



## Lessons Learned Information Sharing

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May 2008 *Lessons Learned Information Sharing* Newsletter

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### Greensburg, Kansas Tornado Lessons Learned Channel

#### New *LLIS.gov* Public Channel: Greensburg, Kansas Tornado Lessons Learned

Marking the anniversary of the May 2007 Greensburg, KS EF5 tornado disaster, *LLIS.gov* launched the Greensburg, Kansas Tornado Lessons Learned Channel. The purpose of this Channel is to disseminate the knowledge and experience gained during response and recovery operations following the Greensburg, Kansas tornado. To join this channel, please log onto [LLIS.gov](#) and click on [New Public Channel: Greensburg, Kansas Tornado Lessons Learned](#) in the NEW LLIS CONTENT box.

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### Department of Defense Support of Civil Authorities Channel

#### New *LLIS.gov* Public Channel: Department of Defense Support of Civil Authorities

The Department of Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) Channel provides a forum for US Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) to collect observations from its mission partners at all levels of government, as well as share observations collected by dedicated observers during both exercises and contingency operations. Channel participants are encouraged to submit lessons learned, best practices, or reports that may help USNORTHCOM provide support to civil authorities when requested. This sharing of information between USNORTHCOM and emergency response providers and homeland security officials could significantly benefit all agencies involved in consequence management of incidents of national significance. To join this channel, please log onto [LLIS.gov](#) and click on [New Public Channel: Department of Defense Support of Civil Authorities \(DSCA\)](#) in the NEW LLIS CONTENT box.

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### National Level Exercise 2-08

#### *LLIS.gov* Participates in the National Level Exercise 2-08

Recently *LLIS.gov* hosted the World News Network mock media component of the National Level Exercise 2-08 (NLE 2-08). The NLE 2-08 is a National Exercise Program Tier II exercise that merges the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Continuity Program's Eagle Horizon continuity capabilities exercise with U.S. Northern Command's Ardent Sentry 2008 exercise, and FEMA

Disaster Operation's Hurricane Preparedness Exercise national response exercise.

The NLE 2-08 took place May 1-8, 2008, during which time exercise participants logged onto *LLIS.gov* to view all mock media stories, videos, and radio broadcasts, as well as official government press releases that were generated in real-time throughout exercise play. Over 430 documents, videos, and audio files were produced during the exercise and they are currently available for viewing on *LLIS.gov*. Please log onto [LLIS.gov](http://LLIS.gov) and click on [NLE 2-08](#) in the NEW LLIS CONTENT box.

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## **Terrorism Prevention Exercise Program**

### ***LLIS.gov* Partners with the Terrorism Prevention Exercise Program**

The primary mission of the Terrorism Prevention Exercise Program (TPEP) is to enhance the Nation's overall terrorism prevention capabilities through the conduct of prevention-focused exercises and support activities which increase levels of awareness and cooperation, and improve horizontal and vertical information sharing among homeland security and law enforcement officials at all levels of government. To this end, *LLIS.gov* has partnered with TPEP to promote awareness of the program and develop and disseminate original Lessons Learned, Practice Notes, and other documents from TPEP exercises. To access the new TPEP page, please log onto [LLIS.gov](http://LLIS.gov) and click on [Terrorism Prevention Exercise Program \(TPEP\)](#) in the LLIS PARTNERS box.

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## **New Original Content**

The *LLIS.gov* Team continues to post new Lessons Learned, Best Practices, Practice Notes, and Good Stories to the system on a regular basis. Weekly updates about new original content can be found in the NEW LLIS CONTENT box on the homepage of *LLIS.gov*. *LLIS.gov* recently posted the following original content documents:

### *Lessons Learned*

- [Emergency Communications: Using City, Agency, and Unit Identifiers](#) (*Operation Poseidon Full-Scale Exercise, 2006*)  
Responders should use identifiers denoting their cities, agency affiliations, and unit identifications or incident command system positions when communicating on a shared radio frequency outside their home jurisdictions.
- [Emergency Operations Centers: Conducting Regular Staff Meetings during Activation](#) (*Operation Double Header Functional Exercise, 2006*)  
Emergency operations center (EOC) managers should set and follow a schedule of meetings and briefings during EOC activation; managers should also conduct regular general staff meetings. These actions will help keep the EOC staff informed of all relevant events and will enable participants to share critical information.
- [Emergency Operations Centers: Designating a Single Official to Moderate Management Meetings](#) (*Operation Double Header Functional Exercise, 2006*)  
Emergency operations center managers should consider designating a single official, such as the chief of the planning section, to moderate management meetings during an emergency. This can help to ensure the meetings are run as quickly and efficiently as possible.
- [Exercise Conduct: Allocating a Sufficient Number of Radio Frequencies for Use during Exercises](#) (*Olympia Airport Full-Scale Exercise, 2006*)  
Exercise planners should ensure that the number of radio frequencies allocated for use during an exercise is sufficient enough to realistically simulate incident communications.
- [Exercise Planning: Ensuring Critical Agency Participation before Finalizing Exercise Design](#) (*Olympia Airport Full-Scale Exercise, 2006*)

Exercise planners should ensure that critical agencies are identified and committed to the planning and execution of the exercise before finalizing the exercise design.

