Vol. 3
Issue 5

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ICS 100, 200 and 300 Courses

Anti-Terrorism Training

Gang ID & Drug Detection for Public School Security Personnel & SRO's

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Mark Your Calendar—EMD Conference June 6, 2007—Savin Rock

Commissioner Notes

By James M. Thomas

Were you prepared?

Connecticut was hit with heavy rains and flooding beginning Sunday, April 15th. Fortunately, no lives were lost, however a significant amount of damage occurred throughout the state. Connecticut was not alone in that several states in the FEMA Region 1 area were impacted.

Despite the considerable damage that occurred, we were pleased with the outstanding efforts of the local Emergency Management Directors and the Chief Elected Officials, who made every effort to protect the citizens of our state. This included evacuations when necessary and the opening of public shelters with the assistance of the American Red Cross.

Governor Rell led the state officials from the Emergency Operations Center at the Armory and participated on several conference calls with the local and federal officials. FEMA and State teams performed preliminary disaster assessments in numerous towns in the State. The Governor requested a Presidential Disaster Declaration for the April 2007 Nor'easter.

Residents and business owners should keep copies of bills, invoices, checks, and estimates for disaster damage cost, and take before and after photographs if possible. If the President designates certain counties in CT as disaster areas eligible for Individual Assistance, FEMA will publish a 1-800 Tele-registration number for applicants in eligible counties to register. FEMA and the Governor's Office will issue press releases. If, on the other hand, no FEMA Individual Assistance Disaster Declaration is received, the Governor will request a declaration from the U.S. Small Business Administration. If the SBA designates certain counties in CT for an SBA disaster, residents and businesses would be eligible to apply for low-interest loans. The SBA will issue press releases and provide a website, as well as a 1-800 number for applications.

Enjoy the May issue which gives critical information on the recent recovery efforts related to the storm, and also highlights a very successful Improvised Explosive Device (IED) exercise with over 400 participants in Norwalk. This exercise clearly demonstrated what the many different public safety agencies, local state and federal, have to offer in dealing with a very difficult issue of IED on a commuter train.

We want to thank everyone for their outstanding efforts in protecting the citizens of the great State of Connecticut.

Disaster Assistance

What is Disaster Assistance?
Disaster assistance is money or direct assistance to individuals, families and businesses in an area whose property has been damaged or destroyed and whose losses are not covered by insurance. It is meant to help you with critical expenses that cannot be covered in other ways. This assistance is not intended to restore your damaged property to its condition before the disaster.

While some housing assistance funds are available through our Individuals and Households Program, most disaster assistance from the Federal government is in the form of loans administered by the Small Business Administration.

Do I Qualify for Assistance?
First and foremost, to qualify for assistance, your losses must have occurred in an area covered by a disaster declaration. A press release from FEMA and the Governor will go out specifying the counties included in the declaration.
Secondly, if you have insurance, you must file a claim with your insurance company.

Is Disaster Help Available if I Have Insurance?
Possibly. If you have not already contacted your insurance agent to file a claim, please do this as soon as possible. Failure to file a claim with your insurance company may affect your eligibility for assistance. After filing a claim, if any of the following situations occur FEMA may be able to provide some assistance:

- **Your insurance settlement is delayed.** Delayed means a decision on your insurance settlement has been delayed longer than 30-days from the time you filed the claim. If a decision on your insurance settlement has been delayed, you will need to write a letter to FEMA explaining the circumstance. You should include documentation from the insurance company proving that you filed the claim. If you filed your claim over the telephone, you should include the claim number, date when you applied, and the estimated time of how long it will take to receive your settlement. Any help awarded to you by FEMA would be considered an advance and must be repaid to FEMA once an insurance settlement is received.
- **Your insurance settlement is insufficient to meet your disaster-related needs.** If you have received the maximum settlement from your insurance and still have an unmet disaster-related need, you will need to write a letter to FEMA indicating the unmet disaster-related need. You will also need to send in documentation from your insurance company for review.
- **You have exhausted the Additional Living Expenses (ALE) provided by your insurance company.** If you have received the maximum settlement from your insurance for Additional Living Expenses (Loss of Use) and still need help with your disaster-related temporary housing need, write a letter to FEMA indicating why you continue to have a temporary housing need. You will also need to provide documentation to prove use of ALE from insurance, and a permanent housing plan.
- **You are unable to locate rental resources in your area.** The FEMA Helpline has a list of rental resources in the disaster area. If no resources are available in your county, then the Helpline agent can provide you with resources in an adjacent county.

