



# SECURE & PREPARED

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## Special points of interest:

- HSEMD Administrator David Miller talks about the importance of having trained and ready public information officers. Page 2.
- There have been some changes recently in the structure and role of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Read more on page 4.
- Governor Culver recently signed into law three bills of interest to those who work in the fields of homeland security and emergency management. Details on page 5.

HSEMD's 2006-2007 Annual Report is available on the Division's Web site at [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org) in the Quick Links section.

## HSEMD Hosts Midwest Regional Workshop on Infrastructure and Asset Protection

Representatives from eight states met in Iowa recently to discuss their challenges, issues, and best practices in the areas of infrastructure and asset protection.

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management hosted a Midwest regional critical infrastructure/key resources workshop on April 15-16 at Prairie Meadows Conference Center in Altoona.

Twenty-two attendees participated in round-table discussions on a number of topics, including progress on critical asset protection planning; Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS) implementation, and CI/KR (Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources) Tier II Program. The states represented at the workshop were South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Iowa.



HSEMD's Tom Baumgartner and Vicki Morris lead discussion at the CI/KR workshop.

"Critical infrastructure and asset protection is an integral part of all our lives and deeply imbedded in the work that we all do on a daily basis," said Tom Baumgartner, HSEMD's homeland security coordinator.

*Continued on page 2.*

## Campus Safety Forum June 5

Campus security, policy makers, faculty and anyone that could be involved with a Virginia Tech type event are invited to a Campus Safety Forum which will be held June 5 at Simpson College in Indianola. This one day forum will feature a line-up of topics and speakers on the various steps colleges and universities can take to identify and prepare for an active shooter scenario.

Thanks to Simpson college, which is providing the Great Hall at no charge, the registration costs are a nominal \$35 to cover cost of a box lunch and other forum expenses. To register, call Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management at (515) 725-3231. Because of state financial restrictions, on-line credit card payments cannot be accepted. Participants are asked to bring a check made out to Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management or cash on the day of the event.

*Agenda and registration information on page 6.*

# PIOs Often Overlooked Until You Need Them

By David Miller, HSEMD Administrator



There is a Joni Mitchell song that contains the lyrics, “You don’t know what you’ve got till it’s gone.” Let me put a twist to those lyrics by noting that you don’t know what you need till you need it. For those of you who have faced a major emergency event, you know how important it is to get out information and have someone dedicated to taking care of the media. Running an operation and serving as the public information officer (PIO) is just too much to expect in any event that moves above the garden variety level.

Designating and training someone to act as your PIO is a must in today’s world of fast-paced news and never-ending deadlines. Dealing with the media is certainly a challenge but it also contains an opportunity to reach out to your community. To recruit a PIO, start with agencies already involved with your operation. For example, hospitals typically have trained media spokespersons. You might be surprised at those that have PIOs if you put the call out that you need to designate one in your county.

It is encouraging to see efforts by coordinators to hold events designed to promote links between PIOs in their areas and between the PIOs and the media. Barbara Berquam and Jerald Ballanger are two county emergency management coordinators who come to mind and I’m sure there are others. These meetings are great ways for the PIOs and the media to compare notes and come to a better understanding of each other’s needs before an event happens.

HSEMD is working to strengthen its ties with the PIOs of other state agencies to better understand roles and responsibilities when we activate the State Emergency Operations Center. We also understand the need to improve and promote the links between the state and local PIOs. Bret Voorhees and Lucinda Robertson would be glad to help with meetings involving PIOs at the local level. If you would like our assistance, call Bret at (515) 725-3207 or e-mail him at [Bret.Voorhees@iowa.gov](mailto:Bret.Voorhees@iowa.gov).

Thanks for all you do to help Iowa’s citizens.

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## Critical Infrastructure/Key Resource Regional Workshop

*Continued from page 1*

Baumgartner said the individuals who gathered for this discussion were the CI/KR program managers and protective security advisors for their respective states and/or regions. “It is extremely important for Iowa to understand the efforts of our neighboring states so we can begin to think and focus more from a regional perspective with our capability and capacity building in this area,” he said.

Workshop participants also had the opportunity to discuss and learn about site and sector-specific planning, private sector partnership development, multi-state infrastructure protection initiatives and opportunities, Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards – Buffer Zone Protection Program, Protected Critical Infrastructure Information program implementation, information sharing with CI/KR partners, and expectations with dwindling resources.

“Iowa’s CI/KR program will become even better as a result of hosting and participating in this collaboration,” Baumgartner said.

Baumgartner said participants expressed the desire for more meetings and discussion and felt the opportunity to put faces to names was an important benefit of the workshop.

## Correcting Misconceptions about E911 Funds

There seems to be a misconception that the state's E911 program is sitting on a "pot" of money that should or can be distributed to local governments. Hopefully this article will clarify how funds are received, used, and distributed.

