



# SECURE & PREPARED

May 23, 2006

Volume 2, Issue 10

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Administrator's Column</i>	2
<i>Pandemic Flu Exercise</i>	3
<i>NIMS Update</i>	3
<i>CEDAP Awards</i>	4
<i>ASIS Hosts Event</i>	4
<i>HF 2797</i>	5
<i>Personnel Highlights</i>	5

## Special points of interest:

- Exercise plans to simulate state-wide response to pandemic influenza are being developed for later this summer. See article on page 3.
- In April, emergency management coordinators received a voluntary survey to help gauge where the counties are in the NIMS compliancy process. See the results on page 3.
- First responders in 23 Iowa communities were recently awarded more than \$330,000 in equipment. See article on page 4.
- House File 2797 amended Iowa Code section 29C.8 changing the current reference to urban search and rescue teams to homeland security and emergency response teams. See article on page 5.

## Governor's Homeland Security Conference: Registration Now Available

Information on the Governor's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Homeland Security Conference, hosted by the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, is now available on HLSEM's Web site: <http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/>. Click on the link at the top of the page.

This year's conference will be held July 18-20 at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines. Keynote speakers on the first day include U.S. Department of Homeland Security Under Secretary for Preparedness George Foresman, U.S. Army Chief of Staff General Dennis Reimer (retired) on lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina, State Epidemiologist for the Iowa Department of Public Health Dr. Patricia Quinlisk on Pandemic Influenza, and Heather Adams and Dr. David Schmitt on quarantine and isolation issues.

Day two features school safety expert Michael Dorn followed by a series of breakout sessions (which are listed on page 2). Day three will feature Jeffery Phillips of New Mexico Emergency Management on EMAC and how it works, Jane Mobley will address special needs population issues and General Zirkelbach will speak on Military Support to Civilian Authority.

Registration is \$150 per person, if paid by June 30, 2006. After June 30, the registration fee increases to \$175 and must be paid at the door. To register for the conference visit: <http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org/> and click on the conference link at the top of the page. If you would prefer to mail or fax your registration, visit [http://www.sppg.com/uploads/pdf/hlsem\\_participant\\_registration\\_form.pdf](http://www.sppg.com/uploads/pdf/hlsem_participant_registration_form.pdf) for a registration form. Mail registration form and payment to: Governor's Homeland Security Conference, 200 10th Street, 5th Floor, Des Moines, IA 50309. If paying by credit card, you may fax your registration form to 515-243-5941. For questions, e-mail [governorsconf@hlsem.state.ia.us](mailto:governorsconf@hlsem.state.ia.us) or call Mary Ann Lee at 515-243-2000. (Continued on page 2)

## Third Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference



Learning from yesterday,  
planning for tomorrow

# I'll Meet You More Than Halfway

By HLSEM Administrator, David L. Miller



If you have ever been involved in negotiating the sale of an item, you might have heard or used the phrase, "I'll meet you half way." It's a reasonable compromise, a good way to close the deal and make both parties feel good about it. While that is a good benchmark for many things, I want to set a higher standard for my staff and myself.

One of the areas that I constantly stress to staff is the importance of providing superior customer service. That's a legacy that former HLSEM Administrator Ellen Gordon started and one that I also embrace. We want to be responsive and we want to provide the best level of service possible. We are a coordinating agency and it is only through building and maintaining relationships that we have a chance to accomplish our job.

I also believe in recognizing our accomplishments and looking back at the positive steps that have been taken. With all of the grants and programs that have been thrown at us over the past years and the twists and turns associated with those projects, it is easy to get bogged down and focus on the negatives.

Our Division welcomes ideas and constructive criticism designed to improve our systems and processes. It is only by listening to our partners, that we can make our services better. Whenever we receive a complaint, I ask staff to make a thorough review and examine the steps we can take to improve our service. However, we need to also keep in mind that complaints made only for the sake of complaining are not helpful to anyone.

Thank you for your hard work. Together, we have made great strides and together we will continue to improve and strengthen our partnerships.

---

## Governor's Homeland Security Conference

*(Continued from page 1)*

### **Breakouts**

#### **9:00 – 10:00 am**

State Pandemic Plan

State Team Brief: Veterinary Rapid Response Team; Incident Management Team

Intelligence Gathering in Iowa

What You Should Know About PIO

#### **10:30 – 11:30 am**

The Facts About Bird Flu

State Team Brief: Special Weapons and Tactics; Explosive Ordnance Disposal

Emergency Operations Planning for Schools

State Training Opportunities

#### **1:30 – 2:30 pm**

Animals in Disaster

State Team Brief: Civil Air Patrol; Search and Rescue in Iowa

School Terrorism Exercise/Lessons Learned

Public Health Response Team to Katrina

#### **3:00 – 4:00 pm**

What You Need to Know About Legislative Bills

Developing Counter-Surveillance Programs for Private Industry

NIMS/NRP Update

2006 Homeland Security Grant

# Pandemic Influenza Exercises Planned

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division and the Iowa Department of Public Health are jointly developing an exercise plan to simulate statewide response to pandemic influenza. The exercise series will consist of regional tabletops in August and a statewide command center exercise in September. The September exercise will involve 15 locations and 300-400 responders.