You have up to twelve (12) months from the date you registered with FEMA to submit your insurance information for review. By law, we cannot provide money to individuals or households for losses that are covered by insurance.

Two types of disaster assistance, "Housing Needs" and "Other than Housing Needs", are available to individuals, families and businesses in an area whose property has been damaged or destroyed and whose losses are not covered by insurance.

Do I Qualify for "Housing Needs" Assistance?

To receive money or help for "Housing Needs" that are the result of a disaster, all of the following must be true:

- You have losses in an area that has been declared a disaster by the president.
- You have filed for insurance benefits and the damage to your property is not covered by your insurance or your insurance settlement is insufficient to meet your losses.
- You or someone who lives with you is a citizen of the United States, a non-citizen national, or a qualified alien.
- The home in the disaster area is where you usually live and where you were living at the time of the disaster.
- You are not able to live in your home now, you cannot get to your home due to the disaster, or your home requires repairs because of damage from the disaster.

You may not be eligible for "Housing Needs" assistance if:

- You have other, adequate rent-free housing that you can use (for example, rental property that is not occupied).
- Your home that was damaged is your secondary or vacation residence.
- Your expenses resulted only from leaving your home as a precaution and you were able to return to your home immediately after the incident.
- You have refused assistance from your insurance provider(s).
- Your only losses are business losses (including farm business other than the farmhouse and self-employment) or items not covered by this program.
- ♦ The damaged home where you live is located in a designated flood hazard area and your community is not participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. In this case, the flood damage to your home would not be covered, but you may qualify for rental assistance or items not covered by flood insurance, such as water wells, septic systems, medical, dental, or funeral expenses.

Do I qualify for "Other than Housing Needs" Assistance?

To receive money for "Other than Housing Needs" that are the result of a disaster, all the following must be true:

- You have losses in an area that has been declared a disaster area by the President.
- You have filed for insurance benefits and the damage to your property is not covered by your insurance or your insurance settlement is insufficient to meet your losses.
- You or someone who lives with you is a citizen of the United States, a non-citizen national, or a qualified alien.
- You have necessary expenses or serious needs because of the disaster.
- ♦ You have accepted assistance from all other sources for which you are eligible, such as insurance proceeds or Small Business Administration disaster loans.

What Information do I Need to Apply?

Whether applying online at **https://www.disasteraid.fema.gov/IAC/displayPage.do?forward=home&** OR over the phone, you should have a pen and paper and the following information ready**:**

- Your Social Security number.
- Current and pre-disaster address.
- A telephone number where you can be contacted.
- Insurance information.
- Total household annual income
- A routing and account number from your bank (only necessary if you want to have disaster assistance funds transferred directly into your bank account)
- A description of your losses that were caused by the disaster.

Note: FEMA verifies the name and social security number of those registering for disaster assistance. If the name and social security number on file with the social security administration does not match the information you provide you will be asked to submit a copy of an original document, e.g. marriage license, military ID, tax documents, etc., for proof of identity. A need to review and update identity documentation may cause delays in delivery of assistance.

After you've completed your application for assistance, you will receive a FEMA application number.

** **Write down this number and keep it for future reference.**

Disaster Assistance Available from FEMA

Housing Needs

- **Temporary Housing** (a place to live for a limited period of time): Money is available to rent a different place to live, or a government provided housing unit when rental properties are not available.
- **Repair**: Money is available to homeowners to repair damage from the disaster to their primary residence that is not covered by insurance. The goal is to make the damaged home safe, sanitary, and functional.
- **Replacement**: Money is available to homeowners to replace their home destroyed in the disaster that is not covered by insurance. The goal is to help the homeowner with the cost of replacing their destroyed home.
- ♦ **Permanent Housing Construction**: Direct assistance or money for the construction of a home. This type of help occurs only in insular areas or remote locations specified by FEMA, where no other type of housing assistance is possible.