Wire line surcharge is collected and expended at the local level. Seventy-nine counties collect at the rate of \$1.00 per month per access line, 18 counties collect at a rate of less than \$1.00, one county collects greater than \$1.00, and one county collects no surcharge. Money is collected by the local exchange service providers and remitted on a quarterly basis directly to the local E911 Service Boards. Money is expended according to Code of Iowa, Chapter 34A.2(e)(1,2).

Wireless surcharge is collected and remitted quarterly to the state (HSEMD) at a rate of \$0.65 per month, per subscriber. Distribution is as follows:

- \$50,000 per quarter from total surcharge generated to HSEMD to administer the program
- 21 percent of remaining surcharge generated is paid to wireless carriers to recover their costs for Phase 1 services
- 25 percent of remaining surcharge generated is distributed to each public safety answering point (PSAP) based on call volume and square miles of service area
- And to wire line carriers and third party database providers for transport and database costs

If money remains in the fund after fully paying all obligations, the remainder may be accumulated as a carryover operating surplus to be used to fund future Phase 2 network and PSAP improvements. We have established a procedure for the local E911 Service Boards to obtain funding from this operating surplus, and projects must fit within the guidelines in Code of Iowa Chapter 34A. It is currently set up as a 60/40 split, 40 percent must come from the local wire line surcharge or from other funding sources, with 60 percent coming from both the quarterly wireless surcharge distribution and the carryover operating surplus with the majority coming from the quarterly amount. The maximum per PSAP is \$50,000 per fiscal year. The application and guidelines for this grant are available on our Web site:

[www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org). Choose the About Us tab, Security Communities, E-911, and PSAPs.

We currently have funds obligated from the carryover operating surplus for network capacity increases, interstate interconnections with Nebraska, Minnesota, and Illinois, Next Generation 911 Test Project, and PSAP projects.

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## Call for Homeland Security Award Nominations

Nominations are now being taken for the 2008 Homeland Security Award, sponsored by the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation, a federal government agency.

The \$25,000 award will be presented to an individual or company making an invaluable contribution related to homeland security research. The mission of the award is to promote or encourage innovation in the field of homeland security.

Nominations will be accepted online at [www.ccolumbusfoundationawards.org](http://www.ccolumbusfoundationawards.org). The deadline for nominations is May 23. Information on the competition rules, regulations and past recipients is also available on the Web site.

## HSEMD Administrator Testifies Before Congressional Subcommittee on Homeland Security

HSEMD Administrator David Miller testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security on March 13. Miller, who serves as the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) Legislative Committee Chair, presented NEMA's key Congressional priorities for the FY 2009 budget.

In his testimony, Miller called upon Congress to address the shortfall and total need for the funding of the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) and the need for federal support of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). He also stated that NEMA feels there is a need for Congress to make a commitment to addressing significant deficiencies in state and local emergency operations centers.

Miller testified as part of a panel, which also included FEMA Director David Paulison, International Association of Emergency Managers Director Larry Gispert, and U.S. Department of Homeland Security Deputy Inspector General Matt Jadacki.

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## News from FEMA

### FEMA Realigns Organizational Structures

Recently, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced the realignment of its organizational structures in an effort to enhance FEMA's capability to develop a national preparedness system. The realignment includes the transfer of specific preparedness, administrative, and operational roles from FEMA Headquarters to FEMA regional administrators.

According to information released by FEMA, the transfer of authority impacts personnel associated with the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program, Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, Community Preparedness, Assistance to Firefighters Grant program, Continuity of Operations, and Regional Investment Officers. The National Preparedness Divisions, led by new Federal Preparedness Coordinators at the regional level, will lead FEMA's efforts to coordinate the broad scope of preparedness missions for all hazards. There are also plans for FEMA to form a new Grant Program Division in each Region to serve as the central location for business management for grants administered by the Regions, as well as the program management for certain national preparedness homeland security grant programs.

### FEMA to Take Over Mass Care Role

As the result of an agreement that was included in the National Response Framework, FEMA will have responsibility for coordinating mass care, a role formerly held by the American Red Cross.

Under this agreement, the Red Cross will no longer be responsible for reporting data on all shelters, as it has done in the past. The Red Cross will now report only on its own shelters, and the states will be responsible for reporting on all shelters. FEMA will be responsible for compiling the data on all shelters into a centralized database.

## **Governor Signs Individual Assistance Bill** *Increases Number of Iowans Eligible to Receive Assistance*

On April 11, 2008, Governor Culver signed into law HF 2564. This bill makes two changes to the State's Individual Disaster Assistance Grant Program. The first raises the income eligibility limit to 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. The prior limit had been 130 percent. By doing this, the pool of Iowans that would be eligible increases from 457,000 to 808,000.

Additionally, the bill increases the maximum grant award from \$3,319 to \$5,000. By increasing the maximum award amount, it will allow for more funds to be used for structural repairs to homes of eligible Iowans impacted by disasters.

The changes were derived by reviewing activity within the program from the last year. In 2007 the program was activated six separate times and processed 694 eligible applications. These applications provided a total of \$335,031 to Iowans in need.

