

Homeland Security in Illinois



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Illinois Terrorism Task Force

The Illinois Terrorism Task Force was created by Governor George Ryan in May 2000. The purpose of the Task Force was to further Illinois' disaster preparation efforts to specifically address the State's role in Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) preparedness and to coordinate the response to WMD events throughout the State, utilizing expertise at local, state, and federal levels and across different disciplines. The Task Force focuses on issues such as providing quick response capability in every region of the State and basic WMD first responder training statewide. The Task Force is chaired by Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) Director Mike Chamness with Doug Brown, First Deputy Director of the Illinois State Police (ISP) serving as vice-chair. Other members include the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency; Illinois Department of Military Affairs; Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety; Illinois Department of Public Health; Office of the State Fire Marshal; Illinois Attorney General; Illinois Secretary of State Police; American Red Cross; Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake and Champaign County ESDA's; Illinois Fire Chiefs' Association; Illinois Sheriffs' Association; Illinois Public Health Administrators Association, Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) and the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI).

The ITTF has added additional members as it continues to evolve. The key to building a sound strategic plan and constructing response capacity in the State of Illinois lies in getting the right partners around the table in a spirit of cooperation and commitment to sharing resources and personnel. This has been one of the major strengths of the ITTF, which now includes more than 40 agencies and associations that represent all response disciplines from all parts of the state.

The ITTF now has 9 standing committees to focus on major issues facing the Task Force. They include: Crisis Response, chaired by State Police; Bioterrorism, chaired by Public Health; Communications, chaired by the City of Chicago; Training, co-chaired by the Illinois Fire Service Institute and the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board; Public Information, co-chaired by the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Illinois National Guard; Volunteers and Donations, chaired by the Governor's Office; Transportation, chaired by the Illinois Department of Transportation; Information Technology, chaired by the Illinois Technology Office; and recently formed Elected Officials, chaired by the Illinois Municipal League, as well as working groups to address the issues of continuity of business and government and a working group for the National Threat Advisory System issued by the Homeland Security Office.

- ?? Through the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and the IEMA Act, a first-ever agreement for statewide fire and hazardous materials mutual aid was signed in January 2001 with MABAS. This agreement includes nearly three-fourths of the State's 1,200 fire departments and the State's 32 Level-A and -B hazardous materials teams. This innovative state and local partnership ensures that in times of disaster, Illinois will be able to call on the nearest fire and EMS personnel regardless of where a disaster occurs to provide any and all backup personnel and equipment necessary to assist communities in need. The state, under the IEMA Act, extends workman's compensation and liability coverage as well as reimbursement for the response if there is a gubernatorial disaster declaration. This agreement also means that communities that cannot afford, nor have a daily need for a Level-A HAZMAT team, are assured of a quick response if they suffer a hazardous materials incident.
- ?? The Department of Public Health has also created four Illinois Medical Emergency Response Teams (IMERT), consisting of physicians, nurses and emergency medical technicians. It is this kind of regional approach and sharing of resources and personnel that best leverages resources at the state and local level and has made Illinois better prepared than most states.
- ?? Three State Weapons of Mass Destruction Teams (SWMD) for Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) incidents have been formed, equipped, trained and are operational in Northern, Central and Southern Illinois. These elite teams include specially trained Illinois State Police Tactical Response Team members trained and equipped to operate in a hazardous materials environment as well as team members from the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety (for radiological incidents), the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (for chemical incidents), the Illinois Department of Public Health

(for biological incidents), IEMA (consequence management), and the Office of the State Fire Marshal and fire service personnel from around the state (for incendiary and HAZMAT incidents). Each member of these teams has undertaken more than 140 hours of hazardous materials training and the teams have been equipped with almost \$3 million worth of protective and detection equipment through a Department of Justice terrorism equipment grant. The Central team graduated and became operational in the Spring of 2001 and the Northern and Southern teams were placed on an accelerated training schedule after the September 11th attacks and graduated and became operational as of January 2002.

- ?? The Bioterrorism Committee of the ITTF has developed a statewide plan for distribution of the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile (NPS) in the event of a bioterrorism attack. Version 2.0 of the plan is our current operating plan, with those plans being revised and upgraded with local jurisdiction participation and input. The approval by Governor Ryan and the General Assembly for a supplemental appropriation of \$2.5 million for a state stockpile of antibiotics and antidotes for first responders and the general public further enhances our ability to respond to an act of bioterrorism by having many of the critical drugs at the State's immediate disposal.
- ?? The Illinois National Guard Civil Support Team (CST) was certified as operational in August 2001. Under the command of Major Scott Swinford, the Illinois CST is one of the first 10 established in the nation and was the only team to complete all of its certification objectives on the first attempt. This team is under the command of Governor Ryan and is an integral part of our response plan to any WMD event. Chronologically, that response plan begins with a response from local first responders followed by statewide mutual aid, the SWMD and the CST in an integrated and coordinated fashion through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). The State role remains the same as it is for all hazards, to give the local incident commander all of the response assets they need to respond to any incident.
- ?? At Governor Ryan's request following the events of September 11th, the ITTF conducted a series of 16 Homeland Security Regional Training Seminars throughout the State in October and November. More than 3,000 people attended the four-hour seminars that included presentations from State Police, Secretary of State Bomb Squad, IEPA, Nuclear Safety, Public Health, the Department of Agriculture, the Red Cross, IEMA and Illinois Homeland Security Director Matt Bettenhausen.
- ?? 18 similar homeland security planning seminars which followed onto the original 16 seminars were conducted throughout the spring. These seminars were sponsored by the Illinois Terrorism Task Force and the Illinois Fire Service Institute. The seminars culminated into a Homeland Security Summit which was held on the campus of the University of Illinois-Springfield in May.
- ?? Under the State Homeland Security Director's guidance, IEMA and State Police are putting out a weekly Homeland Security Update outlining every state agency's weekly activities with regard to Homeland Security. The Homeland Security Update goes out by e-mail or regular mail to more than 3,000 recipients throughout the state.
- ?? Utilizing terrorism funding from the Department of Justice, the ITTF has equipped and trained the three SWMDs, given \$1.6 million to the 84 counties and municipalities that participated in the year-long terrorism assessment and given \$1.2 million to the 32 haz mat teams so that they all are fully equipped.
- ?? During 2001, the Training Committee, co-chaired by the Illinois Fire Service Institute and the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, conducted 968 classes totaling 145,276 student hours for 15,052 first responders. A set of courses was created to achieve seven specific objectives that were based on national terrorism and HAZMAT curriculum and state standards for first responders. Sixteen ILETSB Law Enforcement Mobile Training Units and two dozen IFSI Regional Training Centers were designated in partnership with local communities throughout the state. A series of train-the-trainer classes were conducted to create a statewide instructor network. This training incorporated national

regulatory training requirements and standards for hazardous materials and emergency medical certification so that local first responders did not have to attend additional courses.

- ?? The ITTF has developed a guidebook to assist units of county and local government to initiate standardized actions as a result of increased terrorist threat levels. The development of standardized practices corresponding to the federal color-coded Homeland Security Advisory System will allow local and state officials to coordinate efforts and provide an agent for inter-agency cooperation. The guide provides recommendations that may be issued by the State following notification from the Office of Homeland Security in Washington, DC. The first test of the HSAS occurred on August 6 and will be conducted each month in conjunction with the monthly siren testing.
- ?? Illinois was the first state to apply for DOJ FY2002 funding and was the second state to receive the FY 2001 funds. Illinois will receive \$10.6 million for equipment purchases and exercise assistance. At least 80% of the funds will go to local governments.
- ?? Illinois will be one of two sites selected for the TOPOFF2 exercise to be held in the spring of 2003. This national exercise will test public health and first responder plans for biological emergencies.
- ?? The Task Force has developed a series of Public Service Announcements (PSA) with the theme "Homeland Security Begins at Home." These will be released near September 11th and will be broadcast in English and Spanish on radio and television. In addition, it can be viewed on the ITTF Website at www.illinoishomelandsecurity.org.
- ?? A statewide mutual aid system for law enforcement agencies is being developed to include regional containment teams that could provide law enforcement duties in a WMD environment. The Illinois Sheriffs' Association and the Illinois Police Chiefs Association have established a governing board to oversee policy issues related to implementation of a statewide law enforcement mutual aid compact.
- ?? Communications capabilities will be improved in the 27 counties that currently do not have I-REACH. The state will establish secure, reliable and redundant interoperable voice and data communications systems throughout the state.
- ?? A secure, web-based electronic disaster reporting system is being developed to link responding disciplines across the state. The Information Technology committee is reviewing standards and will provide guidance on disaster and asset management systems and will be making recommendations for implementation. Recommendations for an enhanced statewide Geographical Information System will also be made.
- ?? The Illinois Pharmaceutical Stockpile (IPS) is complete. The IPS will provide Illinois' first responders with critical antidotes or vaccines in the case of a bioterrorist attack so they can perform their duties. The IPS may also allow these pharmaceuticals to be administered to members of the public in such an event much faster than the state can access the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile. According to the U.S. Centers of Disease Control, Illinois is the only state to build such an inventory.
- ?? A full scale Terrorism Exercise using SWMD teams will be held in Rockford on September 8th.
- ?? More than 100 state and local first responders attended the first of six seminars to prepare for TOPOFF 2, conducted at Argonne National Laboratory on August 8th. The theme for the first seminar was public information.

