



Secure & Prepared

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management

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Woodbury County Communications Center receives first-in-Iowa accreditation

The Woodbury County Communications Center recently became the first communications center in Iowa to be nationally accredited for its public safety communications program by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

The Woodbury County Communications Center, located in Sioux City, was recognized at the CALEA conference in Albuquerque, N.M., in November. Glenn Sedivy, communications director, and Wendi Hess, accreditation manager of the Woodbury County Communications Center, were on hand for the recognition.

CALEA accreditation is a way for communications agencies to voluntarily demonstrate their

commitment to excellence. In order to receive CALEA accreditation, public safety communications agencies must meet certain requirements, including having a comprehensive set of written directives and a preparedness program to ensure a communications center is prepared for natural or human-caused emergencies.

Congratulations to the Woodbury County Communications Center. Ω



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Counties awarded mitigation grants

Four Iowa counties were recently awarded Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grants for hazard mitigation planning. The PDM program, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency, provides funds for hazard mitigation planning and projects on an annual basis.

Applicant: Appanoose County
Project: Appanoose County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update
Award: \$35,000

Applicant: Lucas County
Project: Lucas County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan update
Award: \$25,000

Applicant: Marshall County
Project: Marshall County Hazard Mitigation Plan update
Award: \$40,000

Applicant: Monroe County
Project: Monroe County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
Award: \$25,000

The PDM program was put in place to reduce overall risk to people and structures, while at the same time also reducing reliance on federal funding if an actual disaster were to occur.

Read more about the PDM program www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/grants/HMA.html. Ω

Hazardous Materials Awareness Week is Jan. 18-24

For the fourth year, HSEMD and the Iowa Emergency Response Commission will recognize the fourth week in January as Hazardous Materials Awareness Week. The goal is to provide Iowans a better understanding of hazardous materials use, storage and response.

More information will be available on the HSEMD website, www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov, in early January. Ω

HSEMD staff departures

Ryan Siegert, with the Communications and Infrastructure Bureau in the Operations Division, has left HSEMD to join the City of West Des Moines IT Department.


Ruby Berg, with the Disaster Operations Bureau in the Recovery Division, has retired from HSEMD.

Other recent HSEMD departures include: Vern Harper, Recovery Division; Susan Green, Planning and Finance Division; Cari Laage, Recovery Division; Harold Turner, Recovery Division. Ω

ON THE CALENDAR

DECEMBER
Christmas Day (25)*

JANUARY
New Year's Day (1)*
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday (19)*
Hazardous Materials Awareness Week (18-24)
National Volunteer Blood Donor Month
National Radon Action Month



*State holiday. HSEMD offices will be closed.

Training opportunities

Railroad 101

When: Jan. 8, 2015
2 p.m.–5 p.m. or
6 p.m.–9 p.m.

Where: Dubuque Co. Emergency
Management Office
14928 Public Safety Way
Dubuque

This three-hour presentation will provide information on scene size-up, HazMat and fire suppression, determining location on the railroad, how to contact the railroad, paperwork requirements, railroad equipment used today and transport of crude oil and other hazardous substances.

Target audience: emergency management personnel, LEPC members, HazMat first responders.

To register, visit [HSEMD's training website](#). Contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov or **Lisa Sexton** at **515-725-3213** or lisa.sexton@iowa.gov.

ICS/EOC Interface (G191)

When: Jan. 15, 2015
9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Where: Cedar Co. Law Center
711 E. South St.
Tipton

This one-day course describes the Incident Command System (ICS), identifies the roles and responsibilities of ICS and the emergency operations

center (EOC) during emergency operations, apply ICS/EOC interface concepts in an exercise situation, develop an ICS/EOC action plan.

Target audience: ICS command staff, emergency management positions, elected officials.

To register, visit [HSEMD's training website](#). For more information, contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov.

Force Science

When: Feb. 2, 2015
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Where: Mitchell/Worth Co. EM
806 Sawyer Dr.
Osage

Target audience: law enforcement officers of all ranks, use of force experts, police psychologists, attorneys, administrators, risk managers, investigators, trainers.

Are you and your agency ready for the firestorm from a controversial use of force? This course will prepare you for uncovering the truth when lawsuits, careers, and reputations are on the line.

To register, go to the [Worth County website](#) and click on Government->Departments->Emergency Management->Force Science to get to the form. Be sure to click "Send" when the form is complete.

Call the **Mitchell/Worth EMA** at **641.732.5872** or the **Mitchell County sheriff** at **641.732.4740** if you have any questions.

Wide Area Search (PER 213)

When: Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 2015
8 a.m.–4 p.m.

Where: Western Iowa Tech
Community College
Security Institute Bldg.
4647 Stone Ave.
Sioux City

This course is for jurisdictions that would need to conduct wide area searches due to a natural disaster or terrorist incident. Participants will learn practical search methods and skills in order to perform searches over a large area.

Target audience: fire services, emergency medical services, law enforcement, emergency managers.

To register, visit [HSEMD's training website](#). For more information contact **Beth Lewis** at **515.725.3204** or beth.lewis@iowa.gov.

Public Information in All-Hazards Incident (MGT 318)

When: Feb. 24-25, 2015
8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Where: Mason City Police Dept.
78 S. Georgia Ave.
Mason City

Continued on Page 4...

Training opportunities

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This course examines the role of public information in all-hazards incident management and provides practical training in crisis communication techniques. In a major incident, it is imperative that community leaders, incident managers, and public information officers (PIOs) are able to communicate with the public through traditional and social media.

If you have any questions or would like to register, please contact Cerro Gordo Emergency Manager **Steve O'Neil** at **641.421.3665**.

Continuity of Government Operations Planning for Rural Communities (MGT 416)

When: April 4, 2015
8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Where: Gates Memorial Hall
South Room
825 15th St.
Nevada

This course is designed to help government officials and emergency responders in rural areas with the development of continuity plans that will help officials ensure essential government services remain functional across a spectrum of emergencies.

Topics covered include developing and strengthening current continuity plans, addressing resource

needs and planning for alternate communications.

For more information, contact **Melissa Spencer** at [mspencer@storycountyiowa.gov](mailto:m Spencer@storycountyiowa.gov) or **515.382-7316**. Register at www.ruraltraining.org/training/schedule/2015-04-04-mgt416-nevada-ia-001/.

Crude by Rail

4 hours; Web-Based

This FREE course is available for a limited time from the Security and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC). This program is designed for first responders with railroads passing through their jurisdiction. You will learn basic knowledge to respond to incidents involving crude by rail. The web-based training is designed for your convenience.

Instructors teach this program in a format that is easy for you to understand, and it gives you the foundational information needed to make basic protective decisions in the event an incident happens in your jurisdiction.

To register, **visit the SERTC website**. Under "What's New," click "Enter" where it says "REGISTER here for Web-Based Crude By Rail." 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.

Secure & Prepared is published for those involved in the homeland security/emergency management system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact Stefanie Bond at stefanie.bond@iowa.gov.

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