



# SECURE & PREPARED

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### Did you know?

**The Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council (IDHRC) addresses the unmet needs of citizens impacted by disasters. Learn more at [www.idhrc.org](http://www.idhrc.org).**

For the latest in disaster funding information, visit the Rebuild Iowa Web site at [www.rio.iowa.gov](http://www.rio.iowa.gov).

## Iowa Receives \$1.3 Million E911 Grant

Iowa's E911 program received notification in September that it qualified for a \$1.3 million grant to update the state's wireless 911 network.

The one-time grant will be used for the migration of the state's current wireless 911 network to an Internet Protocol (IP) based Next Generation 911 (NG911) network.

"Our legacy 911 system cannot deliver text messages, video, or photos, but the public perceives that if they have these options available to them it will work if they use it to contact

911," said State E911 Administrator Barbara Vos.

NG911 is the future of emergency communications, enabling the 911 centers to receive better information about emergencies of all magnitudes, increasing our capabilities and efficiencies for public safety agencies and consumers, Vos said.

The grant requires a 50/50 match, with the matching funds of \$1.3 million coming from the wireless surcharge carryover fund. Once guidance for the grant is provided,

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## Tri-State Workshop Held in September

More than 70 people learned about hazardous spill response, prevention, protection and recovery during the Tri-State Spill Response Workshop held Sept. 15-17 in La Crosse, Wis.

Sponsored by the Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin Tri-State Hazmat Group and Upper Mississippi Hazardous Spills Coordination Group, the three-day training included classroom and on-site instruction. The goal of the workshop was to provide education and training, in a classroom and field environment, on boat safety, underflow dams and containment structures, response tools, oil spill containment boom operation, and

*Continued on Page 2...*



**Participants in the Spill Response Workshop deploy a boom onto the Black River.**

## Iowa Awarded E911 Grant

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HSEMD will have three years to expend the funds. The grant was awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

The State E911 program is administered through the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division. Ω

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## Tri-State Spill Response Workshop

...Continued from Page 1

on-shore response and recovery techniques. Participants in the workshop included emergency managers, law enforcement, fire, EMS, resource managers, government and private-sector partners.

Instructors for the workshop were from the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Upper Mississippi River Basin Association and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

HSEMD staff participated in the planning and facilitation of the workshop. Vicki Morris, HSEMD's assistant homeland security coordinator, is co-chair of the Tri-State Hazmat Group. Ω

## HSEMD Reorganizes and Downsizes to Four Bureaus

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division has reorganized, effective Oct. 19, and will be downsizing from five to four bureaus Jan. 1, 2010.

This change in structure will help focus recovery efforts and will involve transferring non-recovery grant functions to the Homeland Security Bureau, focusing all disaster recovery functions in the Recovery Bureau, and moving responsibilities from the Communications and Technology Bureau to other parts of the Division.

"These changes come as we focus on long term recovery needs for our state, the retirement of Bret Voorhees, and the cost savings

required by the budget cuts," said HSEMD Administrator David Miller. "We will continue to look for cost savings while ensuring that the Division can carry out its critical functions," Miller added.

The new table of organization, pending approval from the Governor's office, will soon be available on the Division's Web site. Here's a snapshot of the changes which became effective on Oct. 19.

The phase-out of the Communications and Technology Bureau is taking place in two steps.

Transfers effective Oct. 19:

- Lynda Wessel, Doug Ros-

Continued on Page 4...

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## Miller Elected President of NEMA

David Miller, administrator of the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division, has been elected to serve as president of the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA).

"This is an opportunity to facilitate important change in emergency management, and I am proud to represent Iowa and my colleagues across the nation in these efforts," said Miller.

Miller's tenure as NEMA president will begin in October 2010 and extend through October 2011. As part of his three-year commitment to NEMA, he will first serve one year as NEMA's president-elect. Miller will continue his leadership role with NEMA after his term as president by serving one year as the

Association's past president. He was elected by the voting members of NEMA on Oct. 13, 2009, during the Association's annual conference in Columbus, Ohio.



To learn more about Miller's election and responsibilities with NEMA, visit [www.iowahomeland-security.org](http://www.iowahomeland-security.org) and select the News Room tab.

NEMA is the source of information, support and expertise for emergency management professionals at all levels of government and the private sector. Ω

## Regionalization Review Underway

HSEMD has begun the process of reviewing the state's regionalization efforts.

The Regionalization Five-Year Review Committee has been formed with representatives from the six homeland security regions to include members from law enforcement, fire, emergency management, emergency medical and public health communities. The committee will develop recommendations for improving regional concepts and strengthening the state's prevention, protection, detection, response and recovery capabilities and capacities.