Crisis Response/Prevention Committee

The Crisis Response/Prevention Committee is comprised of representatives of the Illinois State Police, Illinois Secretary of State Police, Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Department of Public Health, and the Office of the State Fire Marshal. During the year 2001, the Crisis Response/Prevention Committee focused most of its attention on the training of the State

Weapons of Mass Destruction Teams (SWMD); procurement of the weapons of mass destruction equipment; development of SWMD protocols; the formation of significant partnerships with local emergency management, local police and fire service agencies along with federal agencies; and numerous public presentations regarding Homeland Defense.

In June 2001, the Central Illinois SWMD completed the three major hazardous material training courses consisting of 125 hours, taught by the Illinois Fire Service Institute. The North and South SWMD teams completed two of the three courses in early November. The final course was completed in January and the teams graduated on January 11, 2002. Additionally, many of the SWMD personnel completed a 16 hour Basic Concepts of Terrorism Course. This initial training has prepared all three teams to a state of readiness to respond to any act of terrorism within Illinois. Specific discipline training taught by instructors from the various SWMD agencies is planned, along with more advanced specialized training offered on the national level.

The Committee provided oversight to the identification and specification of the nearly \$4.1 million dollars worth of equipment purchased for the SWMD's including personal protective equipment, detection devices, decontamination trailers, and self-contained breathing apparatus. The Committee also worked in the leasing of a 5,000 square foot warehouse and office space for the Central SWMD. A memorandum of understanding was established between the Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency to collectively install a sophisticated fire and burglar alarm, sprinkler system, auxiliary heating system, and protective caging and shelving to house the costly and sensitive equipment needed by the SWMD.

The Committee forged essential partnerships with local emergency management agencies, local fire service entities, including the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) and Combined Area Response Team (CART), local police agencies, including various police tactical response teams (SWAT), Illinois National Guard Civil Support Detachment Team, and Federal Bureau of Investigation—Chicago Division and Springfield Division.

Committee members developed and presented their agencies respective presentations for the 16 Homeland Security Regional Training Seminars held throughout Illinois.

During the year 2002, the Crisis Response/Prevention Committee continues to provide oversight to the State Weapons of Mass Destruction Teams, including training, equipping, and exercising with other entities to ensure a coordinated statewide response to any act of terrorism.

The Committee will continue to maintain current alliances with all public safety entities and attempt to identify new partnerships in both the public and private sectors. These efforts will avoid duplication of efforts and provide the most efficient utilization of our resources.

The Crisis Response/Prevention Committee will coordinate their efforts with the other ITTF Committees and will also act as the primary ITTF liaison with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Bioterrorism Committee

Coordinated by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), the Bioterrorism Committee includes representatives from the American Red Cross (ARC), Association of Chiefs of Police, Cook County Medical Examiners Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Illinois Department of Agriculture, Illinois Attorney General's Office, ICEP, Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety (IDNS), IEMA, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, MABAS, Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI), Illinois Hospital and Health Systems Association (IHHS), Illinois National Guard (ILNG), Illinois Poison Center, Illinois State Police, Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council, Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), Secretary of State Police, U.S. Public Health Service, Veterans Administration, and various municipal and county fire, police and health departments. Administrative support to the committee is provided by IDPH.

Mission of Committee

The Bioterrorism Committee was established to provide a multi-jurisdictional forum to address various public health and medical issues associated with a biological act of terrorism. The following are some of the core objectives of the committee:

1. Study current health issues, including potential biological agent release scenarios which could result from an incident;
2. Identify public health response and prevention strategies;
3. Coordinate a consistent message on public protective action recommendations, including discussion on the use of a quarantine; and
4. Review and evaluate the results of state and local exercises, threats and actual incidents.

Bioterrorism Committee Recommendations

In 2001, the Bioterrorism Committee made great progress in its aim to identify various public health and medical issues associated with an act of biological terrorism. Several common issues emerged during the committee meetings. These issues included coordination and communication between multi-jurisdictional organizations; provision of consistent training for emergency responders, public health and hospital and pre-hospital providers; disseminating a standard biological agent information to the media/public, local health departments and medical providers; developing multi-jurisdictional preparedness plans and procedures; and achieving “buy-in” from hospital administration.

Deliberations of the Bioterrorism Committee resulted in short- and long-term recommendations to improve statewide response and recovery activities to an overt and covert bioterrorism event as well as naturally occurring biological incidents. The recommendations and related action items developed by the committee members have been documented in a final report that was presented to the ITTF in 2001. The recommendations contained in the committee report are intended to assist the ITTF in carrying out its charge.

Illinois Plan for the CDC National Pharmaceutical Stockpile

In 2001, the Bioterrorism Committee was established to develop an Illinois plan to request, receive, repackage and distribute antibiotic prophylaxis and other medical material from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC), National Pharmaceutical Stockpile (NPS) Program. The committee was required to submit an initial draft of the Illinois plan by October 2001.

CDC’s NPS Program was developed to help save lives by promptly bringing needed medical material to a community impacted by a biological, nuclear or chemical terrorism event or a natural disaster. The program’s primary mission is to deliver medical material to a safe site near an affected area and formally transfer custody of the assets to state government officials for distribution to first responders and the public.

To study the complex and multi-jurisdictional issues relating to the deployment, management, and distribution from the NPS, multiple focus and working groups were established. The final work product of the focus and working group meetings is a model to request, receive, repackage and distribute the CDC NPS to first responders and to the general public. As with all planning, further review and modification of plans is an on going process to adjust for new information and ideas.

Training Committee

In March 2000, the Illinois Terrorism Task Force organized an interagency training committee to define and prioritize a training strategy. The committee is co-chaired by the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) and the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB), with representatives from:

- | | |
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| ? Chicago Fire Department | ? Illinois State Police |
| ? Illinois Emergency Management Agency | ? Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety |
| ? Illinois Environmental Protection Agency | ? Office of the State Fire Marshal |
| ? Illinois Fire Chiefs Association | ? Illinois Department of Public Health |

The training committee conducted several working sessions to develop a concept for terrorism training. In May 2000, a concept strategy was approved by the full task Force and immediately implemented. The strategy was reviewed and updated post-11 September 2001. The training program was built upon the nationally recognized groundbreaking work of Chief John Eversole and the special operations staff of the Chicago Fire Department begun in response to Federal anti-terrorism legislation in 1996-98. These programs expanded hazardous materials (HAZMAT) mitigation and terrorism response protocols and programs and provide the solid base upon which the statewide terrorism training program was built.

During 2001, the statewide training program has conducted 968 classes, totaling 145,276 student hours for 15,052 first responders plus 3,127 officials and interested citizens attended the Governor's Homeland Security Regional Training Seminars. It was recognized from the start that the program had to both create a curriculum tailored to Illinois first responder needs and get the training to the local level, when and where first responders were available to participate in the training. To achieve this, a set of courses was created that was based upon national terrorism and HAZMAT curriculum and state first responder standards. Sixteen ILETSB Law Enforcement Mobile Training Units (MTU's) and some two-dozen IFSI Regional Training Centers (RTC's) were designated in partnership with local communities spread throughout Illinois. A series of Train-the-Trainer courses were conducted to create a statewide instructor network, and publish and distribute instructor kits. A key component was to incorporate existing technical standards for hazardous material and emergency medical certification into the terrorism training thus reducing the additional training time demands on local responders.

Today, through interagency cooperation of the Terrorism Task Force members, Illinois has:

- ?? Three fully operational State Weapons of Mass Destruction Teams (SWMD) covering the entire state.
- ?? A anti-terrorism curriculum and instructors in place to reach every first responder statewide.
- ?? An established and functioning state inter-agency command and control system to plan and direct support for counter-terrorist response, to include statewide fire service mutual aid.
- ?? 27 fully trained HAZMAT level A technical teams, plus 5 Level B teams, 30+ special rescue teams, bomb squads, dog teams and other specialized teams equipped from local sources to assist statewide. Many of these teams have attended national training.

Overarching goal for the statewide terrorism training is to improve local, regional and state interagency and unified command response to a terrorist incident involving conventional, chemical, biological or nuclear weapon, and by extension to any major emergency requiring interagency response and unified command.

Training Concept

Using existing training organizations, Mobile Training Units, Regional Training Centers, and established networks of instructors, the sub-committee member organizations initially developed curriculum and course materials in FY 2000, focused on instructor training and initial course delivery in FY 2001, and maximum delivery in FY 2002 and beyond. The program provides for training focused on three critical groups:

- ?? State Weapons of Mass Destruction Teams– in depth team and individual training.
- ?? First Responders (fire, police, EMS, emergency management + local government crisis decision-makers) – basic terrorism awareness and critical skills for all first responders.
- ?? All State and local government employees – terrorism awareness information.
- ?? Key local elected, appointed and private sector decision-makers.

7 for 1

Prior to September 11, 2001, the challenge for terrorism training programs throughout the country was to attract students. A critical component to the Illinois concept, that made it unique among other state terrorism training programs throughout the nation, was that it added a terrorism / WMD component to existing required training. As the program was developed, it attempted to achieve credit for each hour of training toward required training in as many as 7 different areas. This "7 for 1" program is designed to award credit / achieve recognition as follows:

- ?? Firefighter / Police Officer certification or continuing education requirements.

- ?? EMS CEU's for as established by IDPH.
- ?? Annual national regulatory training requirements, such as CFR 1910.120 for HAZMAT.
- ?? College credit for the class through the American Council on Education (ACE) and / or community college system.
- ?? Dual certificates with the Illinois Fire Service Institute and National Fire Academy, Texas A&M and other Department of Justice-sponsored national courses.
- ?? Interagency training requirements.