Other than Housing Needs

Money is available for necessary expenses and serious needs caused by the disaster. This includes:

- Disaster-related medical and dental costs.
- Disaster-related funeral and burial cost.
- Clothing; household items (room furnishings, appliances); tools (specialized or protective clothing and equipment) required for your job; necessary educational materials (computers, school books, supplies).
- Fuels for primary heat source (heating oil, gas, firewood).
- Clean-up items (wet/dry vacuum, air purifier, dehumidifier).
- Disaster damaged vehicle.
- Moving and storage expenses related to the disaster (moving and storing property to avoid additional disaster damage while disaster-related repairs are being made to the home).
- Other necessary expenses or serious needs as determined by FEMA.
- ♦ Other expenses that are authorized by law.

Public Assistance Grant Program

Introduction: The objective of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program is to provide assistance to States, local governments, and certain Non-Profit organizations to alleviate suffering and hardship resulting from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President.

Through the PA Program, FEMA provides supplemental Federal disaster grant assistance for the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and the facilities of certain Private Non-Profit (PNP) organizations.

The Federal share of assistance is not less than 75% of the eligible cost for emergency measures and permanent restoration. The grantee (usually the State) determines how the non-Federal share (up to 25%) is split with the subgrantees (eligible applicants).

After a natural or man-made event that causes extensive damage, FEMA coordinates with the State to implement the Public Assistance Grant Program. The funding process consists of some of the following steps:

The Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA): is a joint assessment used to determine the magnitude and impact of an event's damage. A FEMA/State team will usually visit local applicants and view their damage first-hand to assess the scope of damage and estimate repair costs. The State uses the results of the PDA to determine if the situation is beyond the combined capabilities of the State and local resources and to verify the need for supplemental Federal assistance. The PDA also identifies any unmet needs that may require immediate attention.

Presidential Disaster Declaration: Once a disaster has occurred, and the State has declared a state of emergency, the State will evaluate the recovery capabilities of the State and local governments. If it is determined that the damage is beyond their recovery capability, the governor will normally send a request letter to the President, directed through the Regional Director of the appropriate FEMA region. The President then makes the decision whether or not to declare a major disaster or emergency.

After a presidential declaration has been made, FEMA will designate the area eligible for assistance and announce the types of assistance available. FEMA provides supplemental assistance for State and local government recovery expenses, and the Federal share will always be at least 75 percent of the eligible costs.

Roles and Responsibilities: The Public Assistance (PA) Program is administered through a coordinated effort between the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the State (grantee), and the applicants (subgrantees).

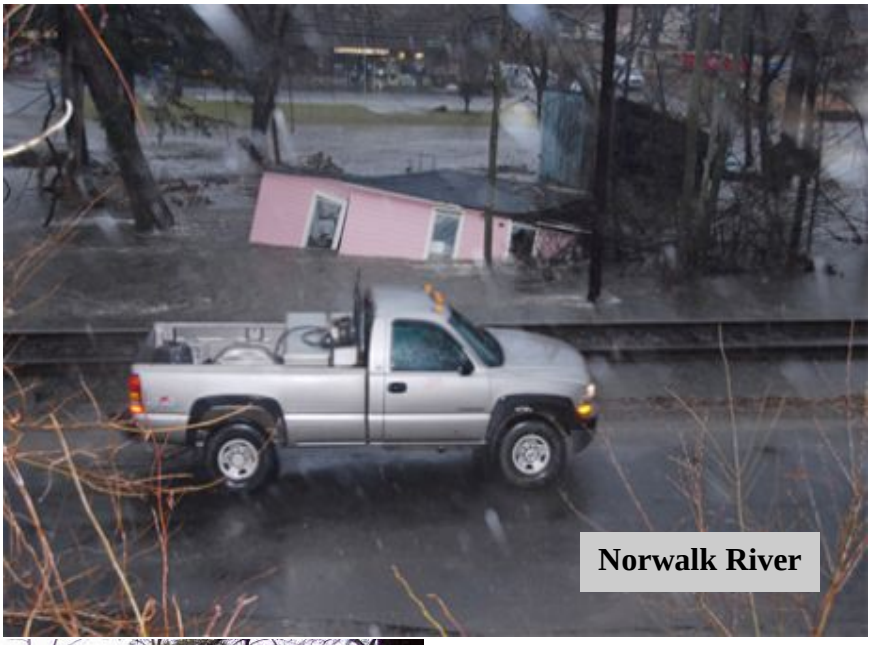
While all three entities must work together to meet the overall objective of quick, effective program delivery, each has a different role.