- **[Public Health Emergency Planning: Disseminating Information through Non-Traditional Methods](#)** (*Pandemic Influenza External Tabletop Exercise Program, 2007*)

Public health departments should consider developing alternative methods of disseminating public information in addition to traditional methods such as television and Internet. This can help to ensure that all populations are reached in a public health emergency.

- **[Public Information: Providing Accurate Tsunami Warning Information through the Media](#)** (*West Coast Tsunami Warning, 2005*)

State and local emergency management officials in coastal areas should work with local media outlets to ensure the media understand how to properly relay tsunami warning information to the public.

- **[Unified Command: Appointing a Single Operations Section Chief](#)** (*Los Angeles County Fires, 2005*)

When responding to an incident with a unified command structure, the unified command should appoint only one operations section chief to ensure accurate and successful implementation of the Incident Action Plan.

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#### *Practice Notes*

- **[Emergency Communications: Wisconsin School for the Deaf's Visual Information and Alert System](#)**

Wisconsin School for the Deaf uses a visual paging system to provide its students with emergency information and routine messages. Light-emitting diode displays in classrooms, dormitories, and high-traffic areas allow faculty and school administrators to communicate visually with students at all times, especially during an emergency.

- **[Fire Operations: The Phoenix, Arizona, Fire Department's Guidelines for the Use of Positive Pressure Ventilation Fans during Structural Fires](#)**

The Phoenix, Arizona, Fire Department established guidelines for using positive pressure ventilation fans to improve firefighter safety, to enhance occupant survivability, and to aid firefighting operations during structural fires.

- **[Fusion Center Procedures: New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center's Intelligence Product Proposal Form](#)**

The New Jersey Regional Operations Intelligence Center (ROIC) created an intelligence product proposal form to streamline its product generation procedure. The form helps to identify the necessary elements of a ROIC product before analysts draft and disseminate it.

- **[Public Communications: The Virginia Department of Emergency Management's "Listo Virginia" Emergency Preparedness Campaign for Spanish Speakers](#)**

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management's "Listo Virginia" public information campaign provides Spanish-speaking residents with vital emergency preparedness information in Spanish. The effort includes a Web site, news releases, Public Service Announcements, printed materials, and presentations and speeches targeted at Spanish-speaking Virginians.

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#### **New Documents of Interest**

#### **Additions to the *LLIS.gov* Repository**

*LLIS.gov* continues to increase its document repository to better serve the emergency response and homeland security communities. The following are some new additions that may be of interest to the *LLIS.gov* community.

- **[FEMA Strategic Plan: Fiscal Years 2008 - 2013](#)**

This Strategic Plan outlines FEMA's vision to become the Nation's Preeminent Emergency Management and Preparedness Agency—the New FEMA. FEMA will rely on the following key building blocks to achieve this vision over the next five years: strengthening core competencies; building strong regions; enhancing current partnerships and creating new ones; investing in its people; developing a business approach to achieving desired results; and professionalizing the national emergency management system.

- **[Firefighter Fatality Investigative Report Phase II: Sofa Super Store, Charleston, SC](#)**

This analysis of the Sofa Super Store incident was produced by the City of Charleston Post Incident Assessment and Enhancement Review Team. The Review Team has conducted a comprehensive analysis of the incident and examined a wide range of factors that could have contributed to the tragic loss of nine members of the Charleston Fire Department. The ultimate objective of this analysis is to identify the lessons that may be learned from this incident, with the goal of reducing the risk of future occurrences of a similar nature.

- **[Public Health, Safety, and Security for Mass Gatherings](#)**

This report examines homeland security challenges for mass gatherings and details 30 recommendations for what should be done by Federal, State, and local governments, as well as the private sector to protect the public should an act of terrorism or disaster occur. The report shows that mass gatherings such as the Super Bowl, NASCAR races, concerts, and political conventions could be terrorist targets. The report's recommendations focus on countering biological terrorism and other threats to human health, planning for emergencies, and sharing information and resources.

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### ***LLIS.gov Outreach Opportunities***

The *LLIS.gov* team travels around the country speaking and exhibiting at emergency response and homeland security-related conferences, exercises, trainings, meetings, and other events. These events provide the *LLIS.gov* team the opportunity to meet with and reach out to homeland security stakeholders who provide valuable feedback and input for the system. If you would like to request an *LLIS.gov* presentation at your next event, please email the Outreach Team at [outreach@llis.dhs.gov](mailto:outreach@llis.dhs.gov). On the [Press Room](#) page, you can find a comprehensive list of these and other events.

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