Training Objectives

The Training Committee has created 8 training objectives and has laid out a multi-year program that will culminate in their completion. The 8 objectives are as follows:

- ?? Train the State Weapons of Mass Destruction Teams (SWMD) and individual SWMD team members to a level of competency that will permit them to safely enter, exit and function within an isolation hot zone at a terrorist incident.
- ?? Establish a statewide program of training for local first responders to provide a basic level of knowledge and skills for first response and initial scene management and incident command.
- ?? To provide incident command systems training that will ensure that incident commanders, local and State Emergency Operations Center process and protocols can effectively direct emergency response and coordinate with federal response to a terrorist incident.
- ?? Provide technical training for specialized response teams (HAZMAT, specialized rescue, bomb squad, Technical Rescue Teams, dog teams, etc.) that can be deployed statewide in a crisis.
- ?? Make terrorism awareness information available locally, regionally and at the state level.
- ?? Provide events and information that will achieve "buy-in" for implementation of critical homeland security programs by local region and state government and public organization decision-makers.
- ?? Provide weapons of mass destruction/homeland defense training to public health and medical preparedness and response staff.
- ?? Provide training and education to assist in prevention, preemption and intelligence Fusion. This new objective was established in the Summer of 2002 as a result on input received at the state-wide Homeland Security Summit and in response to concern there needs to be a focus on crisis management training in addition to the focus on consequence management training.

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee was formed to study issues of interoperable communications within the State of Illinois. The City of Chicago chairs this committee. This concept includes the idea that each agency, whether it be fire, law enforcement, or emergency management "talk" to each other. The Communications Committee also studies the necessary equipment for all first responder entities. The Communications Committee is also involved in improving information dissemination to, and among, various federal, state, and local agencies. The Communications Committee is working with the newly formed Information Technology Committee to create a strategic plan for Illinois concerning the use of technology, Internet, and Intranet.

The Communications Committee has broken down into four separate subcommittees. Those subcommittees include:

- ?? Fire
- ?? Health
- ?? Incident/Emergency Management
- ?? Police

Public Information Committee

The Public Information Committee was formed to communicate essential information to the public in advance of a homeland security threat or disaster and to better prepare citizens and their families in the event of an emergency. Educational materials are accessible 24 hours a day via the state's homeland security website (www.illinoishomelandsecurity.org). The first in a series of public announcements is now

available in English, with a Spanish version set for release soon. Closed captioning is available, along with plans for developing PSAs in other major languages. A wide range of materials and information will continually be added or updated on the website.

- ?? The homeland security website is now operational and contains a wide range of information and useful tips that can be printed at home, reviewed with family members and displayed in a prominent location for use in times of emergency.
- ?? The website will also provide specific information for emergency responders through an electronic signature, or limited access basis.
- ?? PSAs, news releases, tips and other information can be readily accessible by the public as well as the media during a crisis.
- ?? Internet conferencing will aid emergency responders with immediate access to information and guidance on how to handle a specific threat.
- ?? A video conferencing network is operating to provide voice and visual communications at hundreds of sites throughout the state to aid state and local responders.

Volunteers and Donations Committee

The Volunteers and Donations Committee of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force has been in place since February 2002 to study the issues of volunteerism during terrorist events, as well as in every day life. This committee also is charged with studying the maintenance and coordination of donations during an event of mass destruction. The committee is compiled of members of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force involved in volunteerism and those actively involved in the volunteer sector who are not normally involved during emergencies.

Members of the Committee including the Governor's Office as the Chair and the members are the Illinois Department on Aging, Illinois Emergency Management Agency, Illinois Department of Human Services, Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, Illinois Department of Public Health, American Red Cross, YMCA, Illinois Association of Retired and Senior Volunteers Program (RSVP), Illinois Association of Volunteer Administrators, United Way (representing the Volunteer Centers of Illinois), Federal Emergency Management Agency, Corporation for National and Community Service, Church World Service, Illinois Critical Incident Stress Management teams, Save a Life Foundation, and the Mental Health Association in Illinois.

As this committee began to study volunteerism and donations during emergencies, the group was also tasked with developing a strategy to aid in the development of President Bush's Citizen Corps program. It became apparent that the group should subdivide in order to best complete the tasks ahead. In April, three subcommittees were created. They are:

- ?? Citizen Corps
- ?? Volunteers
- ?? Donations

Citizen Corps Subcommittee

The Citizen Corps subcommittee quickly developed a strategy in order to best aid the White House and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to implement the program, as well as local communities to develop Citizen Corps Councils. At the beginning of August, Illinois had 9 communities of the 140 nationwide that had indicated an interest either to the Illinois Office of Homeland Security or FEMA in creating a Citizen Corps Council. Those communities include:

- ?? Arlington Heights
- ?? Aurora
- ?? Belvidere
- ?? DuPage County
- ?? Hainesville
- ?? Moline
- ?? Palatine
- ?? Peoria
- ?? Wood Dale

The Citizen Corps subcommittee strategy includes:

- ?? The creation of an Illinois Citizen Corps Council. The subcommittee forwarded a recommendation to the Volunteers and Donations committee, which in turn made a motion to the Illinois Terrorism Task Force to develop an Illinois Citizen Corps Council. It became apparent as the Citizen Corps program was developing that there would be a need to have a body at the state level to help coordinate any funding and sub-granting that may occur to local communities, as well as provide any policy decisions that the State of Illinois would need to make concerning the program. Because the Committee on Volunteers and Donations had already been assembled and charged with looking at the issues of Citizen Corps, this group could also provide the role of the Illinois Citizen Corps Council. The motion to have the Committee on Volunteers and Donations also be known as the Illinois Citizen Corps Council was made at the June Illinois Terrorism Task Force meeting and the motion passed unanimously. Thus, the committee, with the exception of Church World Service, also serves at the Illinois Citizen Corps Council. Illinois was one of the first in the nation to take the step of creating a state-level Council and it continues to expand as the program develops.
- ?? At the July meeting of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force, the Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team (IMERT) was designated as the state-level Medical Reserve Corps to recognize the importance of the existing medical professional volunteer program that the Illinois Department of Public Health administers.
- ?? Dispersal of information to municipalities in Illinois that have shown an interest in creating a Citizen Corps Council as soon as the federal government releases it to the states.
- ?? Continue educational efforts with municipalities. Work with member associations and at various conferences in order to educate mayors and communities about the program in order to encourage more Councils.
- ?? Research existing volunteer programs similar to Citizen Corps programs, and determine if and how to best link these programs to Citizen Corps. If no programs exist, determine how the Citizen Corps program could best complement existing volunteer and Illinois Terrorism Task Force efforts.
- ?? Host a Best Practices Workshop. Once the Citizen Corps program has become more developed at the federal level, the Illinois Citizen Corps Council would like to hold a best practices workshop in order to recruit new communities to form a Council and to better existing Councils.

Volunteers Subcommittee

The mission of the Volunteers subcommittee is:

“In regards to the challenges created by the events of 9/11 this subcommittee’s mission is to look at the challenges of Illinois citizens involvement, specifically, the management of volunteers, in the preparedness for or the reaction to terrorism events.”

The goal of the subcommittee is to “create a model for any Illinois community on how to educate, prepare, mobilize and manage volunteers in the event of a terrorist attack”.

To that end, the subcommittee has been:

- ?? Developing community guidelines for spontaneous volunteer plan for communities to handle volunteers. Such a plan will have recommendations such as registering or affiliating volunteers with local agencies before an emergency situation, defining roles of each local agency during an emergency, education of citizens, a universal volunteer application for these situations, and a checklist concerning volunteers for the local emergency plan.
- ?? Studying the Volunteer and Donation Management Annex of the Illinois Emergency Operation Plan to provide any recommendations or suggestions to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.
- ?? Compiling a list of volunteer programs, agencies, and organizations in Illinois to use as a quick reference for programs and contact information.

Donations Subcommittee

The Donations subcommittee is currently looking at ways to revise the Illinois Emergency Operations Plan's Volunteer and Donation Management Annex with respect to donations.

- ?? Recommendations will include such ideas as updated communications to include the availability of Internet and web access for donations.
- ?? Development of ways the State of Illinois can be more proactive in times of emergency in terms of donations. In turn, dissemination of information to citizens and businesses who may donate is key.

In addition, the full committee has begun researching the issue of the creation of disaster asset management software. This software will be a web-based product that allows government, emergency management or homeland security agencies to collect, classify and manage non-tactical emergency management assets in a manner so as to allow rapid acquisition before, during and after an emergency. The product will have the ability to collect and classify government assets as well as publicly donated assets such as food, personnel and equipment. The committee has also developed system specifications in order best develop protocol for software. The committee has interviewed a number of vendors concerning their systems and will continue to work to develop this software in accordance with the Information Technology committee of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force.

The full committee is also working with the Corporation for National and Community Service and the American Red Cross to develop a program to establish teams of Americorps VISTA members and train them in such programs as Red Cross Local Disaster Volunteer (LDV) plans and other established programs to train local communities. These teams would network with local communities to try to bridge any gaps between local, state, and federal levels with education and training in the area of homeland security. The details of the program continue to be worked out with all parties.

Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee was formed recently by the Illinois Terrorism Task Force. The Transportation Committee, in partnership with private industry, is to maximize security of the Illinois transportation system for the movement of people and goods by ensuring that transportation professionals have available and utilize the tools, training, and methods jointly considered most effective to protect our citizens and Illinois' investments in transportation infrastructure. Members of this committee currently include the Department of Transportation as Chair and The Bi-State Development Agency, Illinois Commerce Commission, Chicago Area Transportation Study, Illinois State Police, Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association, Illinois Petroleum Council, Illinois Railroad Association, Nuclear Securities Services Corporation, Illinois State Toll Highway Authority, Chicago Transit Authority, and the Federal Highway Administration, to name a few.

