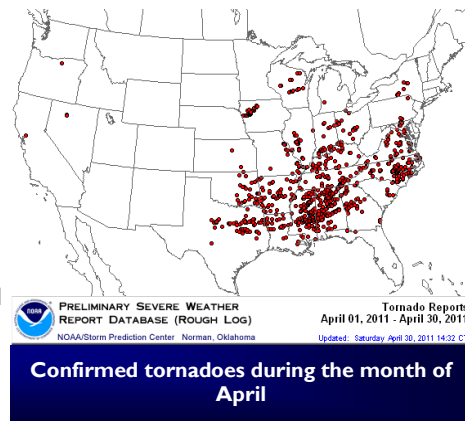
Further south, nearly 300 tornadoes were reported across the states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Alabama, and Georgia. More than 300 individuals

were killed as a result of the tornadoes and severe storms. On average, 160 to 180 tornadoes incidents are confirmed in the United States for the month of April. NWS has reported that there have been more than 600 tornadoes in April, with 312 coming from the April 26-28th outbreak in the southern United States. By the end of May, NWS recorded 1409 confirmed tornadoes in the United States, well above the average rate for this time of year.

"What's interesting about this April," said Greg Carbin, Meteorologist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Storm Protection Center, "is that you've combined the typical springtime severe weather increase that we see in April and May with a very active jet stream pattern across the United States and sort of a stagnant jet stream

pattern that supports development of deep low pressure systems day after day, very closely on the heels of one another. And that combination is a very dangerous and volatile one."

The cause of the active weather conditions is being credited by some meteorologists to La Niña, the cooling pattern of Pacific Ocean waters, which make it easier for cold northern air to move further south into the warmer southern air, causing violent storm activity.



According to EQECAT Inc., a catastrophe risk-model forecasting company, insured property losses from the tornado outbreaks in the south are expected to be between \$2 and \$5 billion.

For more information about severe weather safety, visit the Indiana Department of Homeland Security's Get Prepared page at GetPrepared.in.gov.

UPDATED SAMPLE BUILDING CODE ORDINANCE INCLUDES LIGHTWEIGHT CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

The use of light weight construction materials, primarily engineered floor joist and truss roof systems, is very common in the construction of homes, apartments, and other buildings because of their stability and greater structural strength than natural wood products. While it may provide structural benefits, such as stability and versatility, some engineered floor joist may fail much more quickly than natural wood making conditions extremely dangerous for emergency personnel responding to a fire and anyone inside the structure. In addition, the adhesives used in the production of engineered floor joist produce toxic gases under fire conditions.

The state of Indiana does not restrict the use of engineered floor joist in new construction. However, the Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office, along with the Indiana Fire Service, the Indiana

Residential and Apartment Builders Association has created model building ordinance template for local jurisdictions to follow to bring a heightened awareness to emergency responders when light weight construction techniques are used. The template provides guidance for counties and municipalities in Indiana in creating effective and legal building ordinances.

In the model ordinance, light weight construction refers to any structural assembly that is fabricated from wood, metal, or other component materials, including any combination of those materials. In addition, it has less mass than natural sawn lumber that would be used in equivalent application, is assembled from combustible or noncombustible material, and supports a roof, floor, or both.

The model ordinance, when adopted requires all new construction of one and two family dwellings and apartment buildings using light weight construction to have a placard affixed to the structure. This placard must use a specified coding to identify the types of light weight construction, i.e. engineered floor joist and/or truss roof systems used in the structure. The placard must be within a specific size range and permanently affixed blow the electrical meter of the structure or on the left side of the front entrance four to six feet above the ground if the structure does not have electrical service.

For more information about this sample building ordinance or other fire and building code information, visit the Fire and Building Code Enforcement page at www.in.gov/dhs/2376.htm.

HEAVY FLOODING STRIKES SOUTHERN INDIANA

In some areas of the state, this April registered as the second wettest April on record. With such a large amount of precipitation in the area, flooding is inevitable in some areas.



This was the case for much of Southern Indiana where heavy rains caused many rivers to overflow their banks and flood much of the surrounding area with large amounts of water.

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security activated the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in response to the flooding in Indiana. The EOC allows the state to coordinate efforts with all of Indiana's public safety agencies to track and disseminate disaster information gathered from the network of state agencies, volunteer organizations, and county level emergency management agencies.

In response to the late April flooding the EOC staffed representatives from numerous



state, local, and federal agencies that include the Indiana State Police (ISP), Indiana National Guard (ING), Indiana Department of Corrections (DOC), Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), National Weather Service (NWS), Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC), and the Red Cross.

The Indiana National Guard mobilized 225 guardsmen to fill and stack sandbags. These guardsmen assisted local emergency management efforts in Daviess, Gibson, Knox, Perry, Pike, Posey, Spencer, and Vanderburgh Counties.

Working alongside volunteers and local officials, the Indiana Department of Correction used a total of 102 offenders to bag sand and create floodwalls. These efforts were located in the Daviess, Gibson, Knox, Perry,

Posey, and Vanderburgh counties.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources responded to 18 rescue and retrieval requests that involved stranded automobiles and watercraft.