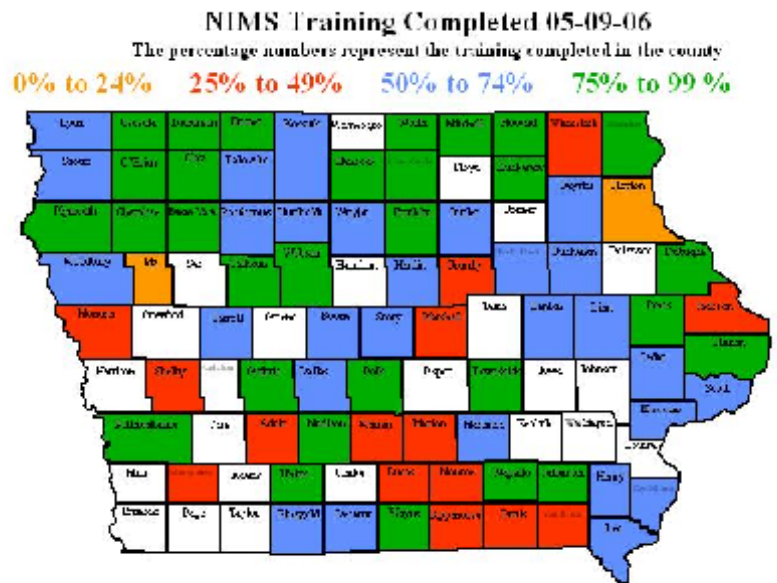
These exercises help Iowa to better prepare for potential global pandemic, regardless of any specific disease or cause. This opportunity is being extended to all 99 counties, but is not required for any community. The exercises will be funded by federal grants.

Please note: Extensive information on Pandemic Influenza and a list of frequently asked questions can be found on the Iowa Department of Public Health's Web site at <http://www.idph.state.ia.us/pandemic/default.asp>.

# NIMS Compliancy: Keep up the Great Work!

In April, county emergency management coordinators received a voluntary survey to help HLSEM get a feel as to where the counties are in the NIMS compliancy process. At right is a map representing the results of that survey. Please note that the counties in white have yet to respond to the survey, which was not mandatory.

Thanks to all of you who responded to the survey. We have made tremendous progress and with all of us working together, we will continue to move forward on these sometimes daunting tasks.



# Animal Disease-Planning Templates Coming Soon

The updated county infectious animal disease-planning template was distributed by e-mail on May 29. This final version of the template addresses the questions raised in the last round of Agroville sessions and incorporates additional changes suggested by subject matter experts. Iowa's new acting State Veterinarian Dr. David Schmitt has also reviewed the plan to assure that it is consistent with his policies and procedures.

We will also be mailing CD's and hard copies of the following resources:

- \* Copies of the State Plan and County Template
- \* Risk communications guidance
- \* Outreach materials that you can use with industry members and producers in your county
- \* Training materials that you may choose to promote in your county

It is anticipated that these materials will go to print by May 26th and will be distributed upon completion. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Ann Garvey at 515-725-3291.

## Iowa Responders Receive \$330,000 in Equipment

First responders in 23 Iowa communities will receive more than \$330,000 in equipment. These funds were recently awarded by the Department of Homeland Security's Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP).

CEDAP provides smaller law enforcement and emergency responder agencies with equipment items that will enhance and support regional response efforts and the interoperability of responder equipment. Grant recipients are required to attend a training session prior to receiving their equipment.

Details of the grant awards are as follows:

