

# The Hoosier Responder

November 2014 • Volume IX, Issue XI



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## Lawrence Active Shooter Exercise

The City of Lawrence and the Department of Defense conducted a multi-agency, full-scale active shooter exercise at the Major General Emmett J. Bean Federal Center in Marion County last month. More than 500 responders from multiple local, state, and federal agencies tested response plans to an explosion and active shooter situation.

The federal building, located in northeastern Marion County, is the third largest federal facility in the country, behind the Pentagon and the Ronald Reagan Building and Federal Courthouse. The exercise may be a first, with state, local, and federal public safety partners training together at a federal facility.

"This was a great opportunity to bring together our first responder community in Marion and surrounding counties, to practice and prepare for an incident at a large federal facility," said Deputy Chief of Lawrence Police Curtis Bigsbee.

The full-scale exercise capped off nearly two years of planning and exercise. A tabletop exercise was conducted in April with about 150 participants from all levels of government. The plans discussed in that

exercise were finally practiced in a realistic environment on October 25.

Fifth District of Indiana Congresswoman Susan W. Brooks and Department of Homeland Security Deputy Under Secretary Dr. Ronald J. Clark were both on hand to observe the exercise.

Feedback from participants, volunteers, and observers is now being collected to evaluate how the plan was executed, and how it may be improved.



*The exercise tested the capabilities and plans for all phases of response. More than a hundred volunteers helped test those capabilities by acting as the injured.*

## State Fire Marshal Visits Schools Around State

Takes Smoke Alarm Program on the Road

In an ongoing effort to promote working smoke alarms in Indiana, State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson has been visiting schools across the state.

On November 5, Marshal Greeson visited Floyds Knobs Elementary in Floyd County. In partnership with the Lafayette Township Volunteer Fire Department, Greeson and volunteer firefighters talked to students about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home.

They also led students in taking a pledge to have working smoke alarms in their homes. This pledge also includes a promise to test batteries, have two ways

out of a house and to educate others on fire safety.

"This pledge is a fun and simple way to educate and motivate Hoosiers to test smoke alarms and help ensure that families are protected in the event of a home fire," said Greeson.

The pledge was created to reinforce the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) fire prevention week theme of "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives."

Those who sign the pledge are promising to have working smoke alarms on all levels in the home and outside of



*Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson is enjoying lunch with the Kindergarten class at Floyds Knobs Elementary.*

(Continued on page 2)

# Avon Fire Department and Domino's Team Up

As winter approaches and the risk of fires increases, it is important for Hoosiers to check smoke detector batteries in homes. The Washington Township-Avon Fire Department and a local Domino's Pizza teamed up to deliver this important safety message.

On Wednesday, October 8, members of the Avon Fire Department followed a Domino's employee delivering pizzas. With permission, the firefighters would test the smoke alarms in the residence. If the smoke detectors were not working, the customer received a free smoke alarm; if they were working, the customer received the order for free.

In the week leading up to Fire Prevention Week, Karen Hendershot, director of public education with the Avon Fire Department, visited schools to promote fire safety and awareness. Meanwhile, the Avon Domino's Pizza attached smoke alarms and fire safety information sheets to pizza boxes and the giveaway was advertised on social media.

"There were many people ordering pizza, ready to show us their smoke alarms and hoping we would be along to give them free pizza," said Hendershot. "Many of the houses had working smoke alarms, which made us happy. We do plan to create another blitz opportunity in the future."

During the inspection of the smoke alarms, firefighters also reviewed smoke detector safety with residents including:

- Testing batteries regularly;



*Karen Hendershot (left) and Bob Reffett of the Washington Township-Avon Fire Department were one group of personnel following Domino's delivery drivers during fire prevention week. The partnership provided a unique opportunity to reach out to many homes in Avon.*

- Proper placement of smoke detectors, at least one on every floor and outside of bedrooms;
- Replacing batteries at least once a year; and
- Contacting the fire department if they had concerns about their smoke alarms or if they needed one.

**“Many of the houses had working smoke alarms... We do plan to do another blitz opportunity. ”**

The free alarms were provided from the State Fire Marshal and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Domino's Pizza covered the cost of the food items given away during this campaign.

The Washington Township-Avon Fire Department also created a public service announcement video regarding smoke alarm safety. It can be viewed at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ef-aBH\\_QvVI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ef-aBH_QvVI). For more information on smoke alarms, fire safety and other preparedness tips, visit [getprepared.in.gov](http://getprepared.in.gov).

