



Lessons Learned Information Sharing

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June 2006 *Lessons Learned Information Sharing* Newsletter

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Nationwide Plan Review

DHS Releases Nationwide Plan Review Phase 2 Report

The Nationwide Plan Review, the most comprehensive assessment of catastrophic planning ever undertaken in the U.S., is now complete, and its results have been published. Based upon direction from President Bush and Congress, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in coordination with the Department of Transportation, reviewed the catastrophic plans and related documents for all 56 States and Territories and 75 urban areas/major cities over a period of six months. The final Report, released June 16, provides overall findings and conclusions summarizing the results. To view the report, log into *LLIS.gov* and click on [Nationwide Plan Review](#) under Featured Topics.

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Homeland Security Grant Program

Introducing The Homeland Security Grant Program Page

Through the Fiscal Year 2006 (FY06) Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), DHS will award approximately \$1.7 billion to states, territories, and urban areas to enhance their capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies. HSGP is the primary federal resource for state and local preparedness, covering funding for planning, organization, equipment, training, exercises, management, and administration. To access information about the HSGP, please log into *LLIS.gov* and click on [Homeland Security Grant Program](#) in the Homeland Security Initiatives box.

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National Response Plan

Notice of Change to the National Response Plan

Based on lessons learned from the response to Hurricane Katrina, DHS has updated various components of

the National Response Plan (NRP) to prepare for this year's hurricane season. Specific modifications include the roles and responsibilities of a Principal Federal Official versus a Federal Coordinating Officer, clarification of an Incident of National Significance, and integration of the Emergency Support Functions within a Joint Field Office. Designed as a short-term solution to improve Federal response operations, DHS will perform a more comprehensive analysis of the NRP later this year. View the [Notice of Change to the National Response Plan](#) on *LLIS.gov*.

Quick Reference Guide for the National Response Plan

This quick reference guide highlights the major points of the National Response Plan and the Notice of Change to the National Response Plan. Members can view the [Quick Reference Guide for the NRP](#) by logging into *LLIS.gov*.

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New Original Content Posted Since Last Newsletter

The *LLIS.gov* Team continues to post new Lessons Learned, Best Practices, and Good Stories to the system on a regular basis. Updates about new original content can be found in the "What's New" section on the homepage of *LLIS.gov*.

Since the last Newsletter, *LLIS.gov* has posted the following original content:

Best Practice

- **[Incident Site Safety Planning: Deployment](#)**

Response organizations should make preparations to efficiently and effectively execute the on-site deployment of personnel, vehicles, and other emergency response resources. These preparations include recognizing common deployment problems, creating relevant standard operating procedures (SOPs), and conducting extensive officer/personnel training.

Lessons Learned

- **[Emergency Management: Determining Generator Requirements for Shelters](#)** (*Iowa District Four After-Action Report: Multi-County Functional Exercise 2005*)
Emergency managers should determine the capacity and hookup requirements for the generators required at each shelter in their jurisdiction. They should also identify existing generators within their jurisdiction to power shelters and other critical facilities.
- **[Emergency Management: Developing Memoranda of Understanding with Local Businesses](#)** (*Iowa District Four After-Action Report: Multi-County Functional Exercise 2005*)
Emergency managers should identify several trained individuals, prior to an incident, who can act as public information officers (PIOs). Managers should select a PIO from this group in accordance with personnel availability or the specific demands of the emergency.
- **[Emergency Operations Centers: Designating Public Information Officers](#)** (*Iowa District Four After-Action Report: Multi-County Functional Exercise 2005*)
Emergency managers should identify existing resources within their jurisdiction that may be useful and accessible during an emergency. They should develop memoranda of understanding with local businesses to ensure that needed resources are readily available and that all fiscal and legal responsibility issues are dealt with before an actual emergency.
- **[Emergency Operations Centers: Formally Tracking Issues During an Emergency](#)** (*Iowa District Four After-Action Report: Multi-County Functional Exercise 2005*)
Emergency managers should ensure that they have a method for formally tracking all issues in their

Emergency Operations Center. Managers should frequently review this to ensure issues are being addressed during an incident.