Dive teams from the Indiana State Police were on standby in case of any emergencies that required their assistance.

An additional Tactical Intervention Platoon was placed on alert to assist local law enforcement.



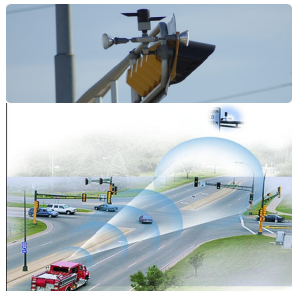
The Indiana Department of Transportation reported placing an estimated 200 "Road Closed" or "High Water" signs and

barricades at 36 state highway closure sites.

Hoosiers who sustained damage caused by severe weather, including tornadoes, wind and flooding beginning Monday, April 18, and ongoing, are urged to report damage online at <https://myoracle.in.gov/hs/dev/flood/public/index.jsp>. A link to the form is available on the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) website at www.in.gov/dhs.

EMERGENCY TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEMS OFFER MANY BENEFITS TO EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

When responding to emergency situations with lives at risk, firefighters know that every second counts. However, getting to the scene safely is just as important as arriving quickly because an accident en route would undoubtedly cause a significant delay. In order to improve response time and safety for firefighters, some towns have begun using emergency traffic light controls.



TOP: Emergency traffic control system on stoplight
BOTTOM: Visualization of how traffic control systems work

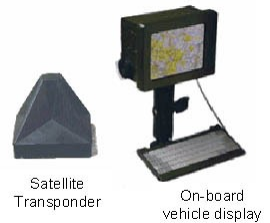
Emergency traffic control systems, sometimes referred to as emergency vehicle pre-emption systems, will give firefighters and emergency responders the green light when approaching an intersection. This helps reduce the possibility of a vehicle entering the

intersection with an emergency vehicle nearby.

According to a 2006 study by the United States Federal Highway Administration and the National Traffic Safety Administration about the benefits of emergency traffic control systems, communities that have installed these systems have seen drastic benefits to response time and safety.

The study showed that emergency vehicles traveling along U.S. Hwy. 1 in Fairfax County, Virginia, are able to pass through high traffic volume intersections more quickly, saving 30 to 45 seconds per intersection. In St. Paul, Minnesota, crash rates for emergency vehicles have seen a "drastic reduction." Plano, Texas averaged 2.3 intersection crashes annually

with emergency vehicles before they used a pre-emption system. Implementing an EVP system reduced this number to less than one. In addition, Plano has been able to achieve the same response times to emergencies with fewer fire and EMS stations; thus, saving a significant amount of money to the city.



Example of equipment used on emergency vehicles for emergency traffic control systems

Reducing the response time to emergencies can mean the difference between life and death in some situations. It also can save departments money by reducing the amount of fuel used responding to incidents.

NEW NATIONAL TERRORISM ADVISORY SYSTEM DEBUTED

The National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) was debuted on April 26, replacing the Homeland Security Advisory System that was well known for its color coded levels representing different threat levels. The NTAS will instead focus on specific threats to the public instead of the general threat levels.

When there is credible information about a threat, an NTAS Alert will be shared with the American public. It may include specific information, if available, about the

nature of the threat, including the geographic region, mode of transportation, or critical infrastructure potentially affected by the threat, as well as steps that individuals and communities can take to protect themselves and help prevent, mitigate or respond to the threat. The advisory will clearly indicate whether the threat is "Elevated", if there is no specific information about the timing or location, or "Imminent", if the threat is impending or very soon.



Alerts from the NTAS will be updated through the Department of Homeland Security webpage at www.dhs.gov/alerts or on Facebook and Twitter at www.facebook.com/NTASAlerts and www.twitter.com/NTASAlerts.

PREPAREDNESS POLICY (CONTINUED)

The second action item calls for the development of a national preparedness system intended to "guide activities that will enable the nation to meet the national preparedness goal, the specific planning, organization, equipment, training and exercises needed to build and maintain domestic policies." This includes the development of plans which will include resource guidance, such as arrangements enabling the ability to share personnel, equipment guidance aimed at nationwide interoperability, guidance for national training and exercise programs to facilitate the ability of the nation to meet the national preparedness goal.

The final action item calls for an annual national preparedness report coordinated between the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism, other executive departments and agencies, state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, the private and nonprofit sectors, and the public.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES LISTED ON IDHS ONLINE TRAINING CALENDAR

Providing training opportunities to emergency responders throughout Indiana is a priority for the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS). These courses are listed on the IDHS Consolidated Training Calendar which is continuously updated as new courses become available. To access this calendar visit the IDHS Training Division webpage and click the Consolidated Training Calendar link at www.in.gov/dhs/tngbranch.htm or click [here](#).

Contact information for each course is listed on the calendar. Any general training questions about the Consolidated Training Calendar may be directed to Ashlee Grisel at agrisel@dhs.in.gov.



Indiana Department of Homeland Security



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Please direct any questions or comments to the

IDHS Public Information Office at 317.234.4214 or pio@dhs.in.gov.

IDHS: Leadership for a Safe and Secure Indiana