FEMA's primary responsibilities are to determine the amount of funding, participate in educating the applicant on specific program issues and procedures, assist the applicant with the development of projects, and review the projects for compliance.

Additional information regarding the Public Assistance grant Program can be found on the FEMA website at:

http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/index.shtm

Pictures from around the state help capture the resulting flooding and damage caused by the Nor'easter Storm in April.


Norwalk River

Tolland

Farmington

Guilford

Groton

Salem

Litchfield

East Haven

Bridgeport

Metro-North Norwalk Exercise Ready Region — April 21, 2007

On Saturday, April 21, the Metro-North Norwalk Exercise Ready Region 2007 exercise was held. This full scale exercise was co-sponsored by the City of Norwalk, Metro-North Emergency and the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security and had over 400 participants, with assistance from local, regional, state and federal agencies. The purpose of the exercise was to practice and develop the skills necessary for a unified command and the coordination of response needed in the event of an actual emergency.

The exercise premise was a staged explosion which occurred on a train on the Danbury Branch near Dock Yard. More than 100 railroad employees became volunteer "victims" with various simulated injuries. The responders needed to assess the severity of the injury and render aid. This "mass casualty" incident gave responders practice in triage, first aid, communication, and evacuation techniques that are unique to a railroad setting.

Over 40 agencies participated in the drill including the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police and Fire; Norwalk, Westport and Stamford Police and Fire; EMS; Connecticut State Police; CT National Guard; Norwalk Hospital and the US Department of Homeland Security.

Stamford Bomb Squad personnel, dressed in 80 pound suits, responded to defuse a second mock bomb found on the train, while Norwalk police and firefighters helped with evacuation of the victims. Norwalk Hospital implemented their emergency preparedness plan, counted beds, stationed security at the hospital entrances and established a command center.

As the drill progressed, an unattended knapsack left in the triage area led to the evacuation of the multi-agency command center. Though not part of the drill, it added an additional layer to the exercise as participants used their training to respond to a changing situation and react accordingly.

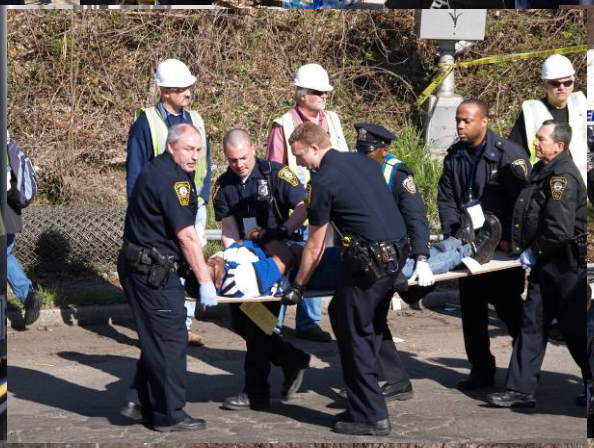
The drill was observed by officials from the Federal Railroad Administration, the FBI, US Department of Homeland Security, CT Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, as well as the New York Public Transportation Safety Board and designees from the participating agencies. Observations by the evaluators will be examined and the final report will be issued in the near future.