- **Law Enforcement: Guidelines for Assigning Personnel after Mass Casualty Incidents** (Rhode Island: The Station Club Fire After-Action Report: State, Local, and Federal Government and the Private Sector)
Police departments should insure that their guidelines for the reassignment of personnel after a critical incident include exposure to a mass casualty incident. Law enforcement personnel who cannot be placed on leave following a MCI should be assigned duties away from the incident site.
- **Mass Casualty Incidents: Post-Incident Review Conducted by the Chief Medical Examiner** (Rhode Island: The Station Club Fire After-Action Report: State, Local, and Federal Government and the Private Sector)
Following a mass casualty incident, the chief medical examiner should convene a meeting of all medical examiner personnel to discuss lessons learned and identify improvements to response practices.
- **Mass Casualty Management: Minimizing Exposure of Emergency Personnel to Body Recovery Efforts** (Rhode Island: The Station Club Fire After-Action Report: State, Local, and Federal Government and the Private Sector)
The exposure of on-scene emergency response personnel, including supervisors, to the recovery of remains during a mass casualty incident should be minimized. Their assignments should be rotated to prevent prolonged exposure to these stressful conditions. All personnel involved with the recovery effort should be monitored for signs of stress and shock.
- **Mayday Operations: Actions for Lost or Trapped Firefighters** (Firefighter Fatality Investigation Report F2004-04; Career Firefighter Dies of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning after Becoming Lost While Searching for the Seat of a Fire in Warehouse)
Fire departments should ensure that firefighters are trained on actions to take while awaiting rescue if they become lost or trapped. Appropriate actions will serve to improve the lost firefighter's chances of being located and rescued in a timely manner.
- **Resource Management: Tracking Emergency Response Vehicles** (Arlington County After-Action Report on the Response to the September 11 Terrorist Attack on the Pentagon)
Jurisdictions should consider acquiring an automatic vehicle locator (AVL) system to track the locations of vehicles from a central location. This can help emergency managers keep track of emergency vehicles during large-scale incidents.
- **Special Event Planning: Assigning Security Officers to Primary Posts** (San Diego Police Department Super Bowl XXXVII: Operational Assessment)
Special event planners should consider assigning security officers to the same security post throughout a special event. This helps to build cohesiveness among teams providing security at specific locations, and allows personnel to become more proficient and knowledgeable in their assignment.

Good Story

- **South Dakota Highway Patrol and Minnehaha County Reserve Law Enforcement Officers Major Sobriety Checkpoints**
The South Dakota Highway Patrol employs volunteer reserve police officers from the Minnehaha County Office of Emergency Management's Reserve Law Enforcement Unit to supplement full-time officers at sobriety checkpoints in and around Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

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Documents of Interest on *LLIS.gov*

LLIS.gov continues to expand its document repository, housing over 3000 after-action reports, emergency operations plans, exercise plans, and other homeland security-related documents. Below is a list of several new documents added to *LLIS.gov* that may be particularly interesting to members.

[London \(UK\) Assembly Report of the 7 July Review Committee](#)

This report identifies overarching lessons to be learned from London's response to the July 7, 2005 Subway Bombings. The report argues that London's emergency plans should be recast to focus on the individuals needing assistance rather than the incident type being responded to.

[Receiving, Distributing, and Dispensing Strategic National Stockpile Assets: A Guide for Preparedness](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently published a guide designed to help emergency management and public health officials at the state, regional, and local levels prepare to request and make effective use of Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) assets. This guide provides an overview of the Division of the Strategic National Stockpile, the assets in keep in readiness, the conditions of SNS deployment, SNS delivery procedure, the organizational structure needed to manage the receipt and distribution of these assets during both terrorist and non-terrorist incidents, the help that will be supplied by the Federal government, and the coordination needed to successfully get those assets to individuals in need.

[Emergency Response to Terrorist Attacks: An Analysis of Mission Performance Requirements](#)

This report, published by the RAND Corporation, presents an analytical framework for quantifying the type, scale, and duration of the various life-saving activities that emergency responders will need to perform after a terrorist attack. This framework provides a way to characterize the emergency response performance requirements for terrorist attacks in terms of the missions that need to be accomplished, the level at which those missions must be performed, and the time interval over which they must be conducted. The framework is then applied to a set of terrorist attack scenarios to help demonstrate its viability and benefit in helping to plan for emergency response to terrorism.

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Upcoming *LLIS.gov* Conference Participation

The *LLIS.gov* Team travels around the country speaking and exhibiting at emergency response and homeland security conferences. *LLIS.gov* will exhibit at the following upcoming conferences:

- **1 July: Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs 2006 Annual Leadership Conference (Mobile, FL)**
- **19-20 July: 2006 Bi-National Emergency Preparedness Conference (Niagara Falls, NY)**

Feel free to drop by our booth at any of these conferences and share your comments and questions about *LLIS.gov* with our staff. Please contact the *LLIS.gov* Outreach Team at outreach@llis.dhs.gov with any questions, comments, or if you have a conference or event at which you would like the *LLIS.gov* staff to present or exhibit.

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