Governor Culver also signed into law HF 247, a bill for an act providing voting member representation on joint E911 service boards for cities or townships providing fire protection services through a volunteer fire department. HF 2393, which requires a minority impact statement as part of an application for a grant from a state agency and providing effective and applicability dates, was also signed by the governor.

At this time, HSEMD's legislative liaison reports the major bill of interest still eligible for consideration is HF 2660, the Justice Systems Appropriations bill, which appropriates funding to the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division. That bill has passed the House, and at the time of the publication of this newsletter, was awaiting debate in the Senate.

Watch for the next edition of "Secure and Prepared" for the latest updates on legislative action.

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## **Upcoming NIMS Workshops**

There is still time to register for HSEMD's National Incident Management System (NIMS) Workshops on the following dates:

Friday, April 25—Cherokee Fire Department, 9:00 a.m.

Monday, April 28—Ottumwa Law Enforcement Center, 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, April 30—Mason City Police Department, 9:00 a.m.

During these workshops we will be covering NIMS requirements from 2008-2012, the National Response Framework, five-year year training plan and the NIMSCAST. The target audience for these workshops includes emergency management coordinators, public health representatives, and any local department or elected official that would be interested in the guidance and requirements that are being distributed.

Please register for these workshops by e-mailing Beth Gathercole at [beth.gathercole@iowa.gov](mailto:beth.gathercole@iowa.gov).

## Campus Safety Forum, June 5, 2008

Great Hall, Simpson College, Indianola. (Facilities provided at no charge by Simpson College.)

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|----------------|--|
| 8:30 - 9:00    | Registration   |
| 9:00 – 9:20    | Welcomes   |
| 9:20 – 10:20   | Threat Assessment – Best Practices for Identifying, Assessing and Managing Persons at Risk, Dr. Gene Deisinger, Iowa State University  |
| 10:20 – 10:30  | Break  |
| 10:30 to 12:00 | Key note speaker Dr. Gordon Davies, Va. Tech Review panel, lessons learned from the Va. Tech incident  |
| 12:00 to 12:45 | Box lunch provided   |
| 12:45 to 1:30  | Legal segment, dos and don'ts of handling student information, TBD   |
| 1:30 to 2:30   | Basics of Incident Command System and needs of Responders when they arrive on the scene, Major Lenn Murray, Des Moines P.D.  |
| 2:30 to 2:45   | Break  |
| 2:45 to 4:15   | Actual Events segment, Lessons learned from three recent events at;<br>Iowa State University, Jerry Stewart<br>University of Northern Iowa, Dave Zarfis<br>University of Iowa, Charles Green |
| 4:15 to 4:30   | Goodbyes   |

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### Registration Information:

**Cost: \$35** which includes box lunch and drink. Please bring a check or cash on the day of the Forum. Because of state financial restraints, credit cards are NOT accepted.

How to Register:

1. Call Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management at (515) 725-3231
2. Email [Susan.Lomica@iowa.gov](mailto:Susan.Lomica@iowa.gov) or [Mary.Stephens@iowa.gov](mailto:Mary.Stephens@iowa.gov)
3. Include your name, email, phone number and Organization.

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A Division of the Department of Public Defense

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Secure & Prepared is published by the Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division for those involved in the homeland security system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact Lucinda Robertson, 515-725-3239, [lucinda.robertson@iowa.gov](mailto:lucinda.robertson@iowa.gov).

### News Team

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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](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org)

# Password Protected Web Page Login

County emergency management coordinators have the ability to access a password protected resources section of the HSEMD Web site. There have been some questions about the correct procedure for getting logged in to the system. Following are instructions for accessing this section of the Web site.

- At the bottom of each page is a [Login](#) link. Click on that link.
- On the User Log In screen, you will notice that there are two buttons. You must first click on the **Windows Login** button before you can successfully enter the correct user name and password.
- In the **User Name** field, enter iaemd\county (i.e. iaemd\dallas).

- In the **Password** field, enter your password.
- At this point you must click on the **Login** button. Pressing the **Enter** key will *not* work.

If you have forgotten your password or are having other problems, please feel free to contact John Pommer at 515-725-3258.

## Personnel Notes

**Kara Berg**, HSEMD public information officer, has left the Division. She had served as a media liaison, newsletter co-editor, and Webmaster for the Communications and Technology Bureau during the past 4 1/2 years. She has left to be a full-time mother to her two children.

HSEMD Administrator **David Miller** recently completed the Center for Homeland Defense and Security's Executive Leaders Program. The program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Naval Postgraduate School, provides a neutral educational forum to enhance leaders' capacity to identify and resolve homeland security problems as well as an opportunity to build networks among the nation's local, state, tribal, and federal government and private sector homeland security officials.

HSEMD's Homeland Security Coordinator **Tom Baumgartner** has been selected to participate in the Executive Leaders Program, which consists of four one-week in-residence sessions over a nine-month period at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. Program participants are senior local, state, tribal, federal government, military and private sector officials with homeland security responsibilities.

For information on how to apply for the program, visit [www.chds.us](http://www.chds.us) and select the Executive Leaders Program link.