



SECURE & PREPARED

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Des Moines PD's Murray Honored by HSEMD

Maj. Len Murray recently retired from the Des Moines Police Department after more than 31 years of service. On Wednesday, he was honored at Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management's monthly staff meeting for his contribution to many homeland security and emergency management initiatives in the state of Iowa.

Maj. Murray has devoted his career to developing and maintaining relationships between stakeholders in the area of emergency response. HSEMD has had the benefit of his technical assistance and guidance in developing and obtaining funding for Iowa's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Special Weapons

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Maj. Len Murray

Important Information

March is
**Flood Awareness Month &
American Red Cross Month**

March 20-26 is
**National Poison Prevention
Week**

April is
**National 911 Awareness
Month**

This Week is National Burn Awareness Week

This week (Feb. 6-12) is National Burn Awareness Week. The focus this year is on a specific type of burn: scalds.

Scald injuries are painful and require prolonged treatment. They may result in lifelong scarring and even death. Prevention of scalds is always



preferable to treatment and can be accomplished through changes in behavior and the home environment.

"Although anyone can sustain a scald burn, certain people are more likely to be scalded: infants, young children, older adults and people with disabilities.

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Des Moines PD's Murray Honored by HSEMD

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and Tactics Teams. He served as the commander of the Des Moines Police Department's Bureau of Homeland Security, which consists of the Metro STAR (Special Tactics And Response) team, bomb squad, airport and hostage negotiator unit, and fusion intelligence unit.

As part of Iowa's Incident Management Team, Maj. Murray aided in response and recovery efforts when he deployed to Parkersburg, Cedar Rapids and Iowa City in 2008 in response to the tornadoes, severe weather and flooding that caused widespread devastation.

Maj. Murray has also represented first responders, particularly law enforcement, on the First Responder Advisory Committee, which has shaped much of the state's homeland security policy. In addition, he has been active in efforts to ensure first responders had the proper equipment and advanced training they needed to provide communities with first-rate response capabilities through the Education and Training Advisory Committee.

Maj. Murray has also been active in his local community in a volunteer capacity, in Pleasant Hill as a volunteer firefighter and medic, as well as fire chief and city council mem-

ber. For several years, he has served as a volunteer for the American Red Cross-Central Iowa Chapter's Critical Incident Stress Management team. Following the terrorist attacks on 9-11, he traveled to New York City as part of this team.

Maj. Murray has been involved in many other projects and is well-known and admired by those he has worked with in law enforcement and at every level of government. Congratulations on your service to the citizens of the city of Des Moines and the state of Iowa, Maj. Murray! Ω

SEOC Gets Equipment Upgrade

The State Emergency Operations Center received a mini-facelift recently. New equipment was installed at the end of January:

- A fiber matrix switcher was added, allowing media from various sources (PCs, cable television, cameras, DVD players) to be transferred in high-definition to visual displays in the SEOC, executive office, PIO room, and ICN HD-capable classrooms.
- "Quadview" allows the large center screen in the SEOC to display up to four sources at once as selected by a new controller.



New flat screen televisions in the SEOC.

- The Chief of Operations and Iowa Department of Transportation computers will now be able to provide images to be displayed on the big screen via the new controller.

- Six 32-inch tube televisions were replaced by four 52-inch LCD flat screen televisions.
- A new video content server has been added, which will allow video streaming and storage of up to 300 hours of material.

"These upgrades add significant functionality to the SEOC, which will be very beneficial in future activations as well as in training sessions and meetings," said Randy Goddard, HSEMD's chief communications engineer. Ω

There's Still Time to Register for March PIO Workshop

The sixth in a series of six regional public information officer (PIO) workshops will be held March 15-16 in Oskaloosa. Five previous workshops have taken place across the state since August 2009. Region 5 is the final homeland security region to host one of the workshops.



Local and state participants from Region 5 are invited to participate in the training, which includes exercises and activities on the Joint Information System

(JIS), joint information centers (JICs), information management, and utilizing social media.

The goal of the workshops is to develop and coordinate emergency management and partner PIOs at all levels of government. The sessions demonstrate the importance of identifying PIOs at the local level and the need for PIOs at every level to communicate with colleagues. Past workshop participants have included representatives from a variety of agencies, including public health, emergency management and local government.

The deadline to register for the March workshop is March 7. Contact **Lucinda Robertson** at lucinda.robertson@iowa.gov or (515) 725-3231 to register. Ω

Save the Date for the 2011 Region VII LEPC/TERC Conference

Mark your calendars now for the July 28–30, 2011, Region VII Local Emergency Planning Committee/Tribal Emergency Response Commission Emergency Planning & Response Conference. Region VII is the EPA and FEMA Region that includes Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. This conference brings together community leaders, emergency managers and first responders from the Midwest with experts in hazardous materials, emergency planning and training. Your participation is the foundation of building partnerships.

This year the conference location will be near Omaha at the La Vista Conference Center, Embassy Suites, located at 12520 Westport Parkway in La Vista, Neb. Tentative tracks include:

- Industrial Facility Preparedness and Response
- Chemical Transportation and Security Awareness
- HazMat Preparedness and Response
- Health and Medical
- LEPC 101
- Concurrent training sessions:
 - HazMat IQ
 - HAZWOPER Refresher
 - Social Media



FEMA

More information about the conference will be coming out soon. Financial assistance for active LEPC members will also be available. Visit the conference website at www.marc.org/gti/lepc-terc/.