The goals of this committee include:

- ?? Provide recommendations and proposals on transportation safety, security and emergency preparedness assessment, funding, and training needs to the Illinois Terrorism Task Force.
- ?? Ensure that industry leaders are involved in the planning, development, resource allocation, and implementation of all initiatives through a working group structure that solicits input by transportation and industry professionals.
- ?? Assess current statutes, rules, ordinances and policies at the federal, state and local level to assure that strategies chosen by the Committee will be effective, legal and coordinated. Also, propose in legislation or policy to the Illinois Terrorism Task Force to enhance the security of the transportation system as appropriate and necessary

Long Term Goals

Illinois has been a nationwide leader in planning for future terrorist attacks, as evidenced by the level of preparedness that already exist. However, the threats still persist and the effort to prepare must be an ongoing process. With the same kind of forward-thinking that spawned the Illinois Terrorism Task Force in May 2000, state officials are acting to further readiness in several areas.

- ?? **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) sponsored Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR):** Urban Search and Rescue Teams (USAR), sponsored by FEMA come complete with necessary tools and equipment, and required skills and techniques, and can be deployed by FEMA for the rescue of victims of structural collapse. This system is a framework for structuring local emergency personnel into integrated disaster response task forces. FEMA teams organize existing search and rescue capability into a national program that can quickly deploy to an event. They have additional training, and must be able to deploy within six hours and to sustain themselves for 72 hours. They must also have a roster that fills 31 different positions with at least two people for each position. Each team has about \$1.7 million worth of equipment, and team member may each carry as much as 60 pounds of equipment and protective clothing on their body. FEMA funds the equipment and activation costs. There are 28 teams in the nation: one each from Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Washington State; two from Florida; two from Virginia, and eight from California. Despite intense lobbying from Governor Ryan and Mayor Daley, **Illinois, home of the third largest city in the nation, the country's largest skyscraper, busiest airport and one of the nation's most volatile fault line (New Madrid) has none.**

The State of Illinois has been actively pursuing all avenues to receive a USAR team and plans to go ahead assembling a team similar to the USAR and hopes that the team will be sponsored by FEMA in the near future. However, it is critical that Illinois has a team in place as soon as possible so **the state is starting our own team with identical equipment and training.**

- ?? **Regional response-** Illinois currently operates emergency response from three zones, covering the Northern, Central and Southern portions of the state. Illinois is moving to create 18 regions around central population zones in order to reduce response time to a terrorist incident or other emergency. These zones will be fully equipped with their own specialized response teams, such as HAZMAT, weapons of mass destruction and emergency medical teams. The goal is to position these teams so response time to any part of the region would be an hour or less.
- ?? **Expanded telecommunications systems for both state and local public safety agencies:** The STARCOM 21 network will be a statewide Digital Voice Radio Network. The system will be available to Federal, State, County and Local Public Safety users for a small fee. Police, fire and EMS will be able to talk directly through this system. Any federal, state, county or local user can use the system simply by buying radios comparable with the 800 MHz network and signing up with Motorola. This new idea represents a true partnership between federal, state, county and local governments along with private industry to create the largest leased radio system in Illinois. The Network will initially be provided to the Illinois State Police (\$25 million from Illinois FIRST has already been committed to the start-up, infrastructure, and ISP use fees). Ultimately, all the state's public safety agencies and even local public safety agencies will be able to utilize the ISTAR system.
- ?? **Lake Michigan Marine Safety Station:** The Lake Michigan Marine Safety Station facility will be a joint use facility that accommodates the United States Coast Guard, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources and the Chicago Police and Fire Marine Units. It will return the US Coast Guard to its original location just south of Navy Pier in Chicago. This station will leverage the resources of federal, state and local governments to protect the millions of citizens who reside near Lake Michigan and the thousands who use the lake for recreation and commerce. The total cost of this project has been split between the federal government, the State of Illinois and the City of Chicago who will each contribute \$2 million toward this \$6 million project.

- ?? **Expansion of MABAS-** MABAS has proven its usefulness for daily emergencies and more catastrophic incidents, such as the train accident in Bourbonnais a few years ago. The goal is to expand MABAS throughout the state to provide better first responder coverage for all citizens. Also, there is a drive to expand MABAS across state borders to aid communities near the border regions of the state.

Additionally, the Illinois Terrorism Task Force has been working hard with police agencies to create a law enforcement version of MABAS that would use the same protocol as the fire service MABAS. The bringing together of law enforcement personnel in a manner similar to fire personnel will further supplement homeland security efforts and increase interagency cooperation.

- ?? **TOPOFF2-** Illinois has been selected by the Department of Justice to host an emergency response exercise in 2003. The exercise will enable local, state, and federal officials to test preparedness and practice a WMD response on a system-wide basis. The preparation for, and implementation of the exercise will improve the ability of Illinois' agencies to operate during a multi-jurisdictional crisis and allow for the evaluation of the State's priorities and needs.

- ?? **Expansion of President Bush's Citizen Corps initiative-** The development and expansion of the goals laid out by President Bush in his Citizen Corps program will be of great benefit to the citizens of Illinois. The expansion of medical reserve teams and local based Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) will improve the ability of citizens to take care of themselves and their neighborhoods if necessary. Additionally, a dedicated group of volunteers will provide a solid backbone for future initiatives.

Illinois' plans for the future are based upon a reasonable assumption of the threat of potential terrorist attacks in Illinois. However, terrorists will continue to change their ways of attacking our homeland. With preparation and future planning Illinois will have a tremendous learning platform that will allow agencies and officials to respond to the changing threat environments.

Illinois FIRST Improving Homeland Security

Governor Ryan, together with the General Assembly, has used the Illinois FIRST program to make Illinois a much safer and far better prepared state. Over the past three and a half years of the Ryan administration, the Illinois FIRST program has provided for at least 1,840 separate public safety projects totaling over \$182 million

State agencies such as the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, the State Police, Department of Public Health, Illinois National Guard, Office of the State Fire Marshal, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Nuclear Safety recognize the roll of state government as a second responder. Regardless of where a terrorist attack or natural disaster may occur, local police, firefighters and EMTs will undoubtedly be the first to arrive on the scene. So in addition to the many steps that the state has taken to better prepare itself as the second responder with various resources that are not available to local governments, the State of Illinois has made an asserted effort to ensure that our local *first* responders are as well prepared as they can be. Over and above the state's efforts to pass nearly 80% of federal terrorism funds on to local governments, the Illinois FIRST program has added an additional and invaluable component to equipping our state's local first responders in a way and to a degree that no other state in the nation has been able to achieve. These public safety projects fall into three broad categories:

Equipping our State's Firefighters:

Illinois FIRST has provided for over 1,000 separate grants to fire departments and fire protection districts in the last three years totaling over \$77 million dollars. These grant dollars have gone toward the financing or construction of new fire stations or training facilities, new fire trucks, axes, ladders, thermal imaging cameras to locate victims even in zero visibility smoke, breathing apparatus, radio and rescue equipment and much more.

1,001 total fire projects: **\$77,391,652**

Equipping local Police & Sheriffs:

New police vehicles, bullet-proof vests, new police stations and buildings, communications systems, thermal imaging cameras, computers, in-squad video equipment, community outreach programs, surveillance equipment and other emergency equipment have been made possible by Illinois FIRST.

437 total police projects: **\$57,588,687**

Enhancing Emergency Response:

Nearly 400 separate Illinois FIRST grants have provided communities around the state with new ambulances, "jaws of life" equipment, emergency warning sirens, fire-proof uniforms, "hazmat" response supplies, new 911 calling centers, portable defibrillators, emergency backup generators, flood control enhancements, hospital emergency room enhancements, and other EMT response or emergency readiness equipment.

391 total emergency response projects: **\$47,088,242**

1,829 total public safety/homeland security projects: **\$182,069,581**

ILLINOIS TERRORISM TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP

ILLINOIS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, Chair

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE, Vice -Chair

ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

ILLINOIS LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND STANDARDS BOARD

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NUCLEAR SAFETY

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE

ILLINOIS OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

SECRETARY OF STATE POLICE

AMERICAN RED CROSS

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

COOK COUNTY ESDA

DUPAGE COUNTY ESDA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NORTH)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (SOUTH)

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF THE CHIEFS OF POLICE

ILLINOIS EMERGENCY SERVICES MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

ILLINOIS FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

ILLINOIS SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION

KANE COUNTY ESDA

LAKE COUNTY ESDA

MUTUAL AID BOX ALARM SYSTEM (MABAS)

NORTH AURORA ESDA

IL ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATORS

CITY OF CHICAGO

ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

ILLINOIS HOSPITAL & HEALTHSYSTEMS ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATED FIRE FIGHTERS OF ILLINOIS

US ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

ILLINOIS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

ARCHER-DANIELS-MIDLAND (ADM)

REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS)

STATEWIDE MUTUAL AID PLAN

Published a statewide mutual aid resource flow and mobilization plan allowing MABAS & non-MABAS Fire/EMS/Special Operations Teams to respond statewide under a declaration of disaster, formalized on January 16, 2001 with a Memorandum of Understanding between IEMA, MABAS and a number of non-MABAS population centers.

MABAS GROWTH (MUTUAL AID BOX ALARM SYSTEM)

MABAS was initiated in 1968 as a mechanism to provide day-to-day Fire/EMS and Special Operations mutual aid between governmental entities. In 1999, MABAS included 25 operating divisions, as of August 2002, there are 42 MABAS operating divisions representing approximately 28,000 of the states 40,000 firefighters and 750 of the states 1200 fire agencies, all working under a single, standard contractual document.

