



# SECURE & PREPARED

July 29, 2010

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## Important Information

### CURRENT DISASTER NEWS & INFO

For current disaster information, visit the HSEMD Web site at [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org) and click the "Current Disasters" link on the right side of the page.

### FLYING FLAGS AT HALF STAFF

Anyone can sign up to receive notification when the American flag should be flown at half staff. Sign up online: [www.governor.iowa.gov/index.php/constituent\\_services/flag\\_status](http://www.governor.iowa.gov/index.php/constituent_services/flag_status). Or, simply log on to [www.governor.iowa.gov](http://www.governor.iowa.gov) and click the "Flag Status" link under the "Constituent Services" tab at the top of the page.

## Iowa Receives Two Presidential Disaster Declarations

Governor Culver was recently notified the state had received two separate Presidential Disaster Declarations for flooding and severe weather over the past few months.

### ***Presidential Disaster Declaration for Des Moines and Lee Counties***

On July 27, Governor Culver received notification that President Obama has authorized a Presidential Disaster Declaration for two counties impacted by severe storms and flooding that occurred May 12-13, 2010. (FEMA DR-1928)

The declaration by the President will provide federal funding to Des Moines and Lee counties under the Public Assistance Program. Public Assistance program funds are available to public



**July 7, 2010. Flash flooding at the 1600 block of 140th St. in Boone County. Photo provided by Boone County Emergency Management Coordinator David Morlan.**

entities and select nonprofit agencies to rebuild damaged infrastructure that may include roads, bridges, culverts, and other public facilities, or to cover costs of emergency work during the storms. The Presidential Disaster

*Continued on Page 2...*

## Johnson County Receives Grant, Builds State-of-the-Art Communications Center

Johnson County Emergency Management recently received a Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant worth approximately \$1.92 million to use for the construction of a new communications center. The new center went online July 1, 2010, and consolidated emergency communications among

all agencies in Johnson County, with the exception of the University of Iowa. Previously, all local departments including the Johnson County Sheriff and city police and fire departments dispatched personnel for their respective departments only. In addition to consolidating all emer-

*Continued on Page 2...*

## Iowa Receives Two Presidential Disaster Declarations

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Declaration also includes funding to conduct hazard mitigation activities for the entire state. With this funding, Iowa will be able to minimize the impact of future natural disasters by taking steps now to strengthen existing infrastructure.

### Presidential Disaster Declaration for 32 Counties

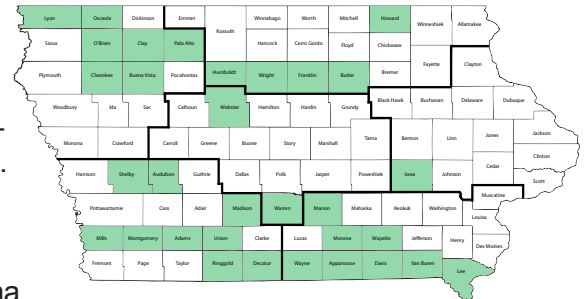
On July 29, Governor Culver received notification that Iowa was granted a Presidential Disaster Declaration for 32 counties impacted by flooding and storms that began June 1, 2010. (FEMA DR-1930)

This Presidential Disaster Declaration provides funding to public entities and select nonprofit agencies under the Public Assistance Program. The counties included in this declaration are: Adams, Appanoose, Audubon, Buena Vista, Butler, Cherokee, Clay, Davis, Decatur, Franklin, Howard, Humboldt, Iowa, Lee, Lyon,

Madison, Marion, Mills, Monroe, Montgomery, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Ringgold, Shelby, Union, Van Buren, Wapello, Warren, Wayne, Webster and Wright. The declaration also provides hazard mitigation funding.

In his request to President Obama, Governor Culver asked for Individual Assistance Program funding, which provides assistance to home owners and small businesses, to be made available to eligible residents in 18 counties. The counties that have been requested to be included in the Individual Assistance Program are: Butler, Cherokee, Clay, Decatur, Emmet, Franklin, Hamilton, Howard, Lee, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Ringgold, Taylor, Union, Warren, Webster and Wright. That request is still under consideration.

Teams of state, local and federal officials have completed damage assessments in additional counties.



**Counties covered by Public Assistance in DR-1930. A request for Individual Assistance is still pending.**

"Since damage assessments are continuing, we will use the results to bolster our request that the Individual Assistance Program be activated and that additional counties be approved for Public Assistance funding and the Individual Assistance Program," said Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division Administrator David Miller.

For more information on current disaster response and recovery activities, visit [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org) in the Current Disasters section. Ω

## Johnson County Builds State-of-the-Art Communications Center

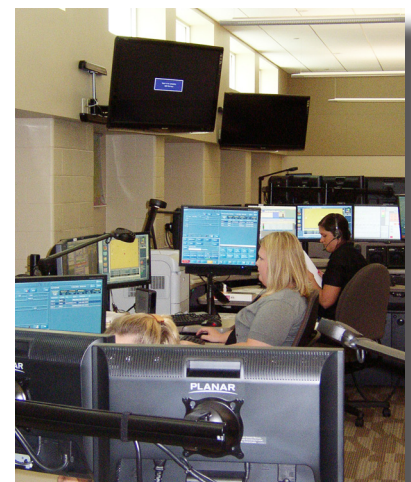
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agency dispatch functions within the county, the building is also the new home of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency and contains an Emergency Operations Center and media briefing room. PSIC grant funds also paid for new interoperable mobile and portable radios for various agencies in the jurisdiction.

The Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Program was created by the

Deficit Reduction Act of 2005. The legislation directed the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) of the Department of Commerce (DOC), in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to establish and administer a grant program to assist public safety agencies in the advancement of interoperable communications.

[Submitted by Craig VanVark, Iowa Department of Public Defense] Ω



**Above: Johnson County's new Communication Center.**

## Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) Training/Technical Assistance Offered

**WHAT:** Technical Assistance provided by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Environmental Protection Agency

**WHY:** DHS/FEMA requires a compliance review process to ensure proposed projects comply with applicable federal EHP laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. The EHP includes environmental planning and historic preservation (EHP) requirements for ALL grants funded by DHS and FEMA.

**WHO:** All current sub-grantees representing Emergency Management Agency Coordinators, Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) members, state agencies using federal grant funds, special teams, Citizen Corps recipients, Iowa HSEMD staff, grant fiscal agents, and any other individuals or groups that are potential homeland security grant applicants. NOTE: This training is an allowable grant expense.

### Dates & Locations for Training

**Aug. 24, 2010, 1–3:30 p.m.**  
Camp Dodge Theater, Bldg. B-58  
7105 N.W. 70th Ave.  
Johnston, Iowa

**Aug. 25, 2010, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**  
Johnson County EOC  
4529 Melrose Ave.  
Iowa City, Iowa

**Aug. 26, 2010, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**  
Pottawattamie County Courthouse  
227 S. 6th St., Suite 23-B  
Council Bluffs, Iowa

**Register now! Sign up online at:**

[www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training/](http://www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov/training/)

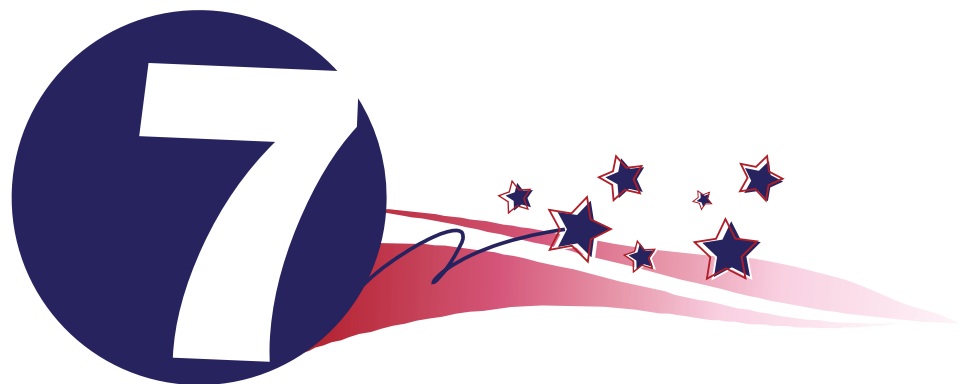
**Additional information regarding EHP compliance requirements for FEMA-funded grant projects is available at:**

[www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/ehp-applicant-help.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/ehp-applicant-help.shtm) Ω

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## Register Now for 7th Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference

Iowa HSEMD will again host professionals from across the state and country at the Seventh Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference Nov. 3-4, 2010, at the West Des Moines Sheraton Hotel. Topics this year vary from fatality management and critical employee emergency planning to the challenges of storm surveys and energy delivery during a disaster. And, back by popular demand this year is Gordon Graham, a leader in the discipline of risk management.



For more information and to register, go to [www.iowahomelandsecurity.org](http://www.iowahomelandsecurity.org) and click the link at the bottom of the home page, or go directly to <https://hsemdconference.iowa.gov>. Ω



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A division of the Iowa 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.

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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)

# Governor Announces Program For Flood Victims

Governor Culver has announced he is creating "Iowans Helping Iowans" – a new program that is designed to provide clean-up assistance, housing assistance, and small business assistance for those who suffered losses in the recent floods.

The Governor is instructing the Departments of Management and Economic Development, along with the

Iowa Finance Authority, to fast-track development of the program criteria and application requirements within the next few weeks.

Specific details of the program will be announced upon the federal government's completion of its damage assessments and designation of counties whose residents are eligible for federal individual assistance. Ω

## PIO Workshop Held in Creston

The third in a series of regional public information officer (PIO) workshops took place July 26-27 in Region 4.

Union County Emergency Management Coordinator Jo Anne Duckworth hosted the workshop, which took place at Southwestern Community College in Creston. Local, state and federal participants came together for the training and exercise activities funded by the 2008 Homeland Security Grant Program through HSEMD.

The goal of the workshops is to develop and coordinate emergency management and partner PIOs at all levels of government. The sessions demonstrate the importance of identifying PIOs at the local level and the need for PIOs at every level to communicate with colleagues.

Workshop participants said they benefitted from the "hands on" experience and the opportunity to put into use what they had learned through a series of exercises.

"This was a valuable experience," said HSEMD's Barbara Vos, who in addition to serving as the state's 911 program coordinator, also works in the

state's joint information center (JIC) during disasters. "Even though I have worked in a JIC, I came away from the workshop with a better understanding of how all the functions carried out in a JIC work together. I know this will help me to do a better job in the future."

Chris Kramer and Frank Cowan, experts in emergency public information and the Joint Information System and joint information centers, conducted the training in Creston and will lead future workshops.

The next workshop is scheduled for Region 1 in October. The goal is to hold a workshop in each of Iowa's homeland security regions. Workshops have also been held in Regions 2 and 6 and are free to participants. Ω



**Frank Cowan**