- Belmond Police Department will receive a MX-2 Handheld Thermal Imager.
- Blencoe Police Department will receive a night vision goggle.
- Britt Fire Department will receive spreaders, cutters and RAM tools.
- Buena Vista County Sheriff's Office will receive a set of binoculars with night vision eyepieces.
- Cedar Falls Police Department will receive a fiber optic scope kit.
- Fort Dodge Fire Department will receive a SearchCam 2000 - Standard Probe.
- Fremont County Sheriff's Department will receive an Advanced Vehicle Tracking System.
- Goodell Fire Department will receive spreaders, cutters and RAM tools.
- Hancock County Emergency Management will receive a Sentinel - Surveillance System.
- Hancock County Sheriff's Office will receive a Single Tube Night Vision Goggle.
- Harlan Police Department will receive a Thermal Imager for Law Enforcement.
- Humboldt Police Department will receive a Rugged Night Vision Monocular Kit.
- Knoxville Police Department will receive a Rugged Night Vision Monocular Kit.
- Manning Fire Department will receive spreaders, cutters and RAM tools.
- Maquoketa Police Department will receive a Thermovision Scout ZX.
- Panama Fire & Rescue will receive spreaders, cutters and RAM tools.
- Region V Hazardous Materials Response Team in Fort Dodge will receive a Rugged Night Vision Monocular Kit.
- Sheldon Police Department will receive a pair of Stabilized Binoculars with Night Vision Goggle.
- Sigourney Police Department will receive a pair of Stabilized Binoculars with Night Vision Eyepieces.
- Stuart Police Department will receive a Video Detective.
- Van Meter Police Department will receive a Single Tube Night Vision Goggle.
- Wapello Fire & Rescue will receive detection equipment for CEDAP.
- West Burlington Fire Department will receive a Thermal Imager for Fire Service Responders.

---

## ASIS Hosts First Annual Recognition Ceremony

The Central Iowa Chapter of ASIS International, the largest organization for the security profession worldwide, recently held its first annual public safety and private security recognition luncheon.

Des Moines Police Chief, William McCarthy, and Iowa Department of Public Safety Commissioner Kevin Techau made opening comments, while Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Administrator David Miller served as the keynote speaker.

"It was an honor and a privilege to be a part of an event that recognized public and private responders who have given the extra measure and performed admirably," said Miller.

During his speech, Miller spoke about emergency management as a community that includes all types of responders and how we must all work together to establish priorities to protect and make our communities more secure. "By ensuring critical functions and facilities continue to operate, we can achieve continuity of operations and continuity of government; we can survive and be sustained in the face of any emergency or disaster," said Miller.

**Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division**

A Division of the Department of Public Defense

**Administrator**

David L. Miller

7105 N.W. 70th Avenue  
Camp Dodge, Bldg W-4  
Johnston, IA 50131

Phone: 515-281-3231

Fax: 515-725-3260

**Web Site:**

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

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 Kara Berg at 515-725-3271 or at [kara.berg@iowa.gov](mailto:kara.berg@iowa.gov).

**News Team**

Kara Berg

Tracey Epps

Beth Gathercole

David Johnston

Kathy Karn

Lucinda Robertson

Kathy Stodola

Bret Voorhees

Lynda Wessel

**HLSEM 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)

## Update on House File 2797

House File 2797 amended Iowa Code section 29C.8 changing the current reference to urban search and rescue teams to homeland security and emergency response teams. This change provides that such teams may be deployed to support local authorities under a Governor's proclamation of a state disaster and also under an interstate assistance request under the emergency management assistance compact (EMAC).

The Code was also amended to provide that a member of such a team is to be considered a state employee for purposes of the deployment if the member is registered with the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division on an approved team. In addition, the code change requires approved teams to establish standards for membership and keep updated lists of members. Finally, the amended code section provides that the Iowa Department of Administrative Services shall process claims for injury or loss by team members and that funding shall be sought from the State of Iowa Executive Council.

Both the Iowa House of Representatives and the Iowa Senate approved this legislation. It was sent to the Governor for his signature on May 3, 2006. This bill contains over 120 sections that are unrelated to Homeland Security and Emergency Management and it has not yet been signed into law as of the publication date of this newsletter.

## HLSEM Personnel Highlights



**Theresa Enright** has joined HLSEM as an Emergency Management Specialist in the Grants Management Bureau. Theresa will be a project officer for our grants. She will work closely with FEMA, county coordinators, councils of government, local governments and other sub grantees during the application process and administration of these grants. As a project officer, Theresa will provide technical assistance and project oversight from the concept phase of grants through the grant closeouts.

Theresa first served with HLSEM as the National Guard Task Force IOC assisting the disaster field office during Disaster 1518 in May 2004. Since then, she has been working on contract (as a civilian) for HLSEM as a grants fiscal specialist. Theresa conducted financial management oversight of homeland security grants to include the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program and Buffer Zone Protection Program; mitigation projects and planning grants; and special funds such as the nuclear power plant budget.

Theresa has a BS in Health Promotions from the University of Iowa, is a captain in the Iowa Army National Guard and is a certified police officer through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Theresa lives in Ankeny with her husband, Dusty.

**Kathy Karn** has moved from the Homeland Security Team to the Grants Management Bureau as an administrative assistant.

**Joyce Winningham** received her BA in Criminal Justice from Simpson College on May 20, 2006. Congratulations Joyce!