## State Fire Marshal Visits Schools continued

sleeping areas, to test the alarms at least once a month, and to spread knowledge about fire safety and prevention to family and friends.

To take the pledge and to download pledge materials for a fire safety event, visit [GetPrepared.IN.gov](http://GetPrepared.IN.gov).



*Pictured from left to right is Ryan Houchen, Joshua Scalf, Jim Greeson, Indiana State Fire Marshal, Mike Losey, Floyds Knobs Elementary School Principal ,Robert Johnson, Assistant State Fire Marshal, Chief Jeremy Klein, Nathan Ginn and Deputy Chief Don Allen.*

*Floyds Knobs Elementary received the State Fire Marshal Pledge Award.*

# Letters Regarding Ebola Sent to Responders

## No Infections Yet, but Caution Should be Used

On Friday, October 24, emergency management agencies, firefighters and Emergency Medical Services personnel received letters regarding the recent Ebola infections around the United States.

While there has not been a confirmed infection yet in the State of Indiana, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security sent the letters to educate responders about the potential dangers they may face and how to protect themselves.

The likelihood of contracting Ebola is extremely low unless a person has direct and unprotected contact with blood or other body fluids of a person who is sick with Ebola. Initial symptoms include sudden fever, chills, muscle aches, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain. Symptoms become increasingly severe and may include jaundice, weight loss, internal bleeding, shock and organ failure.

Ebola is a fragile virus that can be killed with a 5% solution of chlorine, the same as household bleach. Personal hygiene is very important to help prevent infection. Use of hand sanitizers should be combined with hand washing, as sanitizers can miss some bacteria that hand washing would remove; hands should be washed frequently.



*Delaware County Variable Incident Team members practice a response to a patient possibly infected with Ebola or another high contagious disease.*

The Indiana State Department of Health has a website dedicated to providing information about Ebola: <http://www.in.gov/eisdh/26447.htm>. A call center has also been established and will operate Monday through Friday, 8:15 a.m. through 4:45 p.m. The number is 877-826-0011.

Dispatchers taking calls from sick persons should obtain the following information:

- If the person is suffering from fever or any of the other above symptoms;

- If the person has recently traveled outside of the U.S. and if so, the location visited; and
- If the person has any reason to believe they may have been in contact with someone has been exposed to Ebola.

If the answers to either the second or third question is 'yes,' EMS personnel need to be notified so that they may take proper precautions.

## Space Available for National Fire Academy Trip

There is still space available for the 2015 National Fire Academy (NFA) sponsored Indiana Weekend on March 13-15 in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

The trip itself is free but the Indiana Department of Homeland Security will also provide transportation at no charge. Registration for the classes and transportation is due no later than January 15.

The trip is a rare opportunity for many

firefighters and Emergency Medical Services personnel.

"The close relationship with the National Fire Academy and the Indiana Fire Academy Training System brings professionalism and the desire to learn to all students," said Indiana Department of Homeland Security Fire Training Manager Brandon Wood. "The trip builds confidence, character and enthusiasm for training and safety for their respective fire departments and communities."

Students that have successfully passed the NFA training programs excel in other areas, such as public administration, safety, training and leadership development. Students will receive high level knowledge and education in firefighting.

For more information, visit <http://www.in.gov/dhs/firecertification.htm> and click on the "2015 National Fire Academy Indiana Weekend."

# What's Going On

## Shelby Co. Expands Storm Ready Program

When it comes to storms, Shelby County is prepared, says Mike Schantz, director of the Shelby County Emergency Management Agency.

The county is in its fourth year of its Shelby County Storm Ready Program. The project began when the county applied for the National Weather Service Storm Ready Certification. It has since received that certification.

"Working with the Shelby County commissioners, Shelby County Council, public service agencies, the towns of Morristown and St. Paul and other county agencies, we embarked on 'Shelby County Storm Ready,'" Schantz said.

Schantz said the project includes:

- Installation of 21 outdoor warning

sirens over a four-year period.

- Installation of one additional United States Geological Survey (USGS) Stream Flow Gauge on the Little Blue River at Shelbyville.
- Mass notification system which can be found at the Shelby County EMA Website (<http://www.co.shelby.in.us/EmergencyManagement.aspx>) or on the Nixle website (<http://www.nixle.com/register>).
- Software that will allow officials to add closed roads to the county GIS online map. This will allow citizens, businesses and others to go online and see what roads are closed and see the estimated opening date. The map also has a link at the top of the online map with the IDHS Road Travel Status Map and can be found at <http://shelby.in.wthgis.com>.