MABAS GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

Heavily rooted in the Chicago Metro area, MABAS also extends to the Iowa border, as far south as St. Clair County and extends into Wisconsin with four (4) MABAS divisions, over the Indiana border and most recently into Missouri with the city of St. Louis entering into the MABAS agreement. MABAS has never seen the growth it has over the past two years. Interest continues as MABAS is truly becoming a statewide standard and system throughout Illinois and more .

STATEWIDE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAMS

Through a statewide inventory and response plan 36 Hazardous Materials Teams were identified as a core for start up. Currently, 27 of the teams are rated as Level "A", the most capable, the remainder are Level "B", in process of moving to Level "A" capabilities. All teams are included in the statewide plan, have developed common operating protocols and have received domestic terrorism, WMD equipment packages for detection and analysis of nuclear, biological and chemical products. The WMD equipment was acquired through ITTF grants totaling \$1,358,467.

STATEWIDE DEPLOYED ANTIDOTES/MEDICATIONS

Through a cooperative effort between ITTF, IDPH and MABAS a large quantity of chemical antidotes has been deployed statewide with first responding Fire/EMS and Special Operations units. Further, within the statewide plan the ability to mobilize thousands of chemical antidote kits anywhere in the state rapidly. Biologically, the establishment of a statewide pharmaceutical supply of medications for immediate distribution to first responders, key officials and threatened civilian populations in the interim until federal drug supplies are delivered. Cost \$2,500,000, funded by Governor Ryan's emergency appropriations.

TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAMS – USAR CAPABILITY

An evolving capability is Technical Rescue Team Resources (TRT) or as of late called USAR "Light" (Urban Search and Rescue). Through the Statewide Mutual Aid Resource Flow Plan, an inventory of local TRT capabilities was achieved. Accordingly, 37 TRT Teams were identified with 23 teams currently capable to respond and the remainder requiring equipment, training or staffing improvements to attain response capability.

Technical Rescue Teams provide capabilities for victim extrication from below grade, high angle and structural collapse where entrapments exists. USAR achievement will occur through the TRT backbone structure statewide with follow on federal recognition.

In process funding through the ITTF includes \$2,283,000 for basic TRT service equipment and \$1,806,000 for USAR mobilization package.

LOCAL AND COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM SUPPORT

In cooperation with IDPH and MABAS the statewide mutual aid plan includes the mobilization of paramedic personnel to assist local and county health departments in providing preventative treatment from biological threats to the areas general population.

SPEED OF RESPONSE VS QUANTITY OF RESPONSE

MABAS as an organization is activated approximately 700 times per year providing speed of response to non-declaration of disaster such as extra alarm fires, multiple victim accidents, HAZMAT incidents. In concert with the daily services of MABAS is the statewide mutual aid plan activated under a governor's declaration of disaster for tornado's, earthquakes, floods or human acts of domestic terrorism. The statewide mutual aid plan is designed to provide a sustaining quantity of emergency resources versus speed of response. Additionally, the statewide plan causes resource deployment to a stricken area while leaving at least 80% of local resource in the place responding to ongoing, routine local emergencies.

Accordingly, MABAS and the statewide response plans providing fire pumpers, ladder trucks, paramedic transport ambulances, task force resource packages, heavy rescue squads, water tankers, brush trucks, hazardous materials, technical reserve, underwater rescue and recovery teams.

SINGLE POINT OF FIRE/EMS/SPECIAL OPERATIONS DISPATCH

In cooperation with IEMA, State Fire Marshals Office and IDPH, a single point of dispatch for statewide mobilization of Fire/EMS and Special Operations during a declaration of disaster. RED (Regional Emergency Dispatch) Center, a multi-governmental consortium, has accepted the task as the single point of dispatch coordination. A facility has been recently constructed and equipped through a \$1,800,000 grant facilitated by the governor's office.

American Red Cross

Since September 11, the American Red Cross, a not for profit organization, has provided hands-on training for hundreds of Red Cross staff and volunteers by sending them to New York, Washington, D. C., Pennsylvania, and New Jersey to assist victims and families affected by the terrorist events, identifying and securing additional vendors to assist in the delivery of Mass Care, daily monitoring of available blood supply through the national Red Cross blood inventory management system, and publishing a multilingual domestic preparedness brochure, providing the public with some basic tips to prepare families and communities and to develop their confidence in how to respond. The American Red Cross is a standing member in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF).

- ?? The American Red Cross (ARC) has continued to educate the public to be prepared for a terrorist event, including developing a series of educational fact sheets, public information documents, materials, and brochures. Many of these types of information are available from all Red Cross chapters in Illinois and from our web site www.redcross.org.
- ?? The American Red Cross of Greater Chicago has acquired land for the construction of a new headquarters and Disaster Operations Center to better coordinate our response to disaster incidents anywhere in Illinois. The Red Cross is providing space in its facility for use by IEMA and other state agencies as a forward command post in the event it is needed to support disaster operations in Northern Illinois. The American Red Cross of the Quad Cities has also built a new expanded facility to assist in the disaster response in the Quad Cities area.
- ?? The Red Cross as a result of a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service will deploy up to 20 full time Homeland Security specialists throughout Illinois. The VISTA specialists which will be based in Red Cross chapters in strategic locations throughout the state will assist in helping to educate the public on how to be better prepared for terrorism threats, and working with communities in the development, training and recruitment of Citizen Corps volunteers.
- ?? The Red Cross developed and now staffs a 24-hour per day/365 days per year hotline (866) GET INFO for people seeking information about preparing for terrorism or those needing assistance following a disaster. The Center is staffed to handle multiple languages and Internet inquiries. Computer based reference materials are frequently updated to assist call takers in properly responding to inquiries including a chat room staffed to respond to those desiring to communicate in that fashion.
- ?? The Red Cross has issued planning, preparedness and response guidelines to each of its units for Weapons of Mass Destruction/terrorism incidents and also issued a model for chapter disaster response planning to all units in Illinois. This model includes suggested guidelines for chapter and blood region response to each level of alert of the Homeland Security Advisory System.
- ?? ARC has reached agreement with the Metropolitan YMCA's and is having discussions with the Chicago Youth Centers to establish their facilities as volunteer registration locations following a major disaster or WMD/T event to prevent spontaneous volunteer congestion at the disaster site. This would supplement any Internet volunteer registration program. ARC staff will train these agencies staffs in techniques for interviewing volunteers and conducting skill assessments. In addition to these plans, the Red Cross is working with the City of Chicago and the Illinois Terrorism Task Force on methods to deal with the issues surrounding spontaneous volunteers that appear following a terrorist incident.
- ?? ARC has established an agreement with an Illinois company that maintains over 4,000 phone lines and operators to serve as an overflow telephone emergency response center. Computer based reference materials are available to each operator to assist callers in finding the location of shelters or mass care centers or responding to inquiries about volunteer opportunities following a major incident.

- ?? ARC serves as a standing member of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force and many of its committees and as the lead agency for Mass Care under the Illinois Emergency Operations Plan communicates with state human service agencies which support Mass Care efforts.
- ?? The Red Cross is represented in the State Emergency Operations Center and participates in weekly briefings related to Homeland Security with key state agencies. The Red Cross also assigns a liaison to the FEMA Regional Operations Center in Chicago whenever it is activated. To assist in facilitating communications, ARC has designated a full time liaison with the City of Chicago 911 Center and the emergency management agencies of the Chicago collar counties. The Red Cross has an active working relationship with the City of Chicago's Office of Emergency Management.
- ?? A direct High Frequency radio link is established between the State Emergency Operations Center and the Red Cross National Disaster Operations Center to facilitate emergency response of additional assets to Illinois if needed.
- ?? The Red Cross chairs the Illinois Voluntary Agencies active in Disaster (VOAD). VOAD is a consortium of voluntary agencies, which provide disaster relief and response, and facilitates coordinated response and planning among voluntary agencies. VOAD regularly meets to coordinate response plans and anticipated actions.
- ?? The American Red Cross initiated and Governor Ryan signed legislation authorizing Red Cross certified disaster volunteers who are local government employees to have up to 20 days paid time each year to serve on disaster relief operations in Illinois. This supplements existing laws and rules authorizing State employees who are Red Cross disaster volunteers to have up to 20 days paid time to responds to disasters in Illinois or terrorism incidents anywhere in the United States.

Hazardous Materials Teams

Hazardous Materials Response Teams

?? Through the statewide plans development, a first ever inventory of locally based Hazardous Materials Teams was completed statewide. As a result, 36 response teams were designated for statewide response. Currently, 27 of the teams are rated at Level “A” or the most qualified while the remainder are rated Level “B” but currently upgrading to Level “A” capability.

The teams have held two statewide meetings where representatives created standardized operating protocols, minimum equipment and training performance standards and modeled response packages to domestic terrorism incidents.

Through ITTF grants (\$1,358,467) each of the 36 teams have received standardized, WMD Detection and analysis equipment for nuclear, biological and chemical incidents. The equipment received represents contemporary technology available to non-military resources.

Technical Rescue Teams (USAR “LIGHT”)

?? Another area of effort and identification within the statewide plan was Technical Rescue Teams (TRT). TRT Teams are individuals who are specialty equipped and trained in areas of below grade rescue, high angle rescue, light and heavy structural collapse. TRT Teams are sometimes referred to as USAR “Light” packages (Urban Search and Rescue Teams).