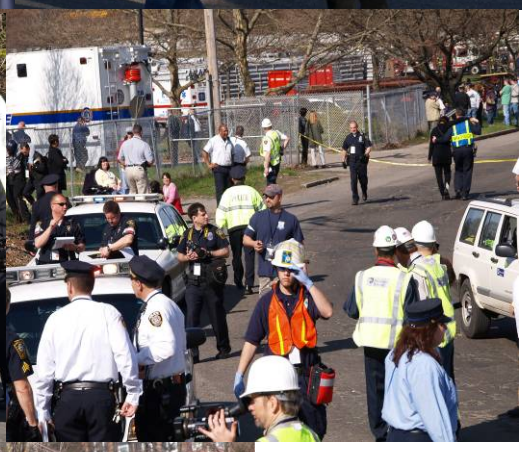
The pictures on the following page give a small glimpse of the coordinated response of the many participating agencies who worked together to make this drill a success.

Metro-North
Railroad

TRIAGE

WESTON





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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 16, 2007

Protecting Your Personal Records and Property From Loss

By Lynne Grant, Extension Educator
University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System

The Nor'easter that hit Connecticut has left real damage for many and can be a real problem for people who have to file claims with their insurance companies. Could you put together an insurance claim if you had to document the kinds of losses this latest natural disaster is leaving behind? Do you know where your homeowner's or renter's insurance policy is? Could you prove what you own and the value of your property?

The task can be overwhelming as families try to repair their homes and replace personal possessions. A lack of records may not only hinder financial recovery, but may shortchange consumers when it comes to being compensated for their losses.

Planning ahead is the key in the event an insurance claim must be filed. Whether your claim is large or small, and the result of a natural or man-made disaster, the process of recordkeeping is the same.

If you don't already have a household inventory, now is the time to compile one. The University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System publication, **Record of Important Household Papers**, is a comprehensive tool for recording important financial information, property inventories and professional advisors. It is one way to begin an inventory. It can be ordered by sending $1.50 to the University of Connecticut C.I.T., Unit-35, 1376 Storrs Road, Storrs, CT 06269-4035.

Contact your insurance agent about recordkeeping books that may be available from your insurance company. A loose leaf notebook will work well, too. Make a section for each room in your home and list all the property in those rooms. Don't forget to include the contents of the attic, basement and garage. Attach receipts or bills of sale to the pages, if you have them. Remember that some items may require appraisals, as well. There are also computer programs available that can be used to make inventories.

Don't overlook the use of your camera when compiling your household inventory. Store digital photos on a disk, CD or flash drive. If you make photographs of items list each item's value and other pertinent information on the back before putting them in your inventory book. Remember to photograph the contents of drawers, closets and cabinets.

You can also use a video camera to go from room to room documenting your possessions. Talk your way through your home describing the item, date of purchase and its cost. Don't forget to photograph the outside of your home, including the landscaping and outdoor furniture. Outdoor photos should also include automobiles, boats, and recreational vehicles that you have on your property.

Once you've put together your household inventory, store it away from your home. The best place is probably a safe deposit box but remember that in many disasters banks are also destroyed. It is recommended that you send a copy to a trusted relative or friend who lives out-of-state as a backup.

Consider including a copy of your homeowner's insurance policy with the inventory. Copies of important documents such birth, marriage, and death certificates can facilitate any claims you may have in the event that originals are lost during a disaster. You could also scan them and store on a disk or flash drive. Consider making photocopies of family member's driver's licenses, insurance cards and Social Security cards to include in your inventory.

Annually, review your homeowner's insurance policy to make sure you're adequately protected against loss. Consider replacement value options, the extra cost may pay for itself in the event of a major loss.

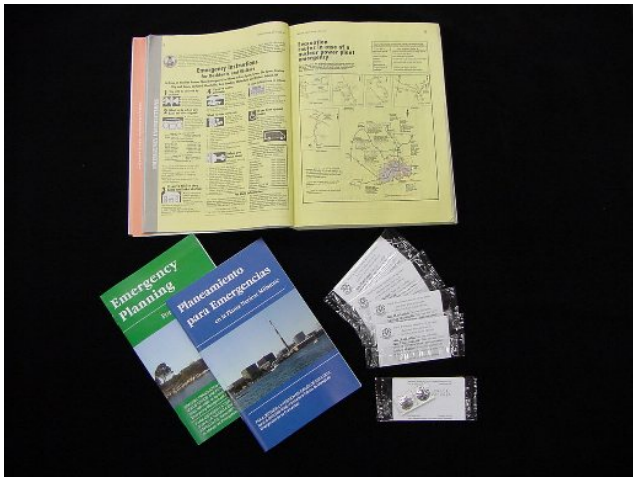
Documenting what you own can be a daunting job, but if you're unfortunate enough to need the information you'll be glad that you took the time to do it.