Sign up for alerts from the **Shelby County Emergency Management IN** & other public safety agencies in your area.

Mobile #	<input type="text" value="Public safety Text messages sent here"/>
Home #	<input type="text" value="Public safety voice messages sent here"/>
Voice Msgs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Do not send Voice Messages
Email	<input type="text" value="Public safety email sent here"/>
Zip Code	<input type="text" value="Selects messages for your location"/>
Language	<input type="text" value="English"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> I accept the <a href="#">Terms &amp; Conditions</a> and <a href="#">Privacy Policy</a>	
<input type="button" value="Sign Up!"/>	

**Residents of Shelby County can sign up quickly for severe weather alerts from the Shelby County EMA homepage.**

Schantz said the program also included the installation of a weather station, including an educational package, on the campuses of Shelbyville Central High School, Triton Schools, Morristown Schools, Waldron Schools and Southwestern Schools.

## EMAI Interest Increases; More Than 150 Attend

The annual Emergency Management Alliance of Indiana (EMAI) Conference was held from Wednesday, October 29, through Friday, October 31, at the Marriott East hotel in Indianapolis.

The conference, which brought together the state's county emergency management agency directors, IDHS District Coordinators, and emergency management professionals, featured presentations and discussions on various topics pertaining to emergency management in the State of Indiana.

Presentation topics included updates to communications systems, reviews and lessons learned from exercises, Indiana National Guard updates, and workshops on the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP.) Vendors were also on hand to promote new products and services that help advance and improve upon the field of emergency management.

"I feel the conference was nothing but a success," said EMAI President Jenn Tobey. "I have received numerous comments, e-mails, and phone calls that attendees very much enjoyed this year's speakers and gatherings."

In total, 154 individuals attended the conference.

"The numbers reflect an increase in attendees as well as vendors," Tobey said.

Robert Brown of the Wabash County EMA received the C.R. Brown Lifetime Achievement Award for overall excellence and his dedication and contributions to emergency management. The award is named in honor of Charles R. "C.R." Brown, former executive director of the Madison County EMA.

"2015 will be our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference, and the planning has already begun," Tobey said. "The conference will be October 20-23, again at the Marriott East Hotel. I am proud to announce that

the Indiana Emergency Response Commission has decided to rejoin us."

EMAI was organized to become a widespread network of emergency management professionals, and an organization that cultivates and fosters a collaborative and supportive professional environment, while also preparing, promoting, informing, serving, and rewarding members and customers.

Emergency management agencies and professionals work to keep the public safe on a daily basis. They do this through preparedness, response to and recovery from disasters, and prevention and mitigation of those hazards and disasters.

For more details on EMAI or the EMAI Conference, visit [www.indianaema.com](http://www.indianaema.com).

# Live Fire Training Events have Risks, Rewards

Conducting live fire training events in acquired structures is a great opportunity for instructors and firefighters to hone their firefighting skills. There is, however, a risk to this type of training and, in fact, seven firefighters have lost their lives during “live fire training evolutions” since 2000 in the United States.

The National Fire Protection Association’s Committee on Fire Service Training developed NFPA 1403, which is now the premier document used by fire departments when conducting live fire training activities in acquired structures. The purpose of NFPA 1403 is “to provide a process for conducting live fire training evolutions to ensure that they are conducted in safe facilities and that the exposure to health and safety hazards for the firefighter receiving training is minimized.”

“NFPA 1403 requires that instructors and safety officers have knowledge of fire behavior,” said John Buckman, State Program Director for the Indiana Fire Training System. “This is important because the standard has limitations on fuels that can be used for training. Typically, fire training officials, instructors and firefighters need assistance in making these assessments.”

The Indiana State Fire Marshal Fire Academy Training System, in partnership with the International Society of Fire Service Instructors, conducted testing and training to develop a model curriculum to be used by fire departments in Indiana and across the country.

“The key to live fire training is a motivation for correct training,” said Battalion Chief Stephen Coover of the

Bloomington Fire Department. “All live fire training must maintain basic fundamental aspects of fire attack and cannot tolerate short cuts.”

In September, with the help of the Crown Point Fire Department, there was a three-day training event, “Conducting Live Burn Training in Acquired Structures.”

“The Crown Point Fire Department was a major partner in this endeavor as they were able to acquire multiple structures and the appropriate permit and remediation activity needed for this event,” Buckman said.