The statewide effort identified 37 TRT Teams who are, or soon will be, rated Level “A”. An additional 23 TRT Teams are rated Level “B” and will be brought to Level “A” capability over the next 24 months. A third phase will be needed to fill geographic TRT holes in the state over the next 2 to 5 years.

An ITTF grant of \$2,283,000 will assist in obtaining needed equipment for the 23 Level “A” TRT Teams. An additional \$1,806,000 has been granted by the ITTF to the TRT for a full USAR equipment package for statewide use. A USAR package will provide the state of the art in specialized use for victims heavily entrapped in a collapse or extrication based event.

State Weapons of Mass Destruction Teams (SWMD)

Mission Statement:

It is the primary mission of the State of Illinois, State Weapons of Mass Destruction Teams (SWMD) to respond to a Weapons of Mass Destruction incident, anywhere in the State of Illinois, within 60 to 90 minutes of notification and to provide all avenues of assistance from the State of Illinois to the local Incident Command and the appropriate federal agencies responsible for the investigation and mitigation of such an incident.

The team composition consists of State of Illinois employees from the Illinois State Police, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, Illinois Emergency Management Agency, Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois Secretary of State, and Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Specific functions of SWMD at an incident:

- ?? scene stabilization
- ?? establish an inner perimeter
- ?? neutralization of any human threat (tactically or negotiated resolution)
- ?? initial detection of hazardous materials, chemical agents, and/or biological agents
- ?? render aid to victims
- ?? initial victim identification
- ?? decontamination of victims, emergency responders, and all items moving from the “hot zone” to the “cold zone”
- ?? crime scene preservation
- ?? communication with Incident Command and the State Emergency Operations Center
- ?? advanced preparation for arrival of Illinois National Guard Civil Support Team
- ?? act as liaison with the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Fifth Civil Support Team (CST) For Weapons of Mass Destruction

Illinois National Guard

History:

- ?? One of the ten original Civil Support Teams set up to cover the ten FEMA regions (5th CST covers FEMA region 5- IL, IN, OH, WI, MI, MN)
- ?? Officially certified by the US Secretary of Defense on August 29, 2001
- ?? Currently 27 certified CSTs nationwide

Mission

- ?? Assist local, state and federal first responders in:
 - ?? Assessing a suspected nuclear, biological, chemical or radiological (NBCR) incident
 - ?? Advising the local civilian incident commander regarding appropriate action
 - ?? Assisting with requests for assistance to expedite the arrival of additional assets.

Capabilities

- ?? Air Transportable by 5 C-130s, 3 C-141s, 2 C-17s or 1 C-5 aircraft
- ?? Downrange NBCR reconnaissance, survey and sample collection
- ?? Onsite laboratory analysis of samples
- ?? NBCR agent research and Computerized Hazard Modeling
- ?? Reachback capability to subject matter experts at all levels of Government, Industry and Academia
- ?? Communications connectivity- voice, data and imagery
- ?? Still and video imagery collection
- ?? Limited Decontamination and Medical support

Size

- ?? 22 Full-time Army and Air National Guard members
- ?? Organized into five sections (Command, Operations, Communications, Medical and Survey)

Training

- ?? Average 1500 hours per person tailored to each position
- ?? Training courses received from several government agencies
- ?? Over 100 WMD exercises performed in the last 3 years

Command and Control

- ?? CST works for the Incident Commander
- ?? CST Commander takes direction from the Incident Commander
- ?? CST personnel remain under their military chain of command
- ?? CST never takes charge of the event

Major Equipment

- ?? Mobile Analytical Laboratory with Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer, Gamma Spectrometer, Glovebox Microscope, Biological Assay Tickets, Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer.
- ?? Unified Command Suite with Local Area Networking and Long Range Communication Capabilities
- ?? Modular Decontamination Capabilities
- ?? Level A and B suites with Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
- ?? NBC Detection Equipment for Hot Zone Usage
- ?? 8 commercial trucks and 2 trailers

Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team (IMERT)

Early in 1999, in response to the increased national focus on terrorist threats and concerns about the deployment of Weapons of Mass Destruction, a small group of emergency physicians and toxicologists began meeting with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) to discuss the need for education for physicians, nurses and emergency workers on the subject of Weapons of Mass Destruction. This group realized, through their discussions, that the state as a whole needed a network of coordinated mutual support and a more systematic approach to responding to a large-scale catastrophe. When evaluating past national mass casualty events, it was determined that there was a time gap between when local resources were overwhelmed and when federal assistance would arrive and the idea for state medical response teams was developed.

The Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team (IMERT) Executive Council was created in 1999 to oversee the development of IMERT. Members include emergency physicians, emergency nurses and emergency medical personnel with leadership experience in emergency medical services and disaster planning, as well as selected individuals with relevant military and technical expertise. Advisors from governmental agencies, such as the IDPH, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and US Public Health Service (USPHS) also sit on the IMERT Executive Council. The executive council is responsible for the following:

- ?? Oversight and direction for planning, implementation and evaluation of all activities;
- ?? Response to mass casualty incidents;
- ?? Development, planning and coordination of educational sessions;
- ?? Provision of necessary resources for the support and development of team members;
- ?? Evaluation and review of documentation submitted from physician team leaders after an incident response; and
- ?? Facilitation of research activities.

IMERT Mission

The IMERT will respond to and assist with emergency medical treatment at mass casualty incidents in Illinois, including, but not limited to, chemical, biological, and radiological incidents. The IMERT will also provide educational programs for chemical, biological and radiological agents and other emergency medical response activities.

IMERT Team Composition

The standard IMERT response team will consist of four medical personnel comprised of a Medical Doctor (MD), Registered Nurse (RN), Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic (EMT-P), and one other member, with the minimum of an Emergency Medical Technician – Basic (EMT-B) qualification. In the near future, other allied health professionals will be allowed to participate as team responders as well as physicians and nurses who specialize in pediatrics. There currently are four fully equipped teams in which three serve the state and a fourth team is dedicated to the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) in the City of Chicago. Currently there are approximately 270 medically trained volunteers that are located throughout the entire state.

IMERT Web site www.imert.org

This web site provides news and other information about team activities and contains a team application. Please visit this site often for updated information

Implementation of the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (I-NEDSS)

What is NEDSS?

CDC began development of the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) in October 1999 to facilitate the electronic transfer of appropriate information from clinical information systems in the health care industry to public health department; enhance both the timeliness and quality of information provided; and reduce provider burden in the provision of information. The integrated system will efficiently and securely transfer appropriate information over the Internet. NEDSS will revolutionize public health by gathering and analyzing information quickly and accurately. This will improve the nation's ability to identify and track emerging infectious diseases and potential bioterrorism attacks, as well as to investigate outbreaks and monitor disease trends.

What is the long-range vision for I-NEDSS?

When completely operational, comprehensive electronic reporting from providers and laboratories will serve as the backbone for I-NEDSS. Through an IDPH Internet web portal, demographic, laboratory and disease-specific information will be securely transferred to the appropriate local health department (LHD) and to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH).

Who is involved in planning I-NEDSS?

IDPH has contracted with Integrated Software Specialists for the architectural design and development of I-NEDSS. Staff from IDPH's Information Technology Division oversee each step of the process. Members from all IDPH Infectious Disease Sections (Communicable Disease, HIV/AIDS, Immunization, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Tuberculosis) meet weekly to address I-NEDSS planning issues. In addition, a Local Health Department I-NEDSS Advisory Group has been convened and provides ongoing input to IDPH on I-NEDSS development. Participating local health departments include: Chicago, Cook County, DeWitt- Piatt Bi-County, DuPage County, Franklin-Williamson Bi-County, Kane County, Lake County, Macon County and Madison County.

What are IDPH's current plans for I-NEDSS implementation and what progress has been achieved?

Development and piloting of the demographic module were completed in mid-July 2002 with recommended alterations/changes made or prioritized for future phases. Communicable diseases are the first disease-specific modules being developed, beginning with Salmonella. IDPH's Communicable Disease staff have been instrumental in determining what information must be collected to meet CDC's reporting requirements, as well as local and state data needs for disease containment and surveillance. IDPH is on target to pilot Salmonella in October with statewide implementation scheduled for November 2002. Concurrently, an I-NEDSS feature that will facilitate electronic reporting of disease information by health care providers to local health departments is being developed and also will be launched by the end of this year.

Next steps in the I-NEDSS time-line include adding the remaining communicable diseases, beginning with enteric diseases and high priority bioterrorism agents. Vaccine-preventable diseases, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS will follow.

CDC and HRSA Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Grants

What is the purpose of the Department of Health and Human Services bioterrorism grant?

On January 31, 2002, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tommy G. Thompson sent letters to governors detailing how much each state will receive of the \$1.1 billion to help them strengthen their capacity to respond to bioterrorism and other public health emergencies resulting from terrorism. The money will allow states to begin planning and building the public health systems necessary to respond. The funds will be used to develop comprehensive bioterrorism preparedness plans, upgrade infectious disease surveillance and investigation, enhance the readiness of hospital systems to deal with large numbers of casualties, expand public health laboratory and communications capacities, and improve connectivity between hospitals, and city, local and state health departments to enhance disease reporting. The funds come from the \$2.9 billion bioterrorism appropriations bill that President Bush signed into law January 10, 2002.

What funding will be administered by the Illinois Department of Public Health?

