



SECURE & PREPARED

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Special points of interest:

- This year's homeland security conference brought together participants from many disciplines. See photos of conference presenters and attendees on page 2.
- Do arrogance, ignorance, and complacency affect how you do your job? To find out more, see article on page 3.
- New memorial plaque dedicated in recognition of Siouxland's response to the crash of United Flight 232. See article on page 4.

'07 Grant Allocation Announced

Iowa will receive just over \$7 million dollars under the '07 Homeland Security Grant Program, just over half of what was received in the '06 program. The four grants covered under the '07 allocation break down this way:

- State Homeland Security Program: \$3,840,000
- Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program: \$2,750,000
- Citizen Corps: \$195,241
- Metropolitan Medical Response System: \$258,145

"We are disappointed with the federal government's continued use of population as the primary measure to allocate funds," said David Miller, administrator of Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management. "That is a short-sighted approach that does not look at the importance of Iowa in terms of the nation's food chain and agriculture sector protection," Miller emphasized.

Iowa requested just over \$29 million in funding.

It is too early to know exactly what impact the cuts will have on existing programs. It is anticipated, however, that decreased funding will slow progress in three key areas: food and agriculture security; continued development of specialized response teams such as bomb techs, hazardous materials teams and law enforcement teams; and continued development of regions in the state.

Miller said HSEMD will now reach out to the broader response community to develop recommendations on ways to best spend the funds the state will receive. Prioritizing the funds will be important, and Miller said the involvement of the response community will be key.

Homeland Security Conference a Success

More than 400 professionals in the fields of homeland security and emergency management, along with partners from the public and private sectors, attended the 4th Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference, held July 16-18 in Des Moines.

This year's conference was a success thanks to all those who presented and participated.

For more photos from the conference, see page 2.



Lt. Governor and Governor's Homeland Security Advisor Patty Judge talks with HSEMD Administrator David Miller and FEMA Region VII Administrator Richard Hainje. Photo by Joesten Zhou, SPPG.

Homeland Security Conference Highlights



Clockwise from top left: Dr. Haven Simmons speaks on the value of public information officers and working with the media during disasters; FEMA Region VII Administrator Richard Hainje speaks on the new FEMA; Lt. Governor and Governor's Homeland Security Advisor Patty Judge kicks off the conference; HSEMD Administrator David Miller speaks with members of the media; Sandra Cowie, Director of Corporate Security for the Principal Financial Group, gives an overview of Safeguard Iowa during a breakout session; Dr. Anthony Cahill addresses planning for special needs populations; conference attendees interact.



Arrogance, Ignorance, Complacency

By HSEMD Administrator, David L. Miller



One of the highlights of our recent Governor's Homeland Security Conference was the presentation by Gordon Graham, a man of many talents and backgrounds. He cut his teeth as a trooper with the California Highway Patrol and rose to the rank of commander. He now preaches risk management and holds a law degree. A mild-mannered looking individual, Graham really turned it on when he reached the podium.

One of the themes of his presentation was the need for all of us to avoid three attitudes which can cause us all grief. They are: arrogance, ignorance and complacency. In a nutshell these attitudes stand for:

- Arrogance: The rules do not apply to me
- Ignorance: I have no idea what the rules are
- Complacency: I have always done it that way

Although these attitudes can be harmful in any profession, if demonstrated in our business, they can be particularly damaging and even life threatening to ourselves and our colleagues. The need to establish, train and follow procedures is particularly important for first-line responders. But they are equally important for those of us that provide resources and act to support responders through emergency operations centers. Our arrogance and complacency could have a devastating impact on responders and those they are protecting.

It is way too easy to fall into one of the three attitudes, especially for those of us with many years of experience. I ask that we all look deeply at what we do to examine whether these attitudes may have crept into our operations. Having someone outside your organization review your procedures is another way to look for these traits and why it is important to embrace common professional standards.

As a side note, we had hoped to post Graham's presentation on our Web site but were unable to obtain an electronic copy of the presentation.

If you have any comments about the conference please forward them to Dave Hempen. We are interested in hearing your opinions as we look at options and ways to improve the conference for next year and beyond.

Exhibitors Contribute to Conference Success

The Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division would like to thank the 49 exhibitors and vendors who participated in this year's Governor's Homeland Security Conference for their continued support.

"The support of the exhibitors not only helps to defray the cost of the conference, but also gives participants the opportunity to get an up-close and hands-on look at products and services that can help them to better do their jobs," said HSEMD Administrator David Miller.

The exhibitors also provided several prizes for conference attendees including a GPS system, which went to Brian Wels of the University Hygienic Laboratory. Congratulations!

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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

We're on the Web!

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

Flight 232 Memorial Plaque Unveiled

A plaque honoring the victims of and responders to the 1989 crash of United Airlines Flight 232 was unveiled during a ceremony on July 19 at Chris Larsen Park in Sioux City.

The plaque was placed near the existing sculpture, "The Spirit of Siouxland," which commemorates Siouxland's response to the crash of United Flight 232 on July 19, 1989. The sculpture depicts the rescue from the wreckage of a three-year-old passenger by a member of the Iowa Air National Guard's 185th tactical fighter group. The newly-dedicated plaque provides a description of the sculpture which was inspired by a photograph shot by former Sioux City Journal photographer Gary Anderson. The plaque was donated by the Greater Sioux City Press Club.



Newly unveiled memorial plaque, right, joins The Spirit of Siouxland sculpture, which commemorates Siouxland's response to the crash of United Flight 232.

United Flight 232, en route from Denver to Chicago, crashed while making an emergency landing at Sioux Gateway Airport. There were 112 fatalities from the crash and 184 survivors.

"It's a very fitting memorial," said Woodbury County Emergency Management Coordinator Gary Brown. "I think this plaque will provide a better description of what the sculpture represents and help people to remember how this community came together that day 18 years ago."

Assistance for May Storms Reaches \$11.3 Million

Iowans who suffered damage from the May severe weather and flooding in southwest Iowa have been approved for \$11.3 million in federal disaster assistance.

As of July 20, 1,678 individuals have registered for Individual Assistance, and more than \$2.3 million in assistance has been approved. In addition, more than \$6 million has been approved for Public Assistance to local governments and certain non-profit agencies to rebuild public infrastructure.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved more than \$2.9 million in low-interest disaster loans to Iowa residents and businesses who sustained losses as a result of the severe storms.

The deadline to apply for the federal Individual Assistance program and to return disaster loan applications to SBA is July 24.