[Contributed by Paul Sadler] Ω

Training Opportunities

Dealing with the Media (AWR-209)

When: March 8, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Where: Kirkwood Training & Outreach Services Center
3375 Armar Drive
Marion

This course is designed to provide rural first responders with the skills and knowledge to quickly adopt the role of public information officer (PIO) if/when needed and to communicate with the public through the media. In the event that a first responder is thrust into the role of PIO, whether it be roadside at the scene of an emergency or detailing directions to the public in a crisis situation, it is important to understand how the media works and how best to work with the available media outlets.

To register, contact **Julie Stephens** at Julie.stephens@linncounty.org by Feb. 23. Call Julie at (319) 892-6023 if you have questions. There is no fee for this course.

Exercise Design with HSEEP

When: March 8-11, 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Where: Joint Forces Headquarters
Camp Dodge
6100 NW 78th Ave.
Johnston

This course will cover the purpose, characteristics, and requirements of three main types of exercises: table-top, functional, & full-scale – while following the HSEEP approach. This workshop provides participants an opportunity to review their homeland security strategy and multi-year exercise plan.

To register, go to www.iowahomelandsecurity.org and click the “HSEMD Course Registration” link in the “Quick Links” tab. If you have not taken a course through HSEMD, you will need to register for an account. Contact **Susan Green** at susan.green@iowa.gov or **Beth Lewis** at beth.lewis@iowa.gov for more information. Ω



You Can Still Get Your Flu Vaccination

The Iowa Department of Public Health strives to protect the health of Iowans during the flu season. The flu vaccine is an important part of that effort. Getting vaccinated not only protects you, but also prevents you from spreading the disease to your family, friends, and co-workers. For information on this year's seasonal flu vaccine, visit IDPH's website: www.idph.state.ia.us/adper/flu_vaccine.asp. Ω

Iowa Recovery Center Transitions to Iowa Closeout Center, Joint Field Office Closes

The Iowa Recovery Center (IRC) for disasters 1763 and 1854 transitioned to the Iowa Closeout Center (ICC) effective Jan. 27. The ICC was moved and co-located with the FEMA/State Joint Field Office (JFO) for disasters 1877, 1880, 1928 and 1930. With

this transition, the JFO officially closed, but a small staff from FEMA will remain at the ICC to process paperwork for those disasters through the middle of February. HSEMD staff will continue state recovery work from the ICC. Ω

HSEMD Launches New Website

If you have visited the HSEMD website within the last week you will no doubt notice that the website has been redesigned. The redesign process had been ongoing for well over a year, and despite some speed bumps along the way, we've managed to make some important changes and finally publish the new site online.



We've added social media links to the top of every page, so you can link to our Twitter account, Facebook page, a new HSEMD blog and podcasts. Soon, you will be able to link to video. The main menu includes "flyout" menus for quicker navigation, and a new A-Z index to help you find anything you might not im-

mediately find using the menu. There is also a scrolling "headline" feature at the top of the page and contact information for the Division at the bottom of every page.

Thank you for your patience during our transition. We hope you enjoy the new site! Ω

This Week is National Burn Awareness Week

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These high risk groups are also more likely to require hospitalization, suffer complications and experience a difficult recovery," says Daniel Dillard, American Burn Association Prevention Chairman. "Most burn injuries occur in the person's own home and the vast majority of these injuries could have easily been prevented."

The National Scald Prevention Partnership recommends the following safety tips to decrease the risk to yourself and those you love from scalds:

- Set home water heater thermostats to deliver water at a temperature no higher than 120 degrees Fahrenheit/48 degree Celsius.



- Provide constant adult supervision of young children or anyone who may experience difficulty removing themselves from hot water on their own.
- Before placing child in tub, fill to desired level. Run cold water first, then add hot. Turn off the hot water first. This can prevent scalding in case someone should fall in while the tub is filling.
- Avoid flushing toilets, running water or using the dish- or clothes washer while anyone is showering.
- Establish a "No-kid zone" out of the traffic path between the stove and sink where children can safely play and still be supervised.

- Cook on back burners when young children are present. Keep all pot handles turned back, away from the stove edge.

For additional and more in-depth information about preventing scald burns, visit the American Burn Association website at www.ameriburn.org/preventionBurnAwareness.php. Ω

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HSEMD Mission

Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

We're on the Web!

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

TIIPP CORNER

Introduction to the Threat Information and Infrastructure Protection Program

Greetings from the Threat Information and Infrastructure Protection Program (TIIPP)! In order to provide improved transparency and better inform our stakeholders about the work we do, in the coming months ahead, you'll see the "TIIPP Corner" become a regular feature in the HSEMD newsletter. First, we'd like to provide an overview of the TIIPP.



With the publication of the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) in 2006, the federal government placed new emphasis on infrastructure protection as one of the core focus areas of homeland security. In part as a response to this added emphasis, Iowa formed the TIIPP. Since 2006, the TIIPP has been HSEMD's interface with the public and private sector for infrastructure protection, asset protection and information sharing. The TIIPP fulfills a broader homeland security role within Iowa's fusion system, connecting the threat information to protection planning and emergency preparedness programs. To that end, TIIPP staff are located within the Fusion Center in the Iowa Department of Public Safety building on the Capitol Complex in Des Moines.

Three primary employees comprise the TIIPP, each handling a specific area of expertise. An asset protec-

tion planner works with critical assets and sites, on site-specific security issues. An infrastructure protection planner works with representatives from Iowa's 17 sectors to develop sector-specific plans. The information security specialist position, which is currently vacant, works on information-sharing systems and issues.

Currently, the TIIPP is involved in a variety of projects, including implementation of the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN), sector and asset protection planning, developing public/private partnerships, the Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS), and grant project management. Look for more information on each of these areas in future newsletters.

TIIPP staff can be contacted at TIIPP@iowa.gov.

[Contributed by Kyle Karsjen] Ω