The HHS funding is divided into three parts. Two of the parts will be directly granted to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). The first portion will be provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and is targeted to supporting bioterrorism, infectious diseases, and public health emergency preparedness activities statewide. Each state's allocation will consist of a \$5 million base award, supplemented by an additional amount based on its share of the total U.S. population. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will provide the second portion of funding, which will be used by states to create regional hospital plans to respond in the event of a bioterrorism attack. Hospitals play a critical role in both identifying and responding to any potential bioterrorism attack or disease outbreak. These funds were allocated using a formula similar to that used by the CDC.

What are the key initiatives of the Illinois' Bioterrorism Preparedness Grant Application?

On April 12, 2002, Governor Ryan submitted the State of Illinois' grant application to the HHS for the CDC and HRSA bioterrorism preparedness grants. Funds received through this grant program will be administered by IDPH, in collaboration and coordination with the City of Chicago and other federal projects, and will strengthen the ability of the public health and medical system in Illinois to prepare for and respond to an act of biological terrorism. Some of the key initiatives outlined in Illinois' application to the CDC and HRSA include:

- Establish 12 Public Health Regional Response Planning Areas (PH-ReRPA)
- Hire 23 Emergency Response Coordinators for local emergency planning areas
- Establish local health department administrative grant for preparedness
- Development of the Illinois National Electronic Disease Surveillance System
- Hire 22 regional epidemiologists to enhance local and regional surveillance capacity
- Increase capacity of 3 state laboratories (hire staff and upgrade laboratory systems)
- Develop local health department laboratory capacity to support state laboratories - surge capacity
- Establish a Hospital Health Alert Network (HHAN) through web portal system
- Establish a web portal for all public health partners via the Internet
- Enhance 24/7 flow of critical health information to public health partners
- Develop and enhance risk communication capacity and information dissemination
- Establish a local health department training and education grant to build capacity
- Facilitate the development of model regional hospital preparedness plans
- Provide direct funding to hospitals to implement core preparedness standards
- Establish core preparedness standards for the three-tiered facility classification system

Illinois' *implementation of the Health Alert Network (HAN)*

Prior to 1985, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) did not have an effective way to communicate or coordinate outbreak responses with local health departments. The salmonella outbreak in 1985 was the impetus to create the Public Health Information Network (PHIN). This was a dial up solution and was strictly email. Improvements to the PHIN system included moving to a web based email server for remote connection. This brought local health departments into the central email system, but not into the wide area network.

In May 1999, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issue a grant for bioterrorism preparedness and response. Within this grant was funding to establish and maintain a network that will support exchange of key information over the Internet, training of health workers, assurance of organizational capacity to respond to bioterrorism and other urgent needs caused by health threats, and provide for rapid dissemination of public health advisories to the news media and the public at large. Funding through this grant enabled IDPH to take the next step toward integration of the entire public health community in a single computer network. The IDPH HAN is not only computers, wires and routers, but it is communications, plans of action, distance learning and most importantly networking people.

What features were originally part of the HAN implementation?

The initial implementation of HAN included the design and implementation of a frame relay network which connects every local health department's administrative office to the IDPH Wide Area Network (WAN). Prior to receiving CDC funding, the Illinois Public Health System had 28 satellite downlink facilities throughout the state. The CDC HAN funding allowed IDPH to nearly double this capability by increasing the number of local health departments with their own satellite equipment to 55 with 10 more to be added this year. It is estimated that most public health employees will be no more than forty-five minutes from a satellite down link facility. Additionally, IDPH has established a video conferencing capacity that will enable the remote classrooms, project collaboration, and virtually anything else that formerly could only be done face to face. Also, IDPH contracted with the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health to develop a curriculum to certify public health administrators in the State of Illinois. This course was the first piece of distance learning we employed within the public health community.

What is the current status of the HAN implementation?

IDPH in conjunction with several of our technology partners has continued to improve the infrastructure that has become the HAN. Currently, each of our local health departments has a minimum of a 56K persistent connection to the Internet with roughly a third having a high speed broadband (384Kbps or greater) connection. IDPH has provided technology grants to all local health departments and some hospitals. These grants are to bolster and build up the HAN and the Hospital Health Alert Network (HHAN) infrastructure. IDPH is building local area networks where there none, leasing high speed broadband Internet connections and improving speed and reliability through the health community. Additionally, IDPH decided to migrate to a more dynamic, flexible and faster Internet-based network using Internet portal technology. This initiative will allow secure access to health alert information for the public health workforce and their partners. This will allow connectivity from any spot on the globe that has Internet access. The first version of the web portal is in place and being used today.

What is the future of the HAN?

The next phase being implemented over the next two months will coexist seamlessly with the current system and the transition will be transparent to the users. Included in HAN/HHAN are mass notifications that use blast fax, email, pagers, auto-dialers with recorded messages and instant messaging. Epidemiological record keeping and surveillance, self undatable directory information, windows and web-based applications including the Illinois National Electronic Data Surveillance System (INEDSS) are among the many features that are planned for the HAN and HHAN. We will be streaming audio and video allowing education, workforce development, and eventually video conferencing to the desk top

Radiological Assessment and Coordinated Emergency Response (RACER)

The Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety's Radiological Assessment and Coordinated Emergency Response (RACER) team is a Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) team, organized and trained to respond to radiological or combined hazardous materials incidents. The team is certified at the HAZMAT Technician level in accordance with the provisions of 29CFR1910.120 and is organized to parallel the Incident Command System (ICS) structure and is designed to operate independently or under the ICS.

Because of the hazardous nature of the work involved, the RACER team members are all volunteers, drawn from all offices within the Department of Nuclear Safety. Based on team assignments, team members receive Hazardous Materials Technician level or Hazardous Materials Operations level training. Supplementing this training, the RACER team participates in monthly day-long instruction and mini-exercises, with quarterly three-day drills that include full-scale team exercises.

Designed to operate independently if necessary, the RACER team command structure includes a RACER Commander (RC), a research officer, a safety officer and a liaison officer. Field operations are directed by the Operations officer, who supervises the activities of the entry team (one leader and six entry personnel), the decontamination team (one leader and three decontamination personnel), the logistics team (two personnel), and the medical team (two to three personnel). The RACER team deploys with a fully equipped command vehicle and all support necessary for independent operations. The team's Initial Response Vehicles (IRT) provide qualified responders with all the communications, detection, monitoring, and mitigation equipment, and personal protective equipment needed to enter a HOT zone. The IRTs also support the department's participation on the State Weapons of Mass Destruction teams.

Training is a major part of the RACER teams' preparedness. Training includes such topics as commonly used or encountered radiation sources, radiation shielding and protective actions, chemical and biological hazardous materials, terrorism, personnel protective equipment, DOT regulations, shipping requirements and safeguards, hazard recognition, mitigation preparedness and response efforts. Outside response agencies from federal, state, and local levels provide briefings to the team on lessons learned or timely training issues. Several members of the team have been recognized nationally as Certified Emergency Managers (CEM) or Certified Industrial Hygienists (CIH).

Supplementing classroom training are training drills and exercises conducted with wide variety of response agencies. Joint training has been conducted in:

- ?? Ottawa, IL, involving a simulated traffic accident with radioactive materials and included participation from the Ottawa Fire and Police Departments and the Community Hospital of Ottawa, the Illinois State Police, and several independent ambulance providers;
- ?? Aurora, IL, centered around a terrorism incident involving chemical threats, a Radiological Dispersion Device (RDD) or "dirty bomb," and included the city of Aurora response units, bomb squads from several counties, the FBI's Chicago response team, the US EPA, and the IL National Guard's Civil Support Team (CST);
- ?? Peoria, IL, with a scenario that included a hostage situation involving multiple hazardous materials, and included the City of Peoria response agencies and local hospitals.

RACER team members also serve on all three State Weapons of Mass Destruction (SWMD) teams. The RACER team has also trained with the National Guard's CST on combined hazards situations to ensure teamwork, equipment compatibility and to strengthen the joint command structure. All of these exercises emphasize joint command, interoperability and coordination of effort.

Interoperability in Illinois

Inter-operability has often been associated purely with communications radio equipment. In Illinois, inter-operability has a much broader focus and application reaching into multiple disciplines, operational matters and planning efforts.

By itself, inter-operability sounds like an appropriate cure all for situations and upon all occasions. Unfortunately, the catch all of inter-operability will fail without careful planning and astute decision making. Achieving inter-operability in an effective sense requires careful study and integrative coordination. Most importantly, an appropriate amount of front end work to insure resources are committed effectively and efficiently with an end product which works as predicted without remedial overhauls.

Moving too quickly will certainly waste money with needless mistakes and ineffective outcomes. Moving too slowly will certainly repeat mistakes of the past and systemic failures when crisis strikes. Illinois seeks a balance for statewide application in all senses of the term inter-operability.

The following summary identifies areas of inter-operability achieved to date, currently in process and targeted for future accomplishment. All will certainly enhance Homeland Defense capabilities, but also most importantly, our ability to serve the public during our traditional roles during emergencies.

Communications:

Currently, a variety of radio frequencies exist in various spectrums. The State of Illinois Terrorism Task Force has a working committee where focus is to establish an inter-operability coordination plan for statewide use. Simply putting all agencies on a single frequency achieves inter-operability in a naive, fragile sense as frequency overloading will immediately occur causing failure. A well thought out system design, or planning, will create a system of inter-operability which effectively integrates local, state and federal agencies responding to a crisis.

Radio communications are in place to day allowing fire and police responders to talk to counterparts statewide. Illinois State Police and MABAS (Fire Mutual Aid) are participating in the ITTF communications committee to further improve inter-operability capabilities.

Although, true inter-operability has not been achieved to date, the effective immediate solution is within the crisis management structures of incident command, unified command and tight net of state and local emergency operations centers. Incident management is the centerpiece of effective integration and inter-operability.