The document NFPA 1403 can be found at <http://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/document-information-pages?mode=code&code=1403>.

# Indianapolis EMS Provides Lifesaving Training

## More than 5,000 Citizens Trained in Compression Only CPR



*Indianapolis Emergency Medical Services EMT Brooke Carnahan teaches compression only CPR at the IMPD Downtown District Community Day. IEMS plans to continue its outreach efforts to educate the citizens of Indianapolis and Marion County.*

Indianapolis Emergency Medical Services (IEMS) started the IndyCARES initiative in 2012. The goal is to teach citizens how to give cardio-pulmonary resuscitation or chest compression-only CPR.

Staff from IndyCARES attended its first event on February 3, 2012 and by the end of this year the team will have attended more than 100 events in Indianapolis. The current count of people reached is a little more than 5,000.

Each visitor is shown the proper way to do the CPR and given training. Then, they demonstrate the skills on a manikin.

Additionally, IndyCARES offers life-saving information on 911 access, simple first aid and available educational opportunities in pre-hospital healthcare.

Teaching compression only CPR to the

public is just one way IEMS is empowering citizens to improve patient outcome and to increase the survival chances of those suffering a cardiac arrest event.

To read more about IndyCARES, visit <http://www.emsworld.com/news/12012194/ind-ems-program-reaches-5000-citizens-trained-in-compression-only-cpr>

# Prepare Now for Winter Weather

Governor Mike Pence has declared November 16-22 as Winter Weather Preparedness Week in Indiana. During that week, Hoosiers are encouraged to take steps to prepare for the upcoming winter weather.

November 19 is the average date of first measurable snowfall, although this year it came early, on Halloween. Some home readiness tips to share with residents include:

- Homeowner's insurance policy should be reviewed to ensure coverage is adequate for the type of weather that regularly occurs in the area. Identify what is excluded from the policy.
- Remove dead branches from nearby trees. The added weight of ice and snow, along with winds, may cause limbs to snap and damage property.
- Clean gutters now before snow and ice build-up. If gutters are clogged while ice and snow are thawing, water can back up under the roof

and eaves, causing water damage inside the house. Consider buying screens to keep gutters debris-free.

Before leaving for a trip, it is important to check the Travel Advisory Map on the Indiana Department of Homeland Security homepage. It is updated in real time as local EMAs update travel information.

Winter weather preparedness week is also a good time to encourage citizens make a car readiness kit. These kits should include:

- At least two blankets or a sleeping bag
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Jumper cables
- Emergency flares
- Extra clothing, including boots, hats and gloves
- Shovel
- Bottled water and non-perishable food



*A car readiness kit can make a huge difference for stranded drivers. Even skilled drivers may end up stranded due to deteriorating conditions or other accidents on roadways.*

- First aid kit and necessary medication
- Sand or non-clumping cat litter for tire traction
- Cell phone and charger for vehicle use
- Ice scraper and snow brush

For more information on being ready for winter weather, visit [GetPrepared.in.gov](http://GetPrepared.in.gov).

## Use Extra Care with Alternative Heating Sources

The Indiana State Fire Marshal is reminding Hoosiers are to take extra care when using alternative heating methods to stay warm in their homes.

"Every winter, firefighters across the state respond to thousands of home fires caused by improper use of heating sources," said Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson. "Anyone using heating equipment other than a central heating system needs to follow all manufacturer directions and exercise extreme caution to avoid starting a fire."

### Fireplaces

- Use only dry, seasoned wood in a fireplace or wood stove to avoid the build-up of creosote
- Use only paper or kindling wood, not a flammable liquid, to start the fire. Do not use artificial logs in wood

stoves.

- Make sure each fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room.
- Allow fireplace and woodstove ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container, which is kept outside, and at a safe distance from homes.

### Space Heaters

- Space heaters need space. Keep heaters away from flammable materials such as bedding, drapes, clothing, etc.
- Use the proper grade of fuel for your liquid-fueled space heater and never use gasoline in any heater not approved for gasoline use.
- Refuel space heaters only in a well-

ventilated area and when the equipment is cool.

- Plug power cords only into outlets with sufficient capacity, never into an extension cord.
- Turn off space heaters whenever the room they are in is unoccupied.
- Turn off space heaters at bedtime each night.
- Buy space heaters with a tilt sensor built in; these will turn off the heater if it tips over, preventing possible fires at night.

Some alternative heating sources have a by-product of carbon monoxide.