Regionalization has acted as a mechanism to plan collaboratively and administer grant funding in an efficient and effective way, utilizing partnerships between all counties, cities and government agencies. In 2004, in an effort to improve our state's overall preparedness, and to meet federal requirements associated with grant funding, the decision was made to address homeland security with a regional approach. At that time the State of Iowa began using six homeland security regions as its local jurisdictions rather than 99 counties for homeland security planning and funding. A one-year review of the plan was conducted in November 2005.

Since its implementation, a number of changes have occurred as the State continues to adjust to circumstances and implement guidance and directives from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Approaching the fifth anniversary of the implementation of regionalization, HSEMD is reviewing past efforts and examining ways to refine and strengthen regional concepts.

The committee met Sept. 29 and Oct. 15, 2009, and reviewed the regional approach and structure. By the end of November recommendations for an improved regional system will be presented to the HSEMD administrator who will continue to move forward with the process. Ω

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## Homeland Security Training Center Launches New Web Site

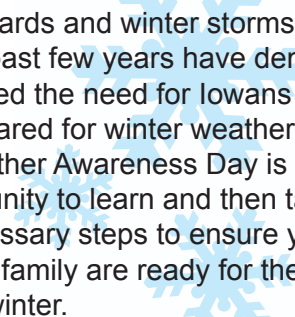
The Homeland Security Training Center has launched a new training Web site – [www.iowatrainingnow.com](http://www.iowatrainingnow.com) – that includes a variety of hands-on and classroom training that is currently available free of charge to Iowa agencies.

Log on and check it out. The Training Center will soon be adding business and industry as well as fire science training.

Also, log on to register for the upcoming Nov. 9-10 ALERRT course in Carroll County or to register for any of the six Crisis Management for School Based Incidents courses happening statewide in December. Ω

## November 12 is Winter Weather Awareness Day

The National Weather Service and HSEMD have declared Nov. 12, 2009, as Winter Weather Awareness Day in Iowa.



Blizzards and winter storms over the past few years have demonstrated the need for Iowans to be prepared for winter weather. Winter Weather Awareness Day is an opportunity to learn and then take the necessary steps to ensure you and your family are ready for the coming winter.

Learn more about winter weather preparedness, including driving tips, preventing frostbite and hypothermia, and preparing your home by visiting [www.bereadyiowa.org](http://www.bereadyiowa.org).

The Des Moines National Weather Service Web site also features useful links on winter weather preparedness at [www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx/](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx/). Select the Winter Weather Awareness Day link. Ω

## EMPG Deadline Approaches

FFY2009 financial reports, requests for reimbursement and project reports for fourth quarter are due to HSEMD on or before Oct. 30, 2009.

If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Boggs at [tricia.boggs@iowa.gov](mailto:tricia.boggs@iowa.gov) or 515.725.3218. Ω



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A division of the Iowa Department of Public Defense

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### 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)

## HSEMD Staff Update

Matt Parrino joined the HSEMD Homeland Security Bureau on Oct. 2 as an infrastructure protection specialist. His responsibilities include sector planning, developing private-sector partnerships and staffing the Threat Information and Protection Program.

Prior to coming to HSEMD, Matt was an ACAMS (Automated Critical Asset Management System) instructor with the Iowa Army National Guard/U.S. Department of Homeland Security. He taught ACAMS to first responders from across the nation. Ω



**Matt Parrino**

## HSEMD Reorganization

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sell, Lisa Sexton, Tricia Boggs and Terry Brown have transferred to the Homeland Security Bureau led by Tom Baumgartner. This centralizes non-recovery grant functions and allows Pat Hall to focus on recovery efforts at the Iowa Recovery Center. Hall becomes the Recovery Bureau chief.

- Barbara Vos and Kathy Karn of the Communications and Technology Bureau, have transferred to the Homeland Security Bureau. Vos and Karn are staff for the State's E911 program.

- Jon Paoli and Randy Goddard, also of the Communications and Technology Bureau, have joined the Readiness and Response Bureau led by Joyce Flinn.

Paoli is the Division's GIS specialist and provides support for WebEOC and other information technology services. Goddard is the Division's chief of communications and works to ensure connectivity in voice, data and other communication channels.

- Kyle Karsjen has transferred from the Homeland Security Bureau to the Preparedness Bureau and will continue to provide strategic planning and EMAP support for the Division.

- Michelle Matthes now reports to division administrator as the office manager.

On Jan. 1, 2010, the remainder of the Communications and Technology Bureau will be reassigned.

- Mary Stephens and Susan Moeller-Lomica will report to Michelle Matthes and continue to provide front desk and office support.

- Lucinda Robertson and Stefanie Bond will report to the division administrator and chief of staff and will continue to provide communications and public information support.

Voorhees will retire on Dec. 31, 2009. His position as bureau chief will not be filled, resulting in cost savings to the Division. Voorhees retires after 31 years in state government. He started with the Iowa Department of General Services, served as the Iowa Lottery's communications coordinator for 11 years, and has spent the past nine years as a bureau chief with HSEMD. Ω