What is KI and when should it be used?

Potassium Iodide (brand name IOSAT™), also known by its chemical name KI, is being distributed from the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) to local Emergency Management Directors in the Millstone Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ) for distribution to their residents. The EPZ is a 10-mile radius around the Millstone Power Station in Waterford, CT. The towns included in the Millstone EPZ are; Waterford, East Lyme, New London, Old Lyme, Groton City, Groton Town, Lyme, Ledyard and Montville.

Potassium Iodide (KI) is a stable form of iodine. It is an over-the-counter drug that protects the human thyroid gland from possible radiation injury caused by radioactive iodine (radioiodine). Radioiodine is one possible radioactive elements that may be released during an operating nuclear power plant emergency.

KI alone does not protect you from the dangers of radiation exposure and it is only meant to be a supplement to evacuation or sheltering. It should not be considered to be an anti-radiation pill, as many people are mistakenly led to believe.



If necessary the public will be instructed to ingest KI which will saturate the thyroid gland with stable non-radioactive iodine. KI is used to provide enough beneficial iodine to the thyroid to prevent or reduce the amount of radioiodine that can be absorbed by the thyroid in the event the individual is exposed to the radioactive form of iodine. One 130-mg KI tablet provides protection to the thyroid for 24 hours. Evacuation from the affected area no longer puts you at risk of exposure to the radioactive iodine; therefore another dose of KI is not necessary.

It is very important for people to keep in mind that KI should only be taken as directed by state officials. If a release of radioactive iodine has occurred or is expected to occur, the public will be advised to take a KI tablet through radio and TV stations following the public alert sirens and the Emergency Broadcast System. The use of KI is only advised in emergencies where the public is likely to be exposed to radioiodine from a nuclear power plant incident. Not every power plant emergency will result in the release of radioactive iodine.

Emergency dosage guidance adopted by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health advises individuals aged 18 and older to take one (1) KI tablet (130-mg); individuals aged 3 years to 18 years old should take one-half (1/2) tablet *(if 150 lbs or more take a full tablet)*; and ages 3 years and under should be given one-quarter (1/4 tablet – crushed and added to formula or baby food.

KI should not be ingested if an individual has a known allergy to iodine. As with any medication individuals should consult their doctors if they have any concerns.

This is the second distribution of KI pills to EPZ residents by the State of Connecticut. The first distribution took place in 2002. Tablets originally had a shelf-life of five years and although an extension of the shelf-life was issued by the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security took steps to re-issue KI. DEMHS, in cooperation with the local emergency management directors of the communities in the EPZ are now in the process of distribution.

Residents of the EPZ are encouraged to contact their local Emergency Management Directors or to look for additional distribution information in their newspapers. General emergency information can be found on page 2 of the "Yellow Pages" and in the booklet "Emergency Planning for Millstone Station". Additional questions or concerns can be directed to the Office of Radiological Emergency Preparedness, Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security at (860) 566-4586.

Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP) FY2007 Application

The FY 2007 CEDAP complements the FEMA National Preparedness Directorate's other major grants programs to enhance regional response capabilities, mutual aid, and interoperable communications by providing technology and equipment, together with training and technical assistance required to operate that equipment, to public safety agencies in smaller jurisdictions and certain metropolitan areas.

The application period for CEDAP 2007 will begin at 0900EDT April 25, 2007, and will end at 2359EDT May 29, 2007.

Eligible applicants include law enforcement agencies, fire, and other emergency responders who demonstrate that the equipment will be used to improve their ability and capacity to respond to a major critical incident or work with other first responders. Organizations must submit applications through the Responder Knowledge Base (RKB) website at www.rkb.mipt.org.