For more tips on being prepared for winter weather, visit [GetPrepared.in.gov](http://GetPrepared.in.gov).

# Information Regarding Bakken Crude Oil

Recently letters were sent out from State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson and the IDHS Director of Response and Recovery Arvin Copeland regarding Bakken crude oil traveling through the State of Indiana. Information from both letters can be found below.

## U.S. DOT Order

In May, the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) issued an emergency order requiring rail companies across the U.S. to notify states of their intent to transport Bakken crude oil of 1 million gallons or more on a single train. Information the companies were to provide included the estimated number of trains weekly carrying 1 million gallons or more of Bakken crude oil, the routes those trains would travel, a point of contact, and emergency response information.

Concern centers around the large quantities being transported per train, and that the oil is a class 3 flammable liquid. It has a lower ignition point and higher vapor pressure than most other crude, which makes it more volatile.

## IDHS Notification

On June 4th, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) received the first railroad notification to the State Emergency Operations Center watch desk. There was an internal delay at IDHS with respect to this first notification. It was not evaluated as efficiently as it could have been, and as a result, was not forwarded to the local responders as quickly as IDHS would have liked. Since the initial delay, the evaluation process was modified to avoid any other delays.

Two subsequent notifications were evaluated using the new process and were forwarded in October to the affected county emergency management agencies (EMAs) and local emergency planning committees (LEPCs) within days of IDHS receiving them. These county EMAs and LEPCs are to pass the notices along to appropriate local agencies for planning and response purposes. For questions or comments, contact Arvin Copeland at 317-238-1756 or acopeland@dhs.in.gov.

The U.S. DOT order tells rail companies to provide additional notices if there is a 25% change in rail transport of 1 million gallons or more per train. Due to the range of estimates provided **there may be no additional notifications**. If there are, IDHS will assess them according to the new evaluation process and pass them along to affected EMAs and LEPCs.

## Hazardous Materials Training Opportunities

The agency has a long history of providing technical advice and other assistance across the state. Hazardous materials emergency response personnel assist more than 800 Indiana fire departments, and can provide resources and assistance to make sure emergency operations are in compliance with occupational safety and health standards. For a hazardous materials emergency response, call the IDHS Emergency Operations Center at (317) 233-6115.

Hazardous materials specialists Larry Hamby and Stan Capobianco have completed crude by rail training at the Security and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC) in Pueblo, Colorado. The training provided them with a strong working knowledge of petroleum crude oil and railroad operations.

Free web-based training provided by SERTC is available and is designed for first responders with railroads passing through their jurisdictions and is available until December 31, 2014. SERTC is attempting to secure funding to continue the online offering in 2015. Visit [www.sertc.org](http://www.sertc.org) and click on Web-Based Training under "What's New."

Upon request, IDHS also will provide hazmat training to first responders. If interested, contact Larry Hamby at [lhamby@dhs.in.gov](mailto:lhamby@dhs.in.gov) or Stan Capobianco at [scapobianco@dhs.in.gov](mailto:scapobianco@dhs.in.gov). Crude by rail also will be included in the already established hazardous materials training.

## IDHS Notifies County EMA and LEPC; They in turn Inform Local Responders

IDHS receives notifications from rail companies, then sends information to the affected county emergency management agency directors, affected local emergency planning committee chairs and the Indiana Emergency Response Commission. Any local hazardous material teams and others who need to know the information are to be notified through the county EMA and/or the LEPC chair.

Notifications won't be sent directly from IDHS to local responders. Local responders who want to know if they should be receiving notifications should contact those individuals.

EMA directors and LEPC chairs signed an agreement with IDHS to keep the crude by rail notices confidential. Pursuant to Ind. Code 5-14-3-4(b)(19), IDHS considers the information to be excepted from the disclosure requirements of Ind. Code 5-14-3-3. This information and future information labeled as "Confidential" is to be shared only to those individuals, agencies, or groups that have a particular "need-to-know" (i.e. First Responders, Fire, Police, etc.).

## Mission

*The Indiana Department of Homeland Security will provide statewide leadership, exemplary customer service, and subject matter expertise for the enhancement of public and private partnerships and the assurance of local, state and federal collaboration to continually develop Indiana's public safety capabilities for the well-being and protection of our citizens, property and economy.*

## Contact

*The Hoosier Responder* is a publication of  
The Indiana Department of Homeland Security.

Please direct any questions or comments to the  
IDHS Public Information Office at (317) 234-6713 or [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov).

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