Incident and Unified Command

Organizational command and control is paramount any time several units or several agencies are required to work together at an incident scene towards common goals. The inter-operability of agencies to effectively work together to coordinate resources is contingent upon their ability to:

- ?? Create and establish a functional incident command system quickly upon the arrival of first responders to insure effective deployment and scene safety control.
- ?? Have a learned ability to elevate their incident command system to a unified command system when the need becomes apparent due to multiple agencies at local, state and possibly federal levels are forced to demonstrate inter-operability for coordination purposes.
- ?? The establishment of an EOC (Emergency Operations Center) connecting the incident commander, unified command to local government(s) policy makers for the purpose of scene support, policy considerations, recovery transition and matters of government continuity.

Illinois has developed and is deploying course work throughout the Illinois Fire Service Institute for the training of first responders, government officials and other quasi-public and private sector entities which might become key elements in crisis operations.

Incident command has been used by Illinois Fire Service for over 20 years and is a mandated requirement for incident scene command and control on a daily basis. MABAS is activated over 700 times annually for non-declaration of disaster incidents (extra alarm fires, EMS multiple victim incidents, hazardous materials spills, etc.)

Special Operations Teams:

Special Operations Teams exist at the local and state level in many disciplines including fire, police and technically appropriate state agencies. Examples include; Statewide Fire HAZMAT Teams, Technical Rescue Teams, Incident Command Overhead Teams, Law Enforcement SWAT Teams, Incident Confinement Teams, Crime Scene Investigative Teams and more. State agencies include the Civil Support Team, Weapons of Mass Destruction Response Teams, and IDPH IMERT EMS Teams. Other specialized teams are at the ready within the states EPA and Nuclear Agencies.

All of these teams are part of, or in the process of becoming part of the statewide response plan. As such, teams have agreed to various standards, procedures, inventories and minimal qualifications to insure seamless scene operations or simply put inter-operability.

Statewide systems where inter-operability has been achieved is within the 36 HAZMAT Teams statewide where WMD equipment is standardized, operating protocols are standardized and minimal qualifications and training certifications are standardized - all provide for inter-operability.

Operational Equipment

Any and all incident scene operations equipment is being standardized wherever possible. Standardized equipment will improve the sustainment of first responders and other key staff in dealing with an evolving, widespread crisis. Again, seamless interagency standards result in effective interoperability.

Examples include; Specialized Team equipment, WMD protective masks and canister filters, field deployed antidote and medical supplies, fire hydrant thread adapters and more. All have been standardized, is in process of standardization or is scheduled for standardization as financial resources become available.

All such actions further support daily operations and domestic terrorism response abilities through inter-operability.

Summary

Inter-operability in the most basic sense suggests coordination. Some forms of inter-operability are very difficult and expensive to achieve. Other forms of inter-operability are much easier and sometimes at no cost to achieve. Illinois has placed inter-operability as a pillar requiring consideration every step of the way. The Illinois Terrorism Task Force meets monthly to achieve progress on many tasks and targets - inter-operability applies to almost every matter crossing the groups agenda.

The ITTF in itself demonstrates Illinois ability to achieve inter-operability - agencies from local, state and federal agencies meeting monthly to achieve goals which always depends upon inter-operability for success.

Illinois Integrated Justice Information Systems (IJIS) Initiative

The primary objective of integration is the elimination of duplicate data entry, access to information that is not otherwise available, and the timely sharing of critical data.

SEARCH, the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics

Last December, Gov. George H. Ryan signed Executive Order No. 12 (2001), supporting justice systems integration and establishing the Illinois Integrated Justice Information Systems (IJIS) Board. In the order the Governor said “that the tragic deaths caused by terrorist acts on September 11, 2001, have heightened my resolve to strengthen law enforcement information and intelligence systems, and by sharing complete information throughout the entire justice system, we will give the justice community the tools it needs to better protect our citizens.”

Governor Ryan’s appointed integration board includes members from justice agencies and associations throughout Illinois. The Board is developing a strategic plan for justice systems integration in Illinois, which will be provided to the Governor and General Assembly in December of this year with the Board’s findings and recommendations.

Among the strategic initiatives that have been identified by the IJIS Board’s Planning Committee are the following:

- ?? Ensure a secure effective, and efficient enterprise Information Technology infrastructure that facilitates justice information sharing.
- ?? Plan for and foster interoperability among wireless networks that meet stakeholders’ requirements.
- ?? Ensure that mission-critical business process, computer resources and data are protected and can be restored in the event of a homeland security attack, natural disaster, or other business interruption.
- ?? Establish standards for data sharing and infrastructure development

One of the most frequently cited objectives of integration is to allow justice agencies to electronically share and access critical information at key decision points. Integration should not only allow for more efficient exchange of information, but should also reduce or eliminate redundant data entry in the justice system. By facilitating the electronic transfer of information between agencies and eliminating human error associated with successively re-keying that information, integration should lead to greater availability of timely, accurate and complete incident, intelligence and criminal history information. Electronic real-time data sharing among Illinois justice agencies is critical for improving the quality and effectiveness of local, county and state justice systems, and allows justice decision makers to substantially expand their ability to make sound offender transactional decisions and to analyze and respond to criminal activity in their jurisdictions. It will also allow for the pattern-analysis of incidents, arrests and intelligence data that could indicate terrorist activity.

The President’s Office of Homeland Security is now integrating disparate data systems across at least 22 federal organizations to improve communication and information sharing and is creating a government-wide enterprise information portal architecture. Much of this information will be made available to state and local law enforcement but Illinois must adopt data exchange standards that are consistent with federal standards and leverage its existing communications infrastructure in order to participate in a meaningful way.

Electronic information exchange is the essence of justice systems integration; without seamless exchange of information as a part of the justice process, justice information will inevitably be inconsistent, incomplete, inaccurate and untimely. No single justice agency supplies all of the information needed to

respond to criminal justice issues and events, but all rely, at least to some extent, on information supplied by other agencies. At present, most information is exchanged using paper and ink. These information transfer methods require each receiving agency to reenter the information into their own information systems, successively, as information moves from agency to agency. The inefficiencies and costs introduced by this type of successive manual data entry are enormous.

To remedy these deficiencies, the task of the IIJIS Board is to promote the seamless electronic exchange of information between justice agencies in a way that reduces unnecessary redundant data entry and enhances accuracy, timeliness and completeness. This information should then be made available to decision makers throughout the justice enterprise in a secure fashion.

Statewide Terrorism Intelligence Center

- ?? The proposed Statewide Terrorism Intelligence Center (STIC) is a joint initiative between the Illinois State Police and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, in concert with their partners in the criminal justice community.
- ?? The proposal was developed in response to a commonly-voiced complaint by law enforcement agencies regarding the absence of a centralized intelligence-sharing mechanism for terrorism-related information in Illinois.
- ?? STIC will serve as a “one-stop” resource for Illinois’ criminal justice agencies for both domestic and international terrorism-related information.
- ?? The concept is deceptively simple: hire, train, and staff a pool of analysts to provide a broad spectrum of terrorism-oriented intelligence and analytical resources to law enforcement officers in Illinois.
- ?? Specific goals for STIC are:
 - ?? To supply 24-hour, seven-day-a-week access for terrorism-oriented intelligence queries for all law enforcement agencies throughout the state, providing a focal point for both state and federal database inquiries.
 - ?? To establish a centralized repository for the capture of incoming query data which will be analyzed and assessed; these assessments will be provided to law enforcement agencies throughout Illinois as well as to the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.
 - ?? To facilitate a strong working relationship between local police officers and the FBI’s Joint Terrorism Task Forces.
 - ?? To act as police liaison with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency for predictive consequence management resource allocation.
 - ?? To serve as a national model for multi-agency, anti-terrorism intelligence initiatives.
- ?? Included in the initiative will be the use of an “extranet” server which will enable secure, password-protected access by any law enforcement officer or criminal justice agency to terrorism intelligence documents and STIC reports via a web-based format.
- ?? In addition to a repository for query data, the STIC database will be used as “pointer system” for terrorist-based investigative referrals between agencies to promote direct interagency intelligence-sharing opportunities.

Commonly Used Abbreviations and Acronyms

ARC- American Red Cross
CDC- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CST- Civil Support Team
FEMA- Federal Emergency Management Agency
HAN- Health Alert Network
HAZMAT- Hazardous Materials
HRSA- Health Resources and Services Administration
HSAS- Homeland Security Advisory System
IDNS- Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety
IDPH- Illinois Department of Public Health
IEMA- Illinois Emergency Management Agency
IEOP- Illinois Emergency Operations Plan
IEPA- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
IFSI- Illinois Fire Service Institute
IJIS- Illinois Integrated Justice Information Systems
IMERT- Illinois Medical Emergency Response Team
I-NEDSS- National Electronic Disease Surveillance System
IPS- Illinois Pharmaceutical Stockpile
ISP- Illinois State Police
ITTF- Illinois Terrorism Task Force
LDV- Local Disaster Volunteer
MABAS- Mutual Aid Box Alarm System
MTU- Mobile Training Unit
NPS- National Pharmaceutical Stockpile
OHS- Office of Homeland Security
OSFM- Office of the State Fire Marshal
PSA- Public Service Announcement
RACER- Radiological Assessment and Coordinated Emergency Response
RTC- Regional Training Center
SEOC- State Emergency Operations Center
SWMD- State Weapons of Mass Destruction Team
TRT- Technical Rescue Teams
USAR- Urban Search and Rescue
WMD-Weapon of Mass Destruction