CEDAP's equipment offerings include:

1. Personal Protective Equipment
2. Thermal Imaging, Night Vision, and Video Surveillance
3. Chemical and Biological Detection
4. Information Technology and Risk Management Tools
5. Interoperable Communications Equipment/Technology

Prospective applicants should direct any questions regarding CEDAP, the application, or the awards process to the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) at 1-800-368-6498 or via e-mail at askcsid@dhs.gov.

Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools

A Grant Competition to Improve and Strengthen School Emergency Management Plans

This grant program is designed to provide funds to LEAs to strengthen and improve their emergency response and crisis plans, at the district and school-building level.

http://www.ed.gov/programs/dvpemergencyresponse/applicant.html

New Training Program to Help Schools Deal with Bomb Threats

The Bomb Threat CD-ROM was developed by the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools.

The Bomb Threat CD-ROM is a FREE interactive planning tool for schools that included staff training presentation and implementation resources. ATF will distribute the CD-ROM to State and local law enforcement and public safety agencies and the Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools will handle distribution to the country's public and private school systems.

http://www.threatplan.org/

Upcoming Training & Exercise

May 1	ICS 100—POSTC
May 2	ICS 200—POSTC
May 5	ICS 300—3 day course—Bloomfield
May 9 & May 10	1 day course—Gang Identification& Drug Detection for Public School Security Personnel and School Resource Officers—POSTC
May 24	Anti-Terrorism Training for Patrol Officers—POSTC
May 29	ICS 300—3 day course—Wethersfield
May 31	Falsified Documents & Identity Theft—POSTC
June 6	EMD (only) Conference, Savin Rock New Haven

For training and exercise questions please contact Bob Christ at 860-706-5516, Bob Scata at 860-706-5518, or Sharon Mazzochi at 860-706-5517.

For **POSTC** classes, please go to their website at: **http://www.ct.gov/post**
For **Fire Academy** classes, please go to : **http://www.ct.gov/cfpc**

Training is critical for first responders and is readily available through the State Fire Academy, Regional Fire Schools, and the Police Officers Training Academy. First responders include Police, Fire, Public Works, and 911 dispatchers to name but a few.

All of the following organizations have the ability to deliver **NIMS training** to your police officers, fire-fighters, public works employees, 911 dispatchers, health workers, education staff and emergency management personnel. Training can be delivered weekdays, weekends or evenings to meet your needs. The NIMS program can be delivered in four, eight or twelve hour modules depending on the duties assigned to personnel.

You should also know that these programs are available on line at FEMA's web site:
http://www.fema.gov/tab_education.shtm

Training Facility Contact Information:

Police Officers Training Council	203-238-6505
Connecticut Fire Academy	860-627-6363
Eastern CT Fireman's Training School	860-487-1105
New Haven Regional Fire Academy	203-946-6215
Wolcott Fire School	203-879-1559
Hartford County Fire School	860-828-3242
Burrville Fire Training School	860-482-7496
Valley Fire Training School	203-736-6222
Middlesex County Fire School	860-663-1308
Fairfield Fireman's Training School	203-254-4709
Stamford Regional Training Fire School	203-977-4673

All State Agencies should contact the Training Unit at DEMHS.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS CONNECTICUT
TIP ★ A ★ COP

Outback Steakhouse

THURSDAY, MAY 17th
5:00PM-9:00PM

3210 Berlin Turnpike
Newington

Stop in and let a commissioner or a top law enforcement official serve you, so we can all serve the cause of Special Olympics Connecticut.

Your Servers Include

Commissioner Ralph Carpenter Dept of Transportation
Kim Mertz, Special Agent in Charge FBI
Commissioner Danaher
Deputy Commissioner Wayne Sandford of DEMHS
Commissioner Theresa Lantz , DOC
Commissioner O'Meara- Dept. of Mental Retardation
Chief State's Attorney Kevin Kane
Deputy Commissioner Brian Murphy, DOC

Special Olympics
Connecticut
changing